

Trinity Winchester Environmental Policy

Trinity Winchester is a local charity providing practical and emotional support to homeless and vulnerably housed people in the district, from our specialist drop in centre in the heart of Winchester.

Trinity is a Carbon Smart certified business. As such, we are working hard to improve our environmental performance and reduce our carbon footprint. We will achieve this through clear, practical action and improved communications.

We recognize that climate change is a serious global problem. As a business, we are committed to minimising our contribution to climate change. To meet this goal we aim to achieve the highest status in our carbon reduction programme for our central organization and to subsequently improve our efforts in reducing our carbon footprint.

To achieve our environmental objectives, we will:

1. Apply the waste hierarchy to our operations (eliminate, reduce, re-use, recycle, dispose) through recycling all that we can, including glass which is taken to the tip. Unwanted furniture is donated to other local charities.
2. Preserve water by reducing our water usage; the majority of taps in the building are automatic turn off taps, and checks for leaking taps are made regularly
3. Provide advice to our staff to travel sustainably using public transport, cycling, walking and telecommunications to reduce our carbon emissions. An environmental display board is regularly updated in our staff areas to promote our 'green' ethics.
4. Purchase items that are recycled, ethical and sustainable and purchase only when necessary. We will reuse stationary items before purchasing new materials.
5. Be legally compliant with existing and future environmental legislation
6. Documents are e-mailed rather than printed where possible to reduce waste
7. Lighting is mostly motion-censored, and signs are in place reminding all users of rooms to switch off lights when leaving (where necessary)
8. Staff are asked to keep food waste to an absolute minimum. We work closely with local supermarkets, taking on all of their fresh produce that cannot be sold and using for meals at the centre.

Carbon Smart has calculated our carbon footprint and this will be reviewed on an annual basis. We have created an environmental action plan and this will be updated as we review our environmental management system on a quarterly basis.

We will provide training to our staff to ensure that they are kept informed and included in our environmental activity. New staff will receive environmental training as part of their induction. In addition, we will communicate with our contractors and suppliers to agree how they can support our environmental objectives and targets.

We are committed to improving our environmental performance and our policy will be updated on an annual basis.

Signed: 

Date: 01/05/2015

Position: Director of Strategy and Fundraising

Date of review: 01/05/2016