



Environment Policy

March 2018

Reviewed Nov 2020

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1. Statement of Intent

The Hwb Torfaen (Charity number 1175585) (KNOWN AT THE HWB) acknowledges the connection between the climate and other environmental crises and the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages and poverty for millions of people around the world, as well as the major damage being caused to our natural eco-systems.

It therefore recognises its responsibility to reduce its carbon and environmental footprints and formally commits itself to being an environmentally responsible charity.

The Hwb Torfaen will also work to further its support of and within the local and Welsh communities not only with regards its environmental footprint but within its choice of partners and resources and their environmental and community policies, where possible.

The Hwb will observe existing environmental legislation as a minimum standard and seek to out-perform current legislative requirements where practical.

To take this forward it commits to the following actions:

2. Management

The management are responsible for the education, training and development regarding, as well as implementation of, the charity's policy and programmes to ensure that all the work of the charity incorporates efforts to protect the environment.

The organization's policy and procedures as well as the conduct of its Trustees, staff and volunteers reflect the charities respect and care for the environment and public expectation.

The Hwb annual impact statement will include a summary of this annual environmental audit of the charity.

Progress on improvement of The Hwb environmental performance will be a standard item at senior management meetings.

The Hwb mandates the CEO to take executive responsibility for taking forward and implementing our commitment to the environment and to undertake the following.

3. Energy & Resources

All buildings and facilities will be as energy and resource conscious as possible:

- Wherever possible, energy saving lights are used or funding sourced for them
- All heating is strictly monitored, thermostatically controlled and kept to the lowest temperatures allowable for young person, staff and public comfort
- All heating is timed to minimise use for staff or public areas out of hours

- All equipment, particularly ICT equipment, is switched off when not in use.
- All buildings are fully insulated, or funding sourced to insulate.
- During any renovation works to be undertaken, water and energy efficient equipment or services will be installed and renewable sources of materials used, wherever possible (funding dependant)

4. Recycling.

The Hwb will recycle as much waste as feasibly possible, in line with the area's recycling policy. The Hwb will commits to keeping the volume of black bag waste from its organisations work at a minimum. In 2020 funding was sourced to introduce recycling facilities in the Blaenavon Centre, and 79% of its waste is now directed away from Landfill.

The charity will work with its staff, users, and the local young people to educate them to be energy, environmental and waste conscious to support the charity in its aims. In 2019, a climate festival for young people was introduced, and the aspiration is to deliver this annually.

5. Transport

The Hwb will develop and maintain a sustainable transport policy for their staff, seeking to reduce unnecessary travel and making the transport that is necessary as sustainable as possible and will monitor progress annually.

6. Staff and contract suppliers

All staff contracts will include a clause stating that staff will be expected to help The Hwb in carrying out its aim of being an environmentally responsible organisation, in how they carry out their day-to-day duties.

Induction procedures for new staff will include information on the charity's environmental practices.

The Hwb will include environmental responsibility training in any future staff training programmes, especially for those involved in providing advice to vulnerable clients.

The Hwb will ask all our current and future suppliers for their environmental policies and for evidence of implementation of such policies and indicate that such performance will be used as criteria for supplier selection.

The Hwb will seek to have relevant environmental clauses included in any future contracts agreed with outside bodies.

7. Reporting and review

The CEO will be required to report annually on progress made, including where possible statistical information on The Hwb annual:

- Energy carbon footprint

- Electricity
- Water
- Transport fuel
- Gas
- Total waste production
- % of waste recycled
- Total paper consumption
- % Recycled paper
- % Renewable energy used
- Any other relevant environmental criteria.

This annual environmental report will be presented at the same meeting as the annual accounts.

Review – This environmental policy shall be reviewed annually upon its adoption.

POLICY ADOPTION: Dec 2018
(See signature sheets for signed approval).