

Empowering Futures

Registered Charity Number (CIC) 1182139

Tel: 07743 57 57 87

Email: admin@empoweringfutures.co.uk

Website: www.empoweringfutures.co.uk

Address: Stables, No 2 Bury Hill, Moorend, Winterbourne, Bristol BS16 1SS



Empowering Futures Environmental Policy

Environmental Policy Purpose

The Environmental Policy applies to all aspects of our work and sets out to define how Empowering Futures ensures we are constantly considering the environment.

About us

Empowering Futures is a care farm that is committed to supporting vulnerable participants within the local community to integrate with society whilst educating all stakeholders on the importance of environmental factors, such as climate change, biodiversity and key environmental matters.

We feel it is a strong part of our duty to ensure we are all implementing small but impactful changes to ensure we are all giving back to the earth.

We are committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for our employees and volunteers to minimise any potential impact on the environment. We operate in compliance with all relevant environmental legislation, and we strive to use best practices to minimize the environmental impact to prevent any pollution.

Strategic Implementation

The Environmental Policy applies to all aspects of our work.

Embedding this policy to participants with learning needs

Prior to commencing engagement on the farm, inductions are held for all staff, volunteers and participants to ensure this policy is understood and achievable. We have ensured this policy is accessible to all by providing easy-read information with clear, easy-read, basic instructions and pictures to help educate and deliver the message.

Trustees and managers promote and implement a positive approach to sustainability that is rooted in this Environmental Policy.

All managers are responsible for ensuring that the Environment Policy is communicated to all staff, volunteers and visitors and that awareness of the policy is part of all staff inductions.

All managers are responsible for regular monitoring and review of the Environmental Policy, so it is kept relevant, up-to-date, and used across the whole farm.

Legislation

We follow the Social Model of Disability. We offer bespoke opportunities to ensure we remain person centred. Our services are firmly embedded with quality and purpose for each individual we work with. Our approach is holistic. We encourage personal responsibility. We aim to increase independence and to empower individuals. We have a proven track record of significant success.

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The Codes of Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Air, Water and Soil provide practical guidance to help you avoid causing pollution and to protect soil as a valuable resource.

Objectives and targets

Objectives and targets are set to prevent pollution and mitigate significant environmental impacts.

We do:

- Integrate the consideration of environmental concerns and impacts into all of our decision and activities
- Promote environmental awareness among all stakeholder, our employees, volunteers, participants, supporters and visitors to encourage them to work in an environmentally responsible manner
- Offer tours, walks and talks on biodiversity, climate change and environmental matter, along with small changes that can be made to protect and give back to the earth
- Train and educate and inform all stakeholders about environmental issues that may affect their work, their homes and the environment
- Respond appropriately to biodiversity-related national priorities
- Make a systematic contribution to the development of national biodiversity priorities
- Demonstrate through development and implementation of important programmes and projects, the value of conserving biodiversity as well as the relevance of biodiversity to the improvement of the quality of life of local community
- Reduce our use of natural resources such as energy and water
- Examine and maintain in good working order all water pumping equipment
- When new pumping equipment is purchased consideration is given to ensure energy efficiency and enough pumping capacity
- Control our energy consumption by reviewing and improving our operating, motivation and training practices
- Think before you drive - Transport options such as car sharing wherever possible to help keep CO2 omissions down (which is especially important to us as we are located not far from 2 major motorways)
- Reuse resources wherever possible rather than dispose of them
- Encourage the use of recycled materials and recycling initiatives
- Eliminate or minimize appropriate pollution releases to the environment (air, soil and water)
- Avoid unnecessary use of hazardous materials and products, seek substitutions when feasible, and take all responsible steps to protect human

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health and the environment when such materials must be used, stored and disposed of

- Purchase and use environmentally responsible products accordingly
- Where required by legislation or where significant health, safety or environmental hazards exist, develop and maintain appropriate emergency and spill response programs
- Communicate our environmental commitment to clients, customers and the public and encourage them to support it
- Strive to continually improve our environmental performance and minimize the social impact and damage of activities by annually reviewing our environmental policy in light of our current and planned future activities.
- Wherever practicable, sustainable options will be favored within purchases, sourcing suppliers and contracting, such as: choosing local providers, eco-friendly options, recycled goods, low-pollution products

Date of Policy Creation: 1st February 2019

Last Reviewed: 19/04/2023

Next Review Due: 19/04/2024

Signed off by: Maria Needs

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