

## Corporate Environment Policy

### Our Commitment:

The Council plays a key role as a provider of services, enabler and leader both within and beyond the South Norfolk community. This role includes environmental stewardship which is encompassed in the Council's corporate vision and ambition. The vision is:

'To retain and improve the quality of life and prosperity of South Norfolk, for now and future generations, to make it one of the best places to live and work in the country'

As part of this vision our corporate priorities are:

- Economic growth, Productivity and Prosperity – providing the conditions to stimulate growth, productivity and prosperity, sharing the benefits of growth with our communities
- Health, Well-being and Early Help – proactively working with communities to provide help at the earliest opportunity and enhancing the health and well-being of our residents
- Place, Communities and Environment – improving the quality of life of our communities and enhancing the built and natural environment in our towns and villages

The Council is committed to managing and enhancing the environment locally and in the wider sense as part of our work and given the vision of the Council.

### Our aims

- **Leadership** – seek to reduce and manage the environmental impact of our activities commensurate with our responsibilities, vision and priorities. We will consider the environmental implications and opportunities of our approach to doing business and working with the community.
- **Legislative compliance** – notwithstanding our corporate responsibility to comply with all environmental legislation we will influence suppliers and partners to do likewise and encourage good practice. In line with our policies apply the law in a fair and proportionate way to those we regulate to protect the environment.
- **Transport & travel**- encourage the use, where economically advantageous, of travel and transport arrangements which reduce environmental impact. This includes management of our vehicle fleet.

- **Energy-** as part of our management of assets, and where economically advantageous, we will reduce the demand for energy, improve energy efficiency and where appropriate consider renewable energy technologies.
- **Recycling & Waste-** to manage the waste we collect and that which we produce according to the waste hierarchy by as far as practicable reducing, reusing and recycling. Endeavour to influence others to adopt this approach given the role of the Council in this respect.
- **Water-** as part of its management of assets, and where economically advantageous, we will reduce the demand for water and safeguard it as a sustainable resource. We will also support measures to sustainably manage water to minimise flooding which causes adverse impact.
- **Built and unbuilt environment-** promote and support the conservation and enhancement of the built and 'natural' environment. This includes encouraging and supporting local biodiversity, landscape character, the built environment and enhancing the cultural and historic interest of the district. We will promote and encourage the community to make use of the local environment to support health and wellbeing.
- **Environmental Risk-** given, amongst other things and taking into consideration the economic advantages, support services to be resilient to changes to the environment.
- **Procurement-** to manage and reduce the environmental impact of the goods and services we procure by working with suppliers and contractors to mutual benefit.

This Policy should be viewed alongside the corporate business plan which outlines our specific targets, milestones and outcomes. We will report annually in relation to achievement of our aims.

This Policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.