



# BODMIN TOWN COUNCIL

## ENVIRONMENT POLICY

### 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To promote and ensure appropriate consideration is given to the environment whilst Council and its employees are conducting its business and activities.

### 2 SCOPE

- 2.1 All full-time and part-time employees, including casual workers and those employed on temporary contracts. This policy has particular relevance to the Council's Parks and Open Spaces employees whose day-to-day activities have a direct effect on the environment in which they work.

This document also has bearing on members of staff with delegated authority to purchase materials and or goods from suppliers and to instruct/employ contractors to undertake various types of work on behalf of the Council; as these third party activities can have a direct impact on the environment.

### 3 POLICY STATEMENT

- 3.1 Bodmin Town Council is committed to protecting and maintaining the quality of the environment locally by managing its land and properties and carrying out its services in an environmentally sensitive way where this is practicable and economical.
- 3.2 The Council will take into consideration the *Brundtland Report 'Our Common Future' 1987*, and the *Local Agenda 21 Strategy adopted by North Cornwall District Council in 2000* by thinking globally but acting locally.
- 3.3 Bodmin Town Council will ensure that all of its operations and activities undertaken on behalf of the Council comply with, or exceed, all statutory environmental requirements.
- 3.4 The Council recognises the growing importance of environmental considerations and will, wherever practicable, promote the concepts of sustainable development. Sustainable development is about '*meeting the needs of today's society without compromising future generations' ability to meet their own needs*' (*Brundtland 1987*).

### 4 ENERGY CONSUMPTION



This policy was launched on World Environment Day – 5 June 2004

- 4.1** Bodmin Town Council will aim to reduce the overall amount of energy it uses and the quantity of emissions produced throughout its properties by:
- Achieving a high standard of energy and cost efficiency;
  - Employing energy and water efficiency products in all new or refurbished Council buildings.

## **5 TRANSPORT**

- 5.1** The Council will liaise closely with the District and County Councils in embracing all initiatives aimed at encouraging the use of, and improvements to, the public transport infrastructure.

This will include schemes aimed at increasing the number of people who walk or cycle to work/school by promoting the use of designated town walks, cycle ways/lanes and discovery trails for pedestrians and less able bodied people to use and enjoy.

## **6 WASTE DISPOSAL**

- 6.1** The Council will aim to reduce the amount of waste it produces and will where practicable recycle/re-use waste.
- 6.2** Bodmin Town Council fully supports the District Council's recycling door step/kerbside collection scheme throughout North Cornwall and will support and promote recycling facilities within the town.

## **7 THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

- 7.1** Bodmin Town Council will work to protect, enhance and preserve the natural environment within and around the town for today's and future generations' enjoyment.
- 7.2** Areas of special interest/outstanding natural beauty will be, where practicable, land managed in an environmentally sensitive manner taking into consideration all diversities of flora and fauna. In particular the Council will continue to work in partnership with the Coast and Countryside Service, North Cornwall District Council, to preserve and enhance the Beacon Local Nature Reserve.
- 7.3** Bodmin Town Council will continue to provide parks and open spaces for the enjoyment of the townsfolk of Bodmin. The Council will ensure that they are maintained in an environmentally sensitive way as practicable, given budgetary constraints, and that they are easily accessible to all.



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- 7.4 Areas of land the Council considers to be underused or not used to its full potential by the public will be the subject of review under 'Best Value' and may result in the creation of more wild flower meadows/environmentally sensitive parkland for the town.

## **8 THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

- 8.1 Bodmin Town Council will continue to work in partnership with the Conservation Officer, North Cornwall District Council, to preserve and enhance Bodmin's built environment and will ensure that any future development is sustainable, in-keeping with the local identity and does not compromise existing structures of historical importance to the town.
- 8.2 The Council will highlight/promote the use of 'brown field' sites as potential development areas to the District Council and developers wherever this is practicable before 'green field' sites are considered.
- 8.3 The Council will support planning policies (as detailed within the County Structure Plan, District Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Guidance) that conserve the countryside, with the aim of minimising the impact of the built form on the natural environment.

## **9 PURCHASING & CONTRACTS**

- 9.1 Where possible, practicable and economical the Council will purchase its goods and services from local suppliers who share the Council's environmental view point:
- Purchase and use products which have been manufactured from recycled materials and can be disposed of in an environmentally sustainable way.
  - Use contractors (as and when required) who share the Council's environmental objectives, have a track record in their field for environmental sensitivity or when working for the Council adopt equivalent environmental standards.
- 9.2 The Council will amend its Procurement Strategy to reflect this Environment Policy Statement.

## **10 LITTER & DOG FOULING**

- 10.1 The Council will actively seek to reduce and discourage all forms of littering, including dog fouling, within the town's parks and open spaces. This will be achieved through the provision of adequate numbers of appropriately placed receptacles for the different waste types and ensuring that they are emptied regularly.



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**10.2** All other forms of green waste/litter which is collected (where practicable) or produced by the Council will be processed and recycled through the Community Composting Project and turned into a garden mulch/soil enhancer/compost for use in Council maintained flower beds throughout the town.

**10.3** Bodmin Town Council will:

- Recycle/re-use materials wherever practicable so reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfill;
- Educate staff to be more environmentally conscientious whilst in the workplace;
- Produce an environment guide for Council employees (staff handbook) to 'sign up to' voluntarily, highlighting the various ways and day-to-day steps that can be taken to reduce, save or conserve: energy, water and waste.

## **11 ADHERENCE TO POLICY**

11.1 It is the responsibility of line managers/supervisors to notify and provide copies of this policy to staff in their department.

11.2 Queries relating to the contents of this Policy or its implementation should be directed to the Senior Projects and Administration Manager, who is acting as the lead officer in this matter.

## **12 REVIEW**

12.1 This policy will be reviewed regularly and amended as necessary.



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