



CHARNWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Charnwood Borough Council cares about the environment and has a legal duty to protect it. We strive for sustainability in our roles as a major employer in the Borough, a regulator, land and property owner, provider of services, a significant purchaser within the local economy, leading grant-maker and facilitator of community initiatives.

We recognise that managing the environmental impact of our own operations is essential. The Council operates an internal Environmental Management System (EMS) and conducts regular audits of all buildings and functions which can impact the environment. This allows us to identify areas where we can improve our environmental performance as well as ensuring that environmental considerations are consistently put at the heart of how we operate.

We are committed to continually improving our internal Environmental Management System (EMS) to enhance the environmental performance relating to the direct operations of the Council. We will do this by:

- Complying with our compliance obligations and practice good housekeeping.
- Planning and managing our environmental impacts in order to protect the environment and prevent pollution.
- Aiming to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.
- Maintaining and building environmental awareness within the Council and through our relationships with external parties and local communities.
- Setting, monitoring and communicating our objectives and targets for improving environmental performance.

As part of recognising the importance of managing our activities, products and services to minimise the impact on the environment, the Council has committed to achieve carbon neutrality from its own operations by 2030. As a key place leader, the Council has also committed to work with residents, businesses and other public bodies across the borough and region to deliver this ambitious goal through all relevant technologies, strategies and plans.

Our approach to the environment is reflected in our strategic documents, such as the Corporate Strategy, Climate Change Strategy and Local Plan. The Council also has other strategies which ensure environmental considerations are influencing the Council's procurement processes and service delivery.

Our Procurement Strategy requires the Council to consider environmental impacts as part of the procurement process and to opt for environmentally positive choices with regard to the purchasing of goods and services.

The Council operates a Waste Strategy, which is regularly updated and contains the Council's targets for waste reduction and the recycling of household wastes. As a waste collection authority, we are committed to managing our waste and recycling in accordance with the Resources and Waste Strategy for England. The strategy sets out how we will preserve material resources by minimising waste and by promoting resource efficiency.

The Council is committed to protecting Charnwood's Open Spaces and seeking opportunities to increase the provision of Open Space through the Open Space Strategy.



Cllr Jonathan Morgan
Leader



Cllr Roy Rollings
Cabinet Lead Member for Transformation



Rob Mitchell
Chief Executive

February 2021

**More information about Environmental Management and current programmes can be found [on the Council website](#).*