

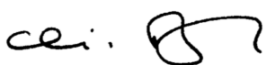
# Herefordshire Council and NHS Herefordshire Environmental Policy

Herefordshire Council and NHS Herefordshire provide and purchase a wide range of services for the county. They share a vision for a better Herefordshire with a wide range of partner organisations in the private, public and voluntary sectors. This is set out in The Community Strategy for Herefordshire, which commits the partnership to integrating sustainability into all actions and protecting and enhancing Herefordshire's distinctive environment.


As part of its commitment to sustainability and safeguarding the environment, Herefordshire Council and NHS Herefordshire will protect both the wider environment and our outstanding natural environment through demonstrable and continuous improvement of our environmental performance and full compliance with all relevant legal and other requirements.

To meet this commitment we will:

- Maintain certification of the Council's environmental management system to ISO 14001, the recognised international standard, covering all its activities and services across all directorates, with the intention of including NHS Herefordshire functions over a period.
- Make efficient use of natural resources including water, heat and electricity and promote the use of appropriate sources of renewable energy and recycled products.
- Reduce the amount of waste entering the waste stream and increase recycling and composting, while ensuring that waste generated is dealt with in a way that reduces its impact on the environment.
- Reduce carbon emissions from our own activities and respond to, mitigate and adapt to wider climate change impacts.
- Promote sustainable and integrated transport solutions that meet the needs of the county.
- Conserve the natural and historic environment by protecting and enhancing landscape, biodiversity and historic assets.
- Provide a planning system that seeks to ensure that development is sustainable.
- Take action to prevent pollution and minimise environmental risks.
- Lead by example and use our influence to raise awareness and understanding of environmental issues and actively encourage responsible environmental practice among staff, suppliers, contractors, partners & the public.
- Integrate relevant environmental specifications and standards into procurement & commissioning processes.
- Promote the benefits of a healthy and attractive environment to community well being and health.
- Set formal objectives across all directorates and provide the necessary resources, training and performance review to ensure continuous improvement of overall environmental performance.
- Promote this policy and make it available to all staff, members, suppliers, contractors, partners and the public.



**Chris Bull**  
Chief Executive



**Joanne Newton**  
Chair of NHS Herefordshire



**Cllr Jarvis**  
Cabinet Member  
(Environment and Strategic Housing)