

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL is committed to putting the principles of sustainable development into action, in everything we do. Promoting a better quality of life for Derbyshire communities, encouraging sustainable economic regeneration and protecting and enhancing the environment are the cornerstones of sustainable development. This is reflected in the two most important documents the Council produces - the Council Plan and the Derbyshire Community Strategy, both of which prioritise environmental protection, conservation and enhancement.

We are keenly aware of our environmental responsibilities and have produced this environmental policy as the first stage of making our commitments a reality. We will encourage and enable all of our employees to do what they can to translate these aims into practice. We will also encourage contractors working for us to meet those environmental standards we set for ourselves.

We shall monitor our performance and keep a close watch on the changing local and global circumstances which shape our world.

Our aims and how we plan to achieve them, are set out for all to see in the form of the environmental policy, which you will find on the reverse of this leaflet.

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THE COUNTY COUNCIL is a democratically accountable organisation with a vital role in representing the interests of the people of Derbyshire. As a decision-maker, major employer, provider of services and agent for economic regeneration, we recognise the significant impact we have on the environment.

In working towards achieving a more sustainable future, we are committed to minimising any adverse environmental impact we may have, while enhancing positive environmental effects to improve the quality of life for Derbyshire people.

The County Council is committed to the principles of sustainable development and is publicly setting out our commitment to continual environmental improvement and the prevention of pollution, in the shape of these aims and promises.

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In everything we do, Derbyshire County Council is committed to:

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| <i>Energy and water</i> | Optimising the use of energy and water in Council operations. |
| <i>Pollution</i> | Identifying and promoting the use of technologies to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases, both within Council properties and the wider community.

Minimising and, where possible, eliminating the release of any pollutant which may cause damage to health and the environment. |
| <i>Transport</i> | Reducing the social and environmental impacts of road vehicles caused by County Council business. |
| <i>Waste</i> | Minimising the generation of wastes by reducing, reusing, composting and |

recycling resources and managing wastes safely, responsibly, and by the best practicable environmental option.

Natural and built environment Protecting, conserving and enhancing both the natural and built environments: protecting landscape, habitats and heritage by promoting bio-diversity and local distinctiveness.

Environmental education Raising awareness, educating and training employees, and providing information to the public on environmental policies, practices and issues.

Promoting the conservation and more sustainable use of non-renewable resources.

Environmental assessment Minimising the risk of environmental damage by assessing the Council's policies, activities and practices for their environmental effects and by adopting those technologies and working methods with the lowest risk.

Purchasing & contracts Ensuring that procurement decisions have assessed the opportunity to reduce negative environmental impacts of products and services the Council purchases.

We will do this by:

Best environmental practice Complying with relevant environmental legislation and regulation and striving to achieve recognised standards of best environmental practice in activities and areas of service delivery.

Freedom of information Promoting freedom of information to the public about Derbyshire's environment and the Council's environmental performance against published targets.

Environmental education Fostering a sense of environmental awareness and responsibility amongst elected members, employees, the general public and particularly children and young people through information, awareness-raising and environmental education.

Objective setting Continually improving our environmental performance by setting realistic objectives and targets and regularly reviewing our progress.

Purchasing and contracts Including environmental standards in appropriate contracts and service level agreements, and developing conditions to ensure that contractors working on our behalf apply environmental standards as high as our own.

Environmental Management Systems Operating and extending environmental management systems to co-ordinate and monitor County Council activities, ensuring that practices affecting the environment comply with these principles.

Policy Review Updating this environmental policy in the light of changes in the Council's environmental activities and new regional, national and international developments.

Partnership working Working closely with other organisations, where appropriate, to further the aims of this policy.