

Environmental policy

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AUTHOR:	Managing director; director
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NEXT REVIEW DATE:	July 2027
Signed by Director	<i>Holly Lathbury-Wilson</i>

1 Overview

1.1 ENCIC recognises the urgent need to address climate change and environmental sustainability. As a community-focused organisation, we acknowledge our responsibility to minimise our environmental impact, promote sustainable practices and encourage environmental awareness amongst our staff, volunteers, service users, partners and wider community.

1.2 All directors, staff and volunteers will be made aware of and have access to this policy. This policy will form part of all staff and volunteer induction programmes and environmental matters will be a regular agenda item at Directors' meetings.

2 Responsibility

2.1 A nominated Director will have overall responsibility for implementing this policy as Environmental Lead on behalf of the Board.

3 Implementing our Policy

3.1 We will strive to undertake the following actions to help achieve our environmental objective.

- We will raise awareness of and provide ideas for action on environmental issues to our stakeholders, making this part of our core work.
- Early Nourishment provides evidence-based, person-centred support to help families make informed infant feeding decisions and achieve their own feeding goals. Increasing breastfeeding rates where parents have chosen to breastfeed can reduce the environmental impact associated with the production, transport and

disposal of breast milk substitutes. We deliver this support while respecting the individual circumstances, choices and needs of every family

- We will ensure that we minimise the use of single-use plastics and where possible link in with 'Earth Action North Devon' and 'Plastic Free Torridge' for any community events.
- We aim to buy local produce whenever possible - which means that we will prioritise buying fruit and vegetables that are in season and available from local farms or via wholesalers. Where possible we will use food that would otherwise be wasted.
- We will strive to keep food waste to a minimum through good storage and accurate ordering and all fruit and vegetable waste will be composted
- By locating our services within the local communities we aim to encourage use of sustainable methods of transport (such as walking, public transport) to access our services.
- We will make full use of online mechanisms for internal communication and service delivery where this is appropriate to minimise travel.
- We will reduce our use of paper, by increasing the use of electronic media and reducing the amount of internal printing.
- All paper, cardboard, glass, plastic or metal will be recycled.
- Where possible we will reuse paper and other items, and ensure that surplus equipment is passed on to other organisations
- We will always aim to buy recycled, second-hand or environmentally friendly goods, including stationery, office equipment, packaging, and cleaning products.
- All spare produce will be donated to volunteers, service users or other community projects.
- We plan to encourage reusing within our stakeholder community by having 'amnesty' events to collect and re offer up commonly purchased items to other families e.g. stretchy baby wraps, silicone pumps.
- We will actively promote the use of community food waste schemes.

4. Review

4.1 The policy will be reviewed annually by the directors. It will also be reviewed in response to changes in relevant legislation, contractual arrangements, good practice or in response to an identified failing in its effectiveness.

END