



# ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Item	Details
Reference:	[Insert policy reference e.g. identifier on centralised spreadsheet]
Status:	DRAFT
Originator:	Climate Change Programme Manager
Owner:	Head of Community Services
Version No:	DRAFT 0.2
Date:	[Insert date policy was last approved]

## Key policy details

### Approvals

Item	Date of Review/Approval	Version No.
Reviewed by CLT	March 2025	DRAFT 0.1
Reviewed by Corporate Scrutiny	December 2025	DRAFT 0.1
Approved by Cabinet		DRAFT 0.2

### Policy Location

This policy can be found at [insert location of policy e.g. NWLDC website, SharePoint page under current policies tab]

### Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

Completed by	Completion date
Julia Marshall	21/3/25

### Revision history

Version Control	Revision Date	Summary of Changes
DRAFT 0.0	February 2025	Draft document creation
DRAFT 0.1	March 2025	Incorporating feedback from CLT
DRAFT 0.2	December 2025	Incorporating feedback from Corporate Scrutiny

### Policy Review Plans

This policy is subject to a scheduled review once every three years or earlier if there is a change in legislation or local policy that requires it.

### Distribution

Title	Date of Issue	Version No.
Distributed to Cabinet	5/1/26	0.2
Published on NWLDC website	tbc	

## Environment Policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline the Council's commitment to environmental sustainability and the steps the Council will take to minimise its environmental impact. The Council declared a climate emergency on 25 June 2019 and adopted its Zero Carbon Roadmap and Action Plan on 31 March 2020. The Action Plan summarises recommended activity to achieve the ambition of working towards a net Zero Carbon Council by 2030 and a net Zero Carbon district by 2050.

This policy applies to all activities, services, and operations of North West Leicestershire District Council.

Environmental considerations will be integrated into all decisions and operations to ensure that the Council is proactive in reducing its environmental footprint, in line with the Council Delivery Plan commitment to a "clean, green, zero carbon district".

The Council recognises that managing the environmental impact of its own operations is essential.

### Key Aims

- 1. Reduce Carbon Footprint:**
  - Minimise greenhouse gas emissions from Council buildings, transportation, and operations.
  - Transition to renewable energy sources wherever possible.
- 2. Sustainable Waste Management:**
  - Promote waste reduction, reuse, and recycling across the Council's operations.
  - Encourage residents and businesses to reduce waste and improve recycling practices.
- 3. Energy Efficiency:**
  - Improve energy efficiency across all Council facilities.
  - Support initiatives that promote energy conservation for residents and businesses.
- 4. Water Conservation:**
  - Implement water-saving measures in Council buildings and facilities.
  - Encourage water-efficient practices within the community.
- 5. Sustainable Transportation:**
  - Invest in low-emission vehicles and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
  - Monitor air quality (statutory duty)
  - Promote the use of public transport, cycling, and walking.
- 6. Biodiversity and Green Spaces:**
  - Protect and enhance local ecosystems, wildlife habitats, and green spaces.
  - Encourage the planting of trees and the maintenance of local parks and reserves.

## **7. Awareness, Education and Engagement:**

- Raise awareness within the district about environmental issues and sustainable practices.
- Encourage residents, businesses and tenants to reduce their own environmental impact.

## **8. Changing Climate**

- Ensure the Council's services are resilient to extreme weather and a changing climate

# **Implementation**

The Council will support the implementation of this policy through:

- **Sustainable Procurement:**

Ensure that when the Council purchases products and services, the environmental impact is considered, including reducing carbon footprints, minimising waste and promoting the use of eco-friendly products and services.

This is reflected in the Council's Procurement Strategy.

- **Staff and Member Awareness:**

Support staff and members to build a level of knowledge and understanding relevant to their activities to integrate environmental and sustainability principles into their work.

- **Collaboration:**

Work with other local authorities, community groups, businesses, and environmental organisations to enhance the environmental health of the region.

- **Finance:**

The Council is committed to integrating environmental considerations into its financial planning and procurement processes. This includes evaluating the lifecycle costs of projects and prioritising those that contribute to our sustainability goals.

The Council will allocate sufficient budgetary resources to ensure the successful implementation of our environmental initiatives ensuring a value for money return on investment.

# **Commitment to Improvement**

The Council is committed to improving its environmental performance and will regularly review this policy to reflect environmental standards and best practices.