

## **Hazlerigg Parish Council – Environmental Policy**

### **Introduction**

Hazlerigg Parish Council recognises that its operations and activities have the potential to impact the natural environment and assumes responsibility to minimise any adverse environmental impacts.

This document sets out how we will mitigate for these impacts. All councilors and employees and those receiving funding from Hazlerigg Parish Council and users of resources, both land and buildings, must adhere to the principles set out in this document.

This document is relevant to the purchasing of materials and/or goods from suppliers and to instruct/employ contractors to undertake various types of work with or on behalf of Council or any works funded by the Council.

### **Aims**

The Parish Council will aim to make a lasting and positive contribution towards protecting and enhancing the local environment.

To achieve this we will:

- Minimise consumption of all resources and consider the lifecycle impact of all purchases
- Promote and encourage recycling and eliminate single-use plastic, reusing waste materials where possible
- Promote and support the use of cycling, public footpaths and public transport where appropriate, as well as encouraging car sharing
- Support initiatives that encourage sustainable transport, such as providing places for cycle parking
- Ensure that any catering produce is sourced locally and is organic, fair trade and avoids single-use plastic, where possible

- Ensure that timber, or similar products, used by the Council will be from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified sources
- Ensure that consumables such as cleaning products and inks are eco-friendly. Bleach and solvents harmful to the environment to be avoided.
- Reduce the amount of paper and printing by using electronic communications and only printing documents when absolutely essential
- Minimise energy use and use renewable energy sources as far as possible
- Work with and support other parishes and local authorities to implement wider scale environmental initiatives.
- Conserve water from buildings and encourage others to harvest rain water for non-drinking purposes
- Not use pesticides on land we own or manage (with the exception of use for the control of Schedule 9 plants under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, such as Japanese Knotweed, or to reduce material risks to asset integrity)
- Continue to call on Newcastle City Council to cease pesticide use in the parish and for less harmful alternatives to be used
- Promote awareness of, and information about, environmental issues within the community
- Support, and act as a voice for, local environmental concerns within the community

## **Review**

Progress towards the aims outlined above will be reviewed annually and the document will be amended/updated as and when required.

Adopted:

Reviewed: