

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In the light of climate change-related disasters affecting both developed and developing countries, and in compliance with UK governmental legal targets, the Charity affirms its responsibility towards carbon emissions reduction for the protection of people and the environment. This Policy aims to analyse selected areas of intervention for the implementation of an environmental strategy developed to achieve the main objective of becoming a “zero carbon emissions” organisation. In order to achieve its goals, the organisation is committed to the principles of sustainable development. Its policies and areas of intervention will be discussed further.

2. AREAS OF INTERVENTION

- 2.1 **Save energy**
Since December 2006, the Charity has implemented energy and resource-saving strategies, some of which are shown below. The Charity will be reviewing its baseline consumption of energy, water and gas, with a view of a 10% reduction within the next year, when monitoring and evaluation activities will take place. To achieve the set goals, the Charity is now reviewing its current resource usage (gas, electricity and water).
- 2.2 **We aim to**
- Use energy saving equipment: e.g. energy efficient light bulbs
 - Switch off lights and equipment when not needed
 - Switch off the gallery’s window lights after 11.00pm
 - Reduce heating use during working hours
- 2.3 **Travel wisely**
The Charity encourages the use of public transport (train, buses, and underground) when travelling for work reasons, as well as walking or cycling to get to the office. Certified offsetting options are adopted, as a last resort. The Charity recognises its limitation in reducing the carbon emissions on long haul journeys.
- 2.1 **We aim to**
- Reduce the need to travel by plane
 - Encourage the use of conference calls and telephone meetings
 - Offset plane travel by certified systems
- 2.5 **Shop ethically**
It is part of the Charity’s Environmental Policy to ensure ecological and fair trade purchasing. The organisation is, in fact, using only 100% recycled

stationery items and paper and, in selecting suppliers and services, considers the sustainability and environmental impact of each individual product.

2.6 **We aim to**

- Purchase ecological products
- Purchased which are recyclable
- Purchase ethical (fair trade, organic) products where possible

2.6 **Save resources**

Waste is recycled and disposed in appropriate bins by staff members, and all appliances (printers, copy machines, fax machine, etc.) are set to minimise energy and paper consumption. Moreover, all office equipment is shared between the Charity team members, who also re-use items whenever possible.

2.7 **We aim to**

- Reduce waste production
- Reduce paper consumption
- Recycle (paper, plastic, glass, cans)

2.9 **Care for your area**

Staff members are required to periodically assess local green space, to agree and propose aims for improvement, as well as to identify problem areas (litter, etc.) and raise these issues to the local council. The Charity installed planter boxes at the front its building to help improve and green the local area. We encouraged team members to join or work with local schemes that care for the Bankside area, where the office is located.

3. **LIMITATIONS**

3.1 In achieving the established targets, the Charity is aware of its limitations in terms of both time and resources management. In particular, considering that it is a small non-governmental organisation with a limited budget, expensive changes cannot be implemented in the short term.

3.2 Additionally, the Charity is a tenant in a shared office space. This means that decisions related to the use of the office environment and management of shared resources must be agreed with the other tenants and the owner of the building. If curbing carbon emissions via collective agreement is not possible, the Charity will adopt offsetting options through investments in certified offsetting systems.

4. **MONITORING**

The Charity ensures that monitoring and evaluation of the targets will be done through regular team meetings with staff members.

5. **CONCLUSIONS**

The Charity is aware of its responsibilities in ensuring a better environment, and will contribute to its protection as well as to the protection of people living in it, through the implementation of carbon emission reduction strategies and the promotion of a “green” culture throughout its operations.