



The Sampfords Parish Council

Community Environment Policy

Purpose

To promote and ensure appropriate consideration is given to the environment whilst The Sampfords Parish Council and its employees or contractors are conducting its business and activities. In order to do this, the council needs to take responsibility for its actions and need to have a sense of duty and care for the world in which we live.

Scope

All employees, contractors, those receiving grant funding from the Sampfords Parish Council and users of council owned resources. This document also has a bearing on those with delegated authority to purchase materials and or goods from suppliers and to instruct/employ contractors to undertake various types of work with or on behalf of Council, as these third-party activities can have a direct impact on the environment.

Policy Statement

The Sampfords Parish Council is committed to protecting and maintaining the quality of the environment by managing its business activities and carrying out its services in an environmentally sensitive way where this is practicable. 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 generation's ability to meet their own needs'.

The Council believes it has a responsibility to care for and protect the environment in which it operates. The Council is fully committed to improving environmental performance across all of its activities and will encourage our delivery partners and members of the wider community to join us in this effort.

PPC recognises its key impacts to be in the areas of:

- Energy use.
- Raw material use.
- Waste generation.
- Emissions to air/water.
- Water use.
- Transport.
- Procurement.

It will strive to:

- Adopt the highest environmental standards in all areas of operation, meeting and exceeding all relevant legislative requirements.



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- Assess its activities and identify areas where it can minimise impacts.
- Minimise waste through careful and efficient use of all materials and energy.
- Purchase sustainable products wherever feasible (e.g. recycled, FSC or low environmental impact products and energy from renewable sources).
- Publicise its environmental position.
- Ensure contractors use good environmental practice and encourage involvement in environmental action.
- Reduce risks from environmental, health or safety hazards for parishioners.
- Adopt an environmentally sound transport strategy.
- Aim to include environmental and ethical considerations in purchasing decisions where appropriate.
- Assist in developing solutions to environmental problems.
- Continually assess the environmental impact of all our operations.

Energy

The Sampfords Parish Council will reduce the amount of energy and water it uses by careful housekeeping and where possible use energy from sustainable sources.

Paper

The Council will reduce the amount of paper it uses by:

- Writing and printing on both sides of the paper whenever possible.
- Filing photocopies for use at a later date if appropriate.
- Sending information electronically where appropriate.
- Buying paper that is environmentally friendly.
- Any paper that cannot be re-used will be recycled.

Purchasing & Contracts

Where possible and practicable the council will purchase its goods and services from local suppliers who share the council's environmental viewpoint:

- 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 or when working for the Council, adopt equivalent environmental standards.

Following the Uttlesford District Council Environmental Objectives

The Sampfords Parish Council fully supports Uttlesford District Council's Protecting and Enhancing our Environment aims,



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<https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/article/6790/Protecting-and-enhancing-our-environment>

and commits to the following key objectives:

- Manage waste in a sustainable way
- Work with partners to deliver sustainable transport
- Conserve and enhance the quality and diversity of the district's natural habitats and wildlife
- Take action on climate change including the UDC Climate Change and Biodiversity Action Plan

https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/media/11267/Climate-Change-and-Biodiversity-Action-Plan/pdf/Climate_Change_and_Biodiversity_Action_Plan_2024_25.pdf?m=1716365768350

Management and Maintenance

Council (or council contractors) will:

- Assess chemicals used, ensuring there is appropriate safe disposal.
- Minimise the use of harmful pesticides and herbicides.
- Compost and shred green waste and not use burning.
- Routinely service and maintain equipment to ensure efficient operation.

Transport

The council will liaise with the District Council and other relevant bodies 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 and the use of public footpaths for pedestrians and the less able-bodied people to use and enjoy.

Litter & Dog Fouling

The council will actively seek to discourage all forms of littering in particular dog fouling. Any incidents brought to the Council's attention will be investigated and reported to the relevant authorities including the Police and Dog Warden.

Natural & Historic Environment

The council will work to protect, enhance and preserve the natural environment within the Parish for today's and future generation's enjoyment.

Building & Development

The council will support Uttlesford District Council's approach to managing the impact of development on the local natural and historic environment as well as its features and resources as referenced in its policies and within the Local Plan.

Adherence to Policy

It is the responsibility of the Clerk to notify and provide copies of this policy to contractors and councillors.