

Environmental Policy & 2050 Net Zero Commitment

This policy is a working document, and it will be reviewed annually. Reviews will provide an opportunity to check what progress we are making to become an environmentally responsible organisation with a commitment to 2050 Net Zero.

Statement of intent

Knowsley Carers Centre acknowledges the connection between the climate and environmental crises, the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages, and poverty for millions of people around the world. As well as the major damage being caused to the natural world.

Knowsley Carers Centre therefore recognise our responsibility to reduce our carbon and environmental footprints and commit to being an environmentally responsible charity.

To achieve this, we commit to the following actions:

Our commitment

1. To ensure Knowsley Carers Centre has a clear idea of what we have already achieved and what still needs to be done, from January 2025, an annual environmental audit will be prepared and presented alongside the annual accounts that will include details of.

- Energy carbon footprint
- Electricity usage
- Water usage
- Gas usage
- Transport fuel/costs/means
- Total waste production
- % of waste recycled
- % vegetarian/vegan meals provided
- Total paper consumption
- % Recycled paper used
- % Renewable energy used
- Any other relevant environmental criteria.

2. Knowsley Carers Centre annual impact statement will include a summary of this annual environmental audit of the charity.

3. All new staff contracts will include a clause stating that staff will be expected to help Knowsley Carers Centre in carrying out its aim of being an environmentally responsible organisation, in how they carry out their day-to-day duties.
4. Induction procedures for new staff/volunteers/members will include information on the charity's environmental practices.
5. Knowsley Carers Centre will ask all our current and future suppliers for their environmental policies and for evidence of implementation of such policies and indicate that such performance will be used as criteria for supplier selection.
6. Knowsley Carers Centre will seek to have relevant environmental clauses included in any future contracts agreed with outside bodies.
7. Knowsley Carers Centre will include environmental responsibility training in any future staff training programmes.
8. Knowsley Carers Centre will observe existing environmental legislation as a minimum standard and seek to out-perform current legislative requirements where practical.
9. Knowsley Carers Centre will develop and maintain a sustainable transport policy for their staff, seeking to reduce unnecessary travel and making the transport that is necessary as sustainable as possible and will monitor progress annually.
10. Knowsley Carers Centre will as part of the planning, procurement and delivery of any new work commitments, projects or initiatives consider the environmental impact of any work before it is undertaken.
11. Knowsley Carers Centre will strive to become a role model for good environmental working practises and will share any knowledge and experience gained in how to achieve this, with other organisations.
12. Knowsley Carers Centre will examine any financial savings and investments, including pensions, to try and ensure that any investments are only used to support environmentally responsible organisations.
13. Knowsley Carers Centre will review any rented properties or offices, to establish their carbon footprint and take measures to address any areas of improvement that are needed to achieve low or zero carbon status.

Review: This environmental policy shall be reviewed annually upon its adoption.
