



# HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Herefordshire Council provides and purchases a wide range of services for the county as the unitary local authority. The Council shares a vision for a better Herefordshire with a wide range of partner organisations in the private, public and voluntary sectors. This is set out in The Community Strategy for Herefordshire, which commits to integrating sustainability into all Council actions.

As part of its commitment to sustainability and safeguarding the environment, Herefordshire Council will protect both the wider environment and our outstanding natural environment through demonstrable and continuous improvement of its environmental performance and full compliance with all relevant legal and other requirements.



## To meet this commitment Herefordshire Council will:

- Maintain certification of its environmental management system to ISO 14001, the recognised international standard, covering all its activities and services across all directorates
- Make efficient use of natural resources including water, heat and electricity and promote the use of appropriate sources of renewable energy and recycled products
- Reduce the amount of waste entering the waste stream and increase recycling and composting, while ensuring that waste generated is dealt with in a way that reduces its impact on the environment
- Reduce carbon emissions from its own activities and respond to, mitigate and adapt to wider climate change impacts
- Promote sustainable and integrated transport solutions that meet the needs of the county.
- Conserve the natural and historic environment by protecting and enhancing landscape, biodiversity and historic assets.
- Provide a planning system that seeks to ensure that development is sustainable
- Take action to prevent pollution and minimise environmental risks
- Lead by example and use its influence to actively encourage responsible environmental practice, and raise awareness and understanding of environmental issues among its staff, suppliers, contractors, partners and the public
- Promote the benefits of a healthy and attractive environment to community well being
- Set formal objectives across all directorates and provide the necessary resources, training and performance review to ensure continuous improvement of overall environmental performance across the Council
- Promote this policy and make it available to all staff, suppliers, contractors, partners, and the public.



**Cllr John Jarvis**  
Cabinet Member for the Environment

**Chris Bull**  
Chief Executive