

**STRETHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

**This policy is based on the SLCC 2019 standard template**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Stretham Parish Council is committed to support the creation of a sustainable community. The Council also recognises that some of its activities will have some negative impact on the environment, and the aim of this policy is to establish broad objectives to enable the development of actions which mitigate the effects of Council operations.

The policy applies to all Stretham Parish Council operations.

## **ENERGY AND WATER MANAGEMENT**

The Parish Council is committed to responsible energy management and will promote energy efficiency throughout its operation. Examples of which are:

- 1.1 Encouraging staff, members and facility users to ensure that electrical equipment and unnecessary lights are switched off when not in use
- 1.2 Encouraging staff, members and facility users to close windows and external doors when heating is on
- 1.3 Encouraging staff, members and facility users to minimise the use of electric heaters
- 1.4 Encouraging staff, members and facility users to use water efficiently on Council premises
- 1.5 Where possible utilise water butts fed by down pipes as a non-drinking water source
- 1.6 Ensure staff and members minimise vehicle miles driven on council business

## **RECYCLING AND CONSERVATION**

The Parish Council will:

- 2.1 Encourage the recycling of wastepaper and cardboard at all operations and where possible plastics and glass.
- 2.2 Promote and encourage recycling across the Parish
- 2.3 Use Recycled Paper products where feasible, including folders, business cards, printer papers, toilet rolls and envelopes.
- 2.4 Minimise the amount of printing and minimise the amount of waste paper
- 2.5 Observe its duty of care conscientiously with all its waste contracts
- 2.6 Utilise electronic communications wherever possible
- 2.7 Minimise pollution and prevent where possible
- 2.8 Use composting facilities at relevant operated amenities (the cemetery)

## **BIODIVERSITY AND GREEN SPACES**

The Parish Council will:

- 3.1 Seek to protect and where possible enhance the quality of Stretham's natural environment and open spaces
- 3.2 Support the conservation of trees, hedgerows, ponds and streams
- 3.3 Consider the conservation and promotion of local biodiversity in all its activities but particularly with regard to the management of its land
- 3.4 Seek to manage its green spaces in a manner that promotes and protects biodiversity

## **AWARENESS, LOBBYING AND PARTNERSHIPS**

The Parish Council will:

- 4.1 In all relevant communications promote awareness of, and information on environmental issues within the community.
- 4.2 Where appropriate, act as a voice for the local environmental concerns to those agencies given the statutory powers to tackle problems
- 4.3 Ensure that all individuals involved in the organisation are aware of their responsibilities in implementing this environmental policy
- 4.4 Where appropriate work with its partners to minimise the effects of noise and light pollution on the Parish.

## **SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT**

The Parish Council will:

- 5.1 Seek to minimise environmental damage caused through the transportation of goods by sourcing materials and services locally so long as the requirements for value for money and quality are met.
- 5.2 Ensure that the use of pesticides/herbicides are minimised in its land management and horticultural activities
- 5.3 Ensure during any tender process, procurement will be environmentally friendly with as little impact on the environment as possible. Wildlife friendly techniques should be applied and wildlife encouraged to the site (where applicable). Use of recycled materials and sustainable building techniques is preferred (where possible). Sociable working hours for the work to be completed, should be applied.

## **SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL**

The Parish Council will:

- 6.1 Encourage members and officers to car-share where possible when a car journey must be made on Council business
- 6.2 Promote, and support the use of cycling, public footpaths and public transport