



<b>SUBJECT/TITLE:</b>	Title of Document: ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
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<b>CONTACTS:</b>	Names and Job Titles of all involved in Originating and Approving Body sections: Steven Halls (Chief Executive) Ann Shaw (Leader of the Council) Peter Kerr (Sustainability Projects Officer)
<b>RELATING LITERATURE:</b>	Clause(s) procedure / document relates to:  4.2

## **Three Rivers District Council's Environmental Policy (V4) March 2010**

Three Rivers District Council has its main office in the town of Rickmansworth and provides services to 83,000 residents in and around the local area. A Sustainability Unit sits within the Community and Environment Department which has responsibility for a number of services including asset management, parking, transport, land-and property services, development management, development plans, environmental health, waste collection and recycling, leisure, trees and landscaping.

We recognise our responsibility to review our activities and operations in order to identify and minimise negative environmental impacts, as well as identify those that have a positive impact. As a council we know too that we are ideally placed to enable residents to adapt to changing environmental circumstances, improve the environment, reduce their carbon footprint as well as save money.

All of the Council's elected Members and officers are aware of, and involved with, creating and implementing the Council's environmental policy and Strategic Plans. They are regularly updated on progress.

All staff or those working on behalf of TRDC are responsible for compliance with the council's environmental policy.

### **Specifically it is our policy to:**

- Manage and review significant impacts from our operations and services.
- Set environmental objectives and targets to reduce energy and resource use, minimise waste and prevent pollution.
- Operate and maintain an effective Environmental Management System (EMS), and work towards continuous improvement.
- Regularly monitor progress of objectives and target, and publicly report on these.
- Meet legal as well as other requirements, including those relating to our residents and the local community.
- Dedicate resources to meet our priorities including a council Portfolio Holder, Sustainability team, EMS Working Group, designated managers and officers within other teams.
- Enable our staff and committee members to meet our environmental policy through effective training and awareness raising.

- Ensure that goods and services procured support our procurement policy, and encourage our suppliers and contractors to improve their own environmental performance.
- Lead by example and work actively with the local community to help people and organisations to reduce their environmental impact; in particular energy reduction and savings, care for the local environmental and promotion of bio-diversity.
- Work with stakeholders at national, regional and local levels to advocate, consult, collaborate, keep abreast of environmental issues, good practice, consult and collaborate.

Our environmental policy and the plans through which it is delivered are available to the general public. They can be viewed on the Council's website, at the Council offices, libraries, Parish Council offices or on request from the Council.

**Councillor Ann Shaw OBE, Leader of Three Rivers District Council**

**Dr Steven Halls, Chief Executive, Three Rivers District Council**

Date of Issue: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2010