

SPENNYMOOR TOWN COUNCIL



ENVIRONMENT AND BIO-DIVERSITY POLICY

Author of Policy:	Town Clerk
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In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this document will be posted on the Council's Website www.spennymoor-tc.gov.uk and copies of this document will be available for inspection on deposit in the Council Offices, Town Hall, Spennymoor. Costs are as per the model publication scheme.

1. Environment Policy

Spennymoor Town Council is committed to improving the environment in its progress towards a sustainable town. The policies and activities undertaken and promoted by the Council have many impacts on the environment. The Council has a leading role in creating a high quality local environment, now and for future generations and in reducing the adverse impact of the town on global communities.

The Council will continually monitor and improve its environmental performance and comply with relevant legislation, policies and codes of practice.

Spennymoor Town Council recognises its responsibility to the environment and bio-diversity and will aim to:

1. Reduce the impacts of climate change and our contribution to the causes.
 - Limit risks and impacts of flooding and changing weather patterns
 - Improve air quality and reduce pollution
 - Promote sustainable design and construction
 - Promote use of locally produced energy from low carbon and renewable resources
 - Ensure all our vehicles are serviced and maintained to a high standard

2. Live within environmental limits, both locally and globally
 - Minimise the use of non-renewable natural resources, including fossil fuels and greenfield sites
 - Reduce waste production and increase re-use and recycling
 - Protect and improve the quality of our groundwater and rivers

3. Protect and enhance the town's environmental assets and infrastructure
 - Protect and enhance the quality and diversity of the town's rural and urban landscapes
 - Protect and enhance the town's geodiversity
 - Protect and conserve the areas biodiversity with particular attention to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities

Act 2006. Conserving the biodiversity includes protecting, restoring, and enhancing species populations and habitats.

- Promote the development of an integrated green infrastructure for the Town

The Council will use environmental management systems to identify, manage and monitor its policies and activities that have a direct or indirect environmental impact and will implement control measures to prevent pollution. The Council will communicate this policy to all staff, contractors and consultants and make it available to the general public. The Council will raise the environmental awareness of staff through training and development.

This structure provides the framework for setting environmental objectives and performance targets.

The Council expects its partners, contractors and suppliers to adopt and implement the principles contained within this policy and will achieve this through its procurement activities.