

Environmental Policy

Inn Churches acknowledges the connection between the climate and other environmental crises, and the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages and poverty for millions of people both in the Metropolitan District of Bradford and around the world. We acknowledge the major damage being caused to our natural eco-systems by these crises, and that the impact of this damage is disproportionately felt by the poorer in society.

We therefore recognise our responsibility to reduce our carbon and environmental footprints and we formally commit ourselves to be an environmentally responsible charity.

We aim to reuse, recycle and upcycle as much as possible in the course of our activities.

Action plan

The CEO has overall responsibility to take forward and implement this commitment. We will put in place the following actions:

1. The CEO will report to the trustees annually on progress made, including statistical information on annual:
 - electricity, water and gas usage
 - percentage renewable energy used
 - transport fuel used
 - total food collected and equivalent meals contributed to
 - paper consumption and percentage recycled paper
 - level of waste recycledand any other relevant environmental criteria that the trustees see fit to monitor. This report will be presented at the same meeting as the annual accounts.
2. Our annual impact statement will include a summary of this environmental audit of the charity.
3. Progress on improvement of our environmental performance will be a standard item at meetings of the board of trustees.
4. All staff contracts will include a clause stating that staff will be expected to help Inn Churches in carrying out its aim of being an environmentally responsible organisation in how they carry out their day-to-day duties.
5. Induction for new staff will include information on the charity's environmental practices.
6. We will ask all current and future suppliers for their environmental policies and for evidence of their implementation. Such performance will be used as criteria for supplier selection.
7. We will seek to have relevant environmental clauses included in future contracts agreed with outside bodies.

8. We will include environmental responsibility training in any future staff training programmes, especially for those involved in providing advice to vulnerable clients.
9. We will observe existing environmental legislation as a minimum standard and seek to out-perform current legislative requirements where practical.
10. We will develop and maintain a sustainable transport policy for staff, seeking to reduce unnecessary travel and making the transport that is necessary as sustainable as possible.

This environmental policy will be reviewed annually.