

Title	Environment
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Commissioned by	Sarah Lister, Chair
Authored by	Jim Cokill, Trust Director

## **Environmental Policy**

Durham Wildlife Trust is a charity that aims to restore wildlife from the Tees to the Tyne, providing opportunities for participation, learning and enjoyment.

The Trust acknowledges that its operations have an effect on the environment in terms of the use of raw materials, waste generation and emissions to air and water.

As an organisation, the Trust is analysing the reasons for its environmental impact and reducing it wherever possible. The charity is strengthened by enhancing the environment as that benefits our employees, supporters and the wider community in the areas where we operate by delivering improved health, well-being and economic prosperity.

Durham Wildlife Trust is committed to developing a thorough, realistic and considered environmental strategy. This will involve detailed research, seeking advice on the best practice and proactively involving all staff, trustees, supporters, volunteers and partners. Given the limited resources available it will not be possible to deliver all the required actions at once and difficult decisions will have to be made on priorities. As well as investment, new and innovative ways of working will be required and the Trust needs to take a leadership role and encourage others to reduce their impacts on the environment.

Durham Wildlife Trust's environmental strategy will be further developed as part of the charity's Durham 2030 strategy development process, but our commitment to improved environmental performance is demonstrated by the objectives and goals set out below:

- Compliance with all applicable standards, laws, requirements, regulations and public/customer expectations.
- Implementing energy conservation techniques with the aim of reducing mains electricity consumption by 15% during 2023.
- Recycling and reusing materials when possible and having systems in place to monitor waste production.
- Commitment to sustainable growth by maintaining Investors in the Environment Silver accreditation in 2023.
- Maintain the reduction in staff transport related emissions achieved since 2020 by continuing hybrid working patterns.
- Put in place measures to monitor volunteer travel so that reduction measures and targets can be set by the end on 2023.
- Continuously review supplier options to achieve the best balance between environmental sustainability and economic viability for goods and services.

- The Trust will continue to improve its Investors in the Environment environmental management system through annual reviews and updates, taking into account any changes in legislation and other relevant factors. All our employees and volunteers will be engaged in that process and provided with training where required.

Wesley Selkridge (Operations and Governance Manager) has a designated responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy.

Durham Wildlife Trust will make this policy available to interested parties via the Durham Wildlife Trust website.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Cokill', written in a cursive style.

Jim Cokill  
Trust Director  
31 01 23