



Sustainability Policy

Version	1.0
Agreed by	Brockenhurst Village Trust Board
Date ratified	
Next review due	
Responsible trustee	Kevin Plummer
Related documents	All other Policies & Procedures need to comply with this policy.



1. Purpose of this policy

We are committed to sustainable development as defined in the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).

What is Sustainable Development?

- Sustainable development has been defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Sustainable development calls for concerted efforts towards building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future for people and planet.
- For sustainable development to be achieved, it is crucial to harmonise three core elements: economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection. These elements are interconnected and all are crucial for the well-being of individuals and societies.
- Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. To this end, there must be promotion of sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion, and promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems.

Commitment

Brockenhurst Village Trust recognises that we have a responsibility to the environment beyond the legal and regulatory requirements. We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and will strive to continually improve our environmental performance and to monitor our progress.

2. Vision

Our long-term vision is to apply the highest standards of sustainability across all activities on the Brockenhurst Village Trust, Highwood Road Site (hereafter referred to as "Site"). Whilst recognising this will not be achieved immediately, we will review this policy annually and agree a progressive series of targets to ensure we continuously improve our sustainability performance.

Our Sustainability Policy is based upon the following principles:

- As a minimum, to comply with but exceed where practicable, all applicable legislation, regulations and codes of practice. As a benchmark we will aim to achieve a permanent net carbon neutral Highwood Site site by 2025 or earlier.
- To integrate sustainability considerations into our business decisions.

Our Sustainability Definition and Ambition

We endorse the spirit of the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)

17 Goals to Transform Our World

The [Sustainable Development Goals](#) are a call for action by all countries – poor, rich and middle-income – to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.



- To ensure that all employees, users, customers, volunteers, suppliers and tenants are fully aware of our Sustainability Policy and are committed to implementing and improving their own sustainability performance in line with this policy.
- To minimise the impact on sustainability of all our activities.
- To communicate and promote our Sustainability Policy to our local community and encourage them to adopt sound sustainable management practices.
- Review, report annually and continually strive to improve our sustainability performance.
- To ensure that our policies and services are developed in a way that is complimentary to this policy.
- Not prioritise funding needs ahead of sustainability requirements.

3. Practical Steps: In order to put these principles into practice on the Site we will:

3.1. Awareness and Education - As a Centre of Sustainability Excellence we will promote;

- The use of renewable energy and the use of energy efficient equipment.
- To actively encourage wildlife and biodiversity.
- The principles of *Reduce, Reuse & Recycle*.
- Encourage walking, cycling and the use of electric/hybrid vehicles, including the provision of electric vehicle charging points.
- To actively encourage and support the use of computer skills for all.
- To actively encourage and support environmental education in the community.

3.2. Energy & Water

- Ensure energy is used efficiently and wherever possible reduce its use.
- Use water efficiently and with care.
- Avoid pollutants entering the drainage system or the environment.

3.3. Waste

- Reduce the production of material waste including unnecessary packaging, especially single use plastic.
- Encourage re-use, repair and recycling of materials including organic waste.
- Dispose of waste in a safe and environmentally responsible way.
- Facilitate electronic communication as an alternative to paper.

3.4. Built Environment

- Undertake a Sustainability Audit of the site and buildings, thereafter at intervals not exceeding 5 years.
- Take action to implement the recommendations of the Sustainability Audit and to achieve the highest thermal performance and energy reduction performance of the site buildings having regard to the nature of the existing design, fabric and available resources.
- Ensure proposed building work, including renovation work, will be planned and constructed to achieve and maintain an overall net zero carbon standard.

3.5. Natural Environment

- Take appropriate action to conserve and enhance the natural environment of the site
- Be sensitive to the impact of all activities taking place on the site on the local environment.

3.6. Travel

- Make every effort to reduce and restrict the causes of CO2 emissions and air pollution resulting from the use of transport and the Internal combustion engine.



- Actively encourage site users and visitors to travel by foot, mobility scooter, bicycle or on public transport where possible.

3.7. Materials & Resources

- Purchase products which are made in accordance with the principle of using material in a sustainable way and locally made/produced goods where practicable.
- Consider the lifetime cost of materials when repairing, altering or rebuilding premises.
- Maximise the proportion of paper used from sustainable sources and recycled materials.

4. Implementation, Monitoring and Review

- Implementation of the policy will be championed by the Health, Safety & Security Trustee and overseen by all Trustees.
- The policy will be reviewed annually by Trustees
- Performance against agreed goals/targets monitored quarterly.
- A copy of the policy will be made available on the Brockenhurst Village Trust's website.



Diagram showing the Sustainable Development Goals