

August 2010

Reviewed annually

**Brighton & Hove City Council recognises that its operations and service delivery have effects on the environment at a local and global level.**

# Environmental policy

This local authority is committed to reducing those effects by managing its own environmental impacts, encouraging and supporting others to do the same, and continuously improving the environment for the benefit of residents, businesses and visitors to Brighton & Hove.

**This policy helps deliver the council's following Corporate Priorities:**

- Protecting the environment while growing the economy
- Making better use of public money
- Implementing open and effective city leadership



**Brighton & Hove  
City Council**

# Brighton & Hove City Council is committed to achieving the following environmental aims:

**Environmental Management:** Carry out regular reviews of departments, contractors and suppliers to increase environmental performance whilst taking into account social and economic constraints and complying with all relevant regulations and legislation. The council will endeavour to prevent pollution by reviewing current activities and seeking alternative methods. Environmental impacts will be managed and monitored responsibly through the development and implementation of an Environmental Management System to ISO14001 criteria.

**Energy, Natural Resources and Climate Change:** In order to support and improve upon the aims of government targets and locally set objectives, the council will promote resource efficiency, including: water, fuel and energy, and implement targets for the reduction of these resources. This will incorporate the introduction of energy efficient design, technologies and management measures and where appropriate, installation of renewable energy systems. We will seek more sustainable methods of delivering goods and services in order to help reduce Brighton & Hove's greenhouse gas emissions as well as prepare services for the local impacts of climate change.

**Biodiversity:** By managing our assets and influencing others we will conserve and enhance Brighton & Hove's biodiversity. We will work to improve the biodiversity of all our land and property particularly our open spaces and local wildlife sites, promote natural habitats in urban development, on our downland and in the marine environment, working in partnership to serve the local community so that nature is accessible to all.

**Procurement and Purchasing:** Increase sustainable procurement when purchasing goods and services for, and on behalf of the council, and improve supply chain management. Consider whole life costs of products and services. All aspects of procurement will be assessed to help reduce significant environmental impacts, whilst also maintaining a balance between social and economic needs of the wider community. This will include, where possible, procuring energy and other natural resources from renewable sources, and procuring Fairtrade products where possible.

**Waste Management:** Promote waste prevention and disposal, by reducing the amount of waste produced; recycling & composting; where appropriate, reuse materials and continue to take responsibility towards a more sustainable management of waste produced by the organisation. Work with businesses and suppliers to do the same.

**Transport and the Built Environment:** Ensure that sustainable development principles will be integral for the design and build of all future developments, including renovations, conversions and use of buildings. Reduce emissions from transport by improving the performance of our vehicle fleet and promoting the use of low-emission vehicles, supporting public transport and providing appropriate facilities and tools to encourage healthy and sustainable travel modes.

**Environmental Awareness:** Support staff, residents, schools, businesses, visitors and partner organisations to help improve the quality of the local environment by ensuring that they are aware, trained and understand this Policy and ensure the commitments are met. Improve performance of pollution prevention measures, and encourage partners to adopt sustainable practices.

This Policy was approved by:



John Barradell  
Chief Executive



Mary Mears  
Leader of the council



Brighton & Hove  
City Council