## **Environmental Policy Statement**

West Suffolk Council is a member of the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership and has declared a climate and biodiversity emergency, adopting a goal of becoming a net zero carbon organisation by 2030. Working with partners we aim to reduce our impact on the environment by:

Providing a framework for setting, monitoring, and reviewing environmental objectives and targets annually to ensure continual improvement.	Publishing an annual environmental statement to demonstrate progress against key areas of our operations including overall carbon emissions.	Actively reducing natural resource use such as water or products derived from natural resources like paper.	Reducing energy demand following the energy hierarchy.
Aiming to eliminate fossil fuel use by improving organisational efficiency and using renewable technologies.	Lowering both staff and fleet mileage and ensuring transport for our own services is as clean and efficient as possible using electric vehicles and alternative fuels.	Continuing to protect habitats and promoting biodiversity, as well as reducing chemical use.	Upholding the waste hierarchy by promoting waste reduction, both by staff and within local communities.
Enhancing built and natural environments by balancing their needs using a holistic approach.	Upholding our responsibilities in terms of enforcement to conserve and actively protect clean air, land and water.	Influencing suppliers by committing to purchase sustainable alternatives where available, placing emphasis on the lifetime impacts of products and services both commercially and environmentally.	Using our ability to influence others and encourage all partners to operate in the most sustainable way they can

West Suffolk Council is committed to managing the effects that our activities have on the natural environment. The challenge of creating a sustainable future is complex, but the council will strive to achieve the ambitions contained in this statement. **Taking responsibility** 

This statement will be made available to all staff, customers, and other relevant interested parties. It will be reviewed in line with the council's environment action plan.



The council has recognised for many years that a sustainable approach to activities brings economic, environmental, and social benefits. As such, we will work with partners to help ensure that residents, communities, and businesses can contribute to the protection of our natural environment and lowering emissions in West Suffolk. **Influencing others** 

The council works closely with our partners in delivering local services and is committed to leading by example and will encourage key partners and other strategic suppliers to demonstrate comparable environmental commitments.

