



Policy 17: ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Environmental Policy Statement

LESS exists to promote sustainability to the general public. It does this through a website, its various projects, events and other means.

LESS will:

1. Promote sustainable living
2. Aim to be sustainable ourselves e.g. within our projects and use of resources
3. Incorporate sustainable principles into all our other policies
4. Comply with all relevant environmental legislation & regulations
5. Continuously improve our environmental performance
6. Communicate this policy to all employees, volunteers, Directors and members of the public (by displaying publically).

LESS directors expect all staff and volunteers to assist LESS to achieve these aims by the following actions:

1. **Promote sustainable living:** e.g. through our projects, events, our website, displays, information and publicity campaigns.
2. **Aim to be sustainable ourselves e.g.:**

Wherever practicable purchase environmentally sound products and services by:

- Aiming to buy goods that are local, fair-trade, recycled, made from sustainable materials or equivalent and do not contain potentially hazardous chemicals and have a low carbon footprint.

Conserve natural resources wherever practicable by:

- **Minimising our waste:** compost biodegradable waste, print double sided, minimise paper use by re-using envelopes, avoiding printing etc.
- **Minimising pollution**
- **Minimising our use of energy:** by turning off computers, printers, lights etc. when not in use
- **Maximising recycling**
- **Maximising the proportion of energy used from renewable sources**
- **Minimising our use of supplied water**

Encouraging the use of sustainable transport for travel to and within work e.g. walking, cycling or public transport. Where public transport or cycling is not feasible, because of items that have to be carried, distance and lack of public transport, LESS currently pays a mileage allowance, plus a rate per passenger, for staff or volunteers to

use their own vehicle, and pays bike mileage at the same rate as car mileage. LESS does not currently own any vehicles.

Protect and enhance biodiversity e.g. by managing land to encourage beneficial wildlife e.g. the allotment site

3. **Incorporate sustainable principles into all our policies:** These policies are reviewed regularly.
4. **Comply with all relevant environmental legislation & regulations** and make sure all Staff and Directors are aware of these
5. **Continuously improve our environmental performance** e.g. By investigating energy efficiency measures which could be introduced into the office.
6. **Communicate this to all employees, volunteers and members of the public by displaying this policy in the office and on our website.**