

CYNGOR CYMUNDOL RHOSDDU COMMUNITY COUNCIL



# ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY 2023

To be reviewed every **3 years** or when legislation or guidance changes

**ADOPTED**

25<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Minute Ref: 16

**AMENDED**

**REVIEWED**

Rhosddu Community Council is committed to sustainable development (meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs) as a guiding principle within our work. Concern for the environment is an integral and fundamental part of this commitment. Our aim is to reduce the impact on the environment from our operations.

### **Our environmental/sustainability action plan**

We aim to promote good governance as well as dealing with aspects of poor practice. Through our work we are in a position to promote the wider sustainability agenda.

We will assess the environmental impacts of our operations and set objectives and targets in order to improve our environmental performance. We will regularly review these targets.

We will:

- promote responsibility for the environment within the Council and communicate and implement this policy at all levels;
- endeavour to reduce the use of energy, water and other resources;
- minimise waste by reduction, re-use and recycling methods when possible;
- comply with all relevant environmental legislation/regulation;
- ensure that our policies and services are developed in a way that is complimentary to this policy;
- aim to not prioritise funding needs ahead of sustainability requirements;
- identify and provide appropriate training, advice and information for staff and encourage them to develop new ideas and initiatives;
- aim to provide appropriate resources to meet the commitments of this policy; and
- promote and encourage involvement in local environmental initiatives/schemes.

This action plan is available to all staff and has been drawn to their attention. Awareness will be raised by briefing at Council meetings

### **Key actions**

- Ensure continued roll out of electronic records document management system and online services initiatives to reduce need for paper
- Reinforce Council Commitment through actions
- Improve Environmental awareness amongst staff and promote green housekeeping issues
- Review Policy and Action Plan annually

### **Additional actions**

- Arrange automatic shutdown of PC's at an agreed time each evening.
- Monitor utilities consumption for each building
- Identify energy sources which are more sustainable for our premises
- Where appropriate, increase recycling options and fit time clocks on items of equipment which are not required to be powered up 24/07
- Use environmentally friendly products where possible
- Install light sensors in the toilets and kitchen areas when possible
- Ensure any council buildings are as energy efficient as possible and any street lighting uses well-directed LED lighting when developing
- Install renewable energy generation, like heat pumps and solar PV, at council buildings when replacing/renewing
- Reduce pesticide use and other harmful activities
- Manage land for nature
- Increase tree cover
- Buy green and local when and where possible
- Encourage Councillors, staff and local residents to walk, cycle or use public transport or car-share
- Encourage minimising waste going to landfill or incineration
- Use our powers wisely, ensuring we know the implications of decisions before making them
- Support low-carbon vehicles with reduced parking costs and designated spaces