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# ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

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## **1. Policy Statement**

- 1.1. Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity acknowledges its responsibility of maintaining a sound environment.
- 1.2. We recognise the importance no matter how small of the impact of our activities on the environment and that there is a need to constantly consider ways in which we can conserve energy and minimise waste in all activities that we undertake. The environmental policy is defined by the Board of Trustees of the Charity and provides the framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives.
- 1.3. Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity maintains a publicly available policy that is available either on request or on our website. The policy is communicated to all persons working for or on behalf of the Charity.
- 1.4. Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity actively acknowledges our responsibility to protecting the environment in all areas of our work, from the projects we support, to our actions within the office, as well as printing all of our publications on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) recycled paper. Specifically, we remain committed to reducing our impact upon the environment in the following ways:

## **2. Our Commitments**

### **2.1. Waste Management**

It is our policy to work with our staff and suppliers to ensure that all waste is disposed of in line with legal and environmental requirements.

### **2.2. Recycling and Use of Recycled Materials**

To utilise, and promote the use of, sustainable procurement practises by collaborating with vendors who meet our sustainability criteria and source

eco-friendly and ethically produced products, ensuring that materials are disposed of in an environmentally safe manner at the end of their useful life.<sup>1</sup>

### **2.3. Energy Conservation**

To manage electricity, water and gas supplies to ensure minimum consumption through energy efficient initiatives. It is our policy to make efficient use of natural light within our building and to conserve energy by adopting an ‘only turn on when using’ approach to equipment. We also endeavour to screen suppliers to ensure that materials provided by third parties adhere to green credentials.

We also seek out opportunities to raise awareness of energy conservation to those seeking financial assistance from us.

### **2.4. Environmental Management Awareness**

To raise and maintain a high level of understanding of, and participation in, environmental best practices by staff and suppliers.

### **2.5. Sustainable Activities**

We will promote sustainable practises across our programmes and services by engaging in activities and projects that conserve resources, protect biodiversity, and support sustainable development Goals.

### **2.6. Pollution**

Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity is committed to the prevention of pollution and will remain committed to this objective.

### **2.7. Legal Requirements**

We are committed to compliance with all applicable legal requirements to which Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity subscribes, that relate to our impact on the environment and our environmental aspects.

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<sup>1</sup> A purchasing policy is in development.

The existence of our policy document is communicated to those we work with and on behalf of.