

South Derbyshire District Council Environmental Policy

Date: January 2021



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Version Control

Version	Reason for review (review date/legislation/process chances)	Effective Date	Review date
1.0	Revised Policy following the adoption of the 2020 - 24 Corporate Plan	21/01/2021	January 2023

Approvals

Approved by (Committee/Leadership Team)	Date
Environment & Development Services Committee	21/01/2021
Senior Leadership Team	06/01/2021

1.0 Introduction

South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) understands it plays a significant direct and indirect role in achieving sustainability.

The Council's direct impact is through ensuring that sustainability is embedded in all of its operational policies, decisions and procedures.

The Council's indirect impact is through its ability to influence others such as residents, businesses and partners.

2.0 Purpose

The Council is committed to delivering all its public services in a sustainable manner. This will not just reduce its impacts on the environment but lead to environmental enhancement. It will also lead to improvements in health, wellbeing and the economy both within and beyond the Council's administrative borders.

SDDC's Corporate Plan's key priorities support the reality of South Derbyshire becoming a sustainable District, through understanding "How to meet the needs of today differently, to support the needs of future generations".

The Council has a Sustainability Transformation Environmental Management System (STEMS) accredited by ISO 14001:2015 to establish leadership commitment and environmental performance, which is managed to ensure continued sustainable improvement.

3.0 Objectives

SDDC is committed to leading environmental improvement and embedding this across its services and the District through:

- Its Leadership commitment. This sets an example by continually seeking to improve the Council's performance through Environmental Objectives, Strategies and Plans.



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- Assessing the impact of Council activities and seeking to manage risk and reduce their impact on the environment.
- Ensuring that competent persons are resourced to support environmental performance across all services. Through the STEMS processes to support Council staff to comply with relevant obligations and where possible, support best practice.
- Communicating and Training. To raise awareness of the environment and encourage environmental best practice among employees, elected members and local communities.
- Protecting, conserving and enhancing South Derbyshire’s natural, historic and cultural surroundings and enhancing biodiversity.
- Preventing pollution. Through reducing energy consumption, improved water management, minimising waste, reducing staff travel and taking climate emergency interventions.
- Ensuring its services are resilient to extreme weather and a changing climate.
- Working with suppliers, contractors and tenants to lessen their environmental impacts.
- Ensuring the environmental impact of goods and services is considered within its procurement decisions by review of life cycle thinking.
- Working with partners, neighbouring authorities to work towards wider sustainable goals.

4.0 Associated Documentation

Description of Documentation	Document Reference
SDDC Policy Framework	SDDC-POL-00
SDDC Training Matrix	AWAITING
SDDC Corporate Plan	2020-2024
Committee Report for approval of policy	January 2020

