

**Cornwall Environmental Consultants Ltd**  
**Sustainability Statement / Environmental Action Plan**

**Statement of principles**

Cornwall Environmental Consultants (CEC) Ltd works to help to conserve Cornwall's wildlife for the benefit of this and future generations. As part of this work CEC aims to carry out its work in a sustainable manner and to maximise its contribution to a healthy living and working environment, as well as educating and motivating staff to work in an environmentally responsible manner.

Our aim is to reduce our carbon footprint and to this end we have set ourselves the target of becoming Carbon Neutral by the end of 2012. The actions outlined below will go some way towards achieving this, with the remainder of carbon being offset by an appropriate offsetting scheme.

**Background**

Our in-house 'Green House Group' (GHG) was established in September 2003 and comprises staff and colleagues representing the full range of our work. Since the inaugural meeting, the GHG has carried out an assessment of our environmental impacts and has then audited and prioritised the impacts. Subsequent to the audit, the GHG has produced an Action Plan which has been approved by staff and management.

**Action Plan headline objectives (underpinned by the detailed working Action Plan)**

**1. Conserving resources**

To improve energy efficiency by:

- Ensuring electricity used on-site is from a renewable source
- Monitoring and reducing use of electricity
- Monitoring and reducing heating oil use
- In the long term ensuring that all energy used is from sustainable sources.

**2. Waste**

To use resources efficiently so that the physical waste produced from CEC's operations is reduced and those waste systems that are chosen don't inherently produce waste.

Hazardous waste:

- Monitor and reduce waste materials generated by CEC

General waste

- Monitor and reduce the amount of waste going to landfill every year

Office waste

- Monitor, reduce, reuse and recycle office waste.

**3. Water use**

To reduce water consumption by:

- Monitoring, reducing, re-using and recycling water across the site

**4. Transport**

To reduce congestion and pollution from commuting, official travel, fleet management and visitors by:

- Complying with Green Transport Plan policy issued by the GHG whenever practically possible – please refer to the Appendix to view this policy.
- Monitoring annual journey to work miles
- Reducing journey to work mileage by car sharing & working from home opportunities
- Persuading the relevant local authority to construct a bus stop to serve CEC offices

- and wider community
- Monitoring and reducing annual business mileage by using public transport where possible
  - Monitoring visitors' modes of transport (encourage public transport).
  - Only purchase new vehicles powered by a lower impact fuel source
  - CEC purchased a Ford Focus Estate with one of the lowest CO2 emissions in its range, in March 2009. Staff will use this vehicle for business related journeys, instead of their own cars, to reduce mileages costs and the impact on the environment.

## **5. Procurement**

To improve the environmental impact procurement can have, CEC will aim to encourage good environmental practice concerning the purchasing of goods by:

- Ensuring that through the purchasing of all goods and services, minimal environmental impact is generated.
- Ensuring that timber products (i.e. bat boxes) is purchased is from an accredited sustainable source, and through an environmentally responsible company
- All office supplies, including stationery and specialised equipment, should be sought from a local supplier and a sustainable source where ever possible.
- CEC's procurement procedure should be followed by all staff – please refer to Appendix to view this procedure.

## **6. Training / funding**

- Improve communication and knowledge of impacts by staff training, for example during Induction when employed, EMS Training, Environmental Impacts, Internal Audit training etc.
- Communication between staff is encouraged by using email and/or the Intranet
- Staff also have the opportunity to discuss such issues at staff meetings.
- Retain ISO 14001 status

Cornwall Environmental Consultants is committed to monitoring and evaluating its environmental practices. It is the intention of CEC that the statement and Environmental Action Plan will be reviewed annually and if necessary a revised version can be issued to reflect the latest developments.

JAN 2012  
Ends.