

Environmental Policy

Herefordshire Council provides and purchases a wide range of services for the people of Herefordshire. Together with partner organisations in the private, public and voluntary sectors we share a common commitment to working more sustainably and to protecting and enhancing Herefordshire's outstanding natural environment.

In support of this commitment, and the continuing drive to work more efficiently, Herefordshire Council aims to:

- Make efficient use of natural resources;
- Minimise waste;
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our own activities and encourage reductions in partner organisations and those of the wider community;
- Raise awareness of, mitigate against, and adapt to climate change impacts;
- Prevent and reduce pollution and protect our environment;
- Conserve the natural and historic environment of Herefordshire;
- Promote links between environmental sustainability, economic growth and wellbeing.

We will work to achieve these commitments by:

- Ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation and organisational commitments both in house, and in the wider community through our regulatory services;
- Integrating relevant environmental specifications and standards into procurement and commissioning processes;
- Promoting the use of appropriate sources of renewable energy and recycled products;
- Minimising waste, maximising reuse, recycling and composting and ensuring that waste, including litter, is dealt with in a way that reduces its impact on the environment;
- Working to control, reduce and prevent pollution from our activities and those of the wider community;
- Promoting and using sustainable, integrated and active transport solutions;
- Supporting a planning system that protects and enhances landscape, biodiversity and historic assets and seeks to ensure that development is sustainable;
- Leading by example and using our influence to actively encourage responsible environmental practice among staff, suppliers, contractors, partners and the public;
- Setting formal objectives across organisational services to ensure continuous improvement of overall environmental performance;
- Promoting this policy and including staff, members, suppliers, contractors, partners and the public in its implementation.

We recognise that many of the wider environmental issues facing Herefordshire are most effectively addressed through partnership working. We are a committed member of the Local Nature Partnership and seek to support countywide action on biodiversity, green infrastructure, soil and water issues as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Chief Executive



Cabinet Member Infrastructure



Date: January 2019