

Falkirk Council Environmental Policy Statement

A Guide for Council Employees and Members

Falkirk Council will conduct its business responsibly, in a way that protects the environment, actively prevents pollution and protects the health and safety of employees, visitors and local residents. Wherever it operates, it will conduct business with respect and care for both the local and global environment. It will aim to lead by example, promoting the values endorsed in this statement and co-ordinating action in the wider community.

To meet its commitment, Falkirk Council will seek to achieve the highest environmental standards and will:

- Measure energy consumption, set targets to encourage responsible usage, wherever possible, purchase energy from renewable sources and support the use of energy from sustainable resources;
- Manage waste more sustainably, reducing consumption, reusing, recycling and recovering waste wherever possible;
- Encourage the use of more sustainable and public transport options by employees and visitors wherever possible, measuring and setting targets to reduce the impacts of travel;
- Use natural resources in a more sustainable way and aim to protect and enhance Falkirk's wildlife and biodiversity on land managed by the Council;
- Make responsible, ethical purchasing choices, specifying wherever practicable, the purchase of locally sourced, recycled and recyclable, least environmentally damaging goods and materials;
- Support the principles of sustainable construction and design, incorporating them into public and private developments wherever possible;
- Communicate openly with the public, employees, neighbours, local businesses, public interest groups and other interested parties;
- Regularly review and openly report on our environmental performance in order to achieve continual improvement;
- Comply with all relevant environmental legislation and regulations, codes of best working practice and other recognised requirements;
- Educate and inform employees and other stakeholders in environmental matters and the relevant impacts of Council activities on the environment;
- Protect and enhance the natural and built environment;
- Ensure that the policies and strategies it develops and implements are consistent with the principles set out in this Environmental Policy Statement;
- Raise public awareness of all of the above environmental issues through the formal education system and the life long learning framework.

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Mary Pitcaithly
Chief Executive
Falkirk Council

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