

ENVIRONMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The Aire Rivers Trust is an environmental trust established primarily to promote improvement of the rivers in the Aire Catchment. The Trust is therefore acutely aware of environmental issues. It willingly accepts its responsibility to minimise its impact on the environment; to comply with all statutory requirements; and to encourage others to do so in a sustainable manner.

The aim of this policy is to communicate the commitment of the Board to ensuring that any activities which have negative environmental impacts are conducted in such a way as to keep the impact of those activities to as low a level as is practically and economically feasible, whilst endeavouring to maximise the positive impact of our activities.

In particular, we will :

- Promote reduction in the consumption of all materials whilst encouraging re-use and recycling wherever possible, particularly with respect to paper.
- Minimise our use of vehicles and fuel, by sharing cars and using public transport where operationally practicable. We will ensure that any vehicles we own or operate are serviced to ensure maximum fuel efficiency. When procuring vehicles, we will be conscious of their environmental impact and consider the environmental and economic impacts of construction, use and operation.
- Manage energy use in all areas of the business.
- Continually strive to prevent pollution and minimise waste at all times.
- Purchase equipment/stationery and other materials that are either recycled, use recycled materials or can be recycled by an appropriate method.
- In respect of any tree planting carried out by or on behalf of the Trust, we will:
 - only use plants grown from material of UK provenance, from seed collected, raised and grown only in the UK;
 - source and use planting stock consistent with best practice guidance (which may vary between countries of the UK) and in accordance with the UK Forestry Standard;
 - seek to broaden the genetic base of our new native planting by using a wider range of native species, and increasing the number of seed sources used;
 - prioritise use of planting stock from the seed zone of the planting site, but we may include a proportion from other nearby seed zones if there are limited seed sources within the preferred zone.
- Promote environmental awareness and responsibilities to all Trust employees, including volunteers and students.
- Strive to continually improve our environmental performance.

This policy is available on our website and in our staff handbook. It will be regularly reviewed and amended as required.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 12th August 2020.