

CORFE MULLEN YOUTH TRUST

ENVIRONMENT POLICY

1. Purpose

The purpose of this environmental policy is to indicate our organisational commitment to addressing environmental issues within Corfe Mullen Youth Trust (the 'Trust') and through the activities we deliver. This document outlines what the Trust will do to identify our environmental impact, how we will adapt to reduce our impact, and the responsibilities of staff, volunteers and young people in this space.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers and young people. The policy will be shared with outside organisations providing a service to the Trust, wherever appropriate to indicate our commitment to environmental action.

3. Action

The Trust is committed to accelerating a just transition to net zero and reducing the impact on the environment from our operations and service delivery. We will address this through the following areas of work.

4. Engagement

We will promote responsibility for the environment within the organisation and communicate and implement this policy at all levels of the Trust. We commit to ensuring key members of staff have the time necessary to embed this work into our operations and providing further resource where possible and necessary.

We will support staff wellbeing by considering how we promote positive, action-led messaging about climate breakdown and provide opportunities for them to change the ways they work for the Trust in line with positive climate behaviours. We will provide space for staff to discuss this issue, including their own concerns and worries about environmental breakdown, through any wider wellbeing programmes in place.

Corfe Mullen Town Council as Sole Trustees of the Trust will:

- Share its expectation of responsibility for the environment to staff, volunteers and young people.
- Demonstrate clear commitment to the environment and lead by example, to ensure that the protection of the environment is promoted to all staff, volunteers and young people.
- Support staff, volunteers and young people's wellbeing and work to combat hopelessness by committing to driving action in the organisation and setting a positive example.

The staff and volunteers of the Trust will:

- Be familiar with all the environmental requirements relevant to their role and responsibilities, including exploring the carbon footprint/environmental impact of specific areas of work.
- Take responsibility for their own impact on the environment while in the workplace, sharing ideas with other staff, volunteers and young people on how to reduce personal impact.

The Town Council as Sole Trustees will:

- Recognise that climate breakdown is a strategic and systemic risk challenging the charity's ability to meet its objectives in the long term.
- Supports staff addressing climate breakdown.

5. Operations

Our mission is: The Trust's sustainability of its services is important for the young people and outside organisations we work with.

As part of delivering our mission in line with our values and charitable objectives, we will assess the environmental impacts of our operations and set objectives and targets annually in order to improve our internal carbon emissions. We will review these targets annually. This work will include:

- Monitoring utility consumption of the Trusts buildings
- Promote and encourage green travel choices from staff, volunteers and young people attending activities
- Conscious consideration of the amount of travel necessary for our activities to go ahead, encouraging green transportation modes
- Review our waste and educate staff, volunteers and young people about effective recycling and reducing use of single use plastic where possible
- Communicate with the outside organisations we work with about climate breakdown and how it is relevant to our mission, vision and values
- Generally, increase communications about the climate crisis, to encourage awareness within our networks and the outside organisations we work with
- Comply with all relevant environmental legislation and regulations

6. Governance

The Town Council as Sole Trustees has overall responsibility for the Trust and its strategy. We commit to exploring on an annual basis the impact climate breakdown will have or is having on the young people and outside organisations we work with. This work should be led by the Senior Youth Support Worker and should include, but is not limited to:

- Providing a short statement in our reporting outlining the discussions we have had around climate breakdown and any action we have taken, alongside our aims for the following business year.
- Reviewing our investment policy and seeking to move to ethical funds wherever possible in line with Charity Commission's guidance on balancing ethical investment and financial return.

7. Suppliers and procurement

The suppliers of the Trust will:

- Share environmental policies or describe planned actions if a formal policy is not in place when entering into any contract or agreement with the Trust. This will be done independently through our due diligence processes.
- Work with us to reduce the impacts of the goods and services purchased from them wherever possible.

We recognise that although we may not be able to reject suppliers based solely on their sustainability credentials that asking questions raises the profile of this issue, and that we may partly influence behaviours through this action alone. Our engagement with suppliers is designed to identify suppliers with values which align with our own, and we will make members of the public aware of our preference to work with organisations that minimise their environmental impact wherever possible.