

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

Sustainability Policy

for a sustainable future



*Basingstoke
and Deane*

“

We do not inherit
the earth from our
ancestors, we borrow
it from our children.

Native American Proverb

”



Sustainable development is

development that meets the needs of the present without harming the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It means improving the quality of life for people today as well as thinking about those who will live after us.

A sustainable community is

a community that meets the varied needs of residents and provides opportunity and choice for all. A sustainable community will

- value and protect its local environment
- promote equality and inclusion
- work towards a strong local economy.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council will

- incorporate good sustainable working practices in its services and operations
- apply the core values, aims and principles of action

Core values

Sustainable development has four core values:

Equality – providing resources for the needs of the whole community without exclusion or disadvantage to any group.

Society – enabling everyone to have the ability to contribute to decisions.

Environment - protecting and enhancing the Earth's natural resources which we all enjoy and rely on.

Economy - supporting a sustainable, innovative and productive economy which provides employment and benefits the whole community.



Aims

The Council will support the development of a more sustainable community through its own work and in partnership with others.

- encouraging and promoting the efficient and careful use of water and other natural resources.
- enabling waste to be minimised, re-used and recycled and promoting the sensitive disposal of what remains.
- limiting light, noise, air, land and water pollution to levels that will not cause damage to existing natural systems.
- fostering and enhancing local biodiversity, maintaining the quality of wildlife habitats and protect the borough's open green spaces.
- enabling access to affordable housing and other basic needs.
- encouraging all sectors of the community to contribute to decision-making and to consider the sustainability impacts of all decisions.

- promoting good health and wellbeing through the enjoyment of safe, clean and pleasant environments.
- promoting community safety to reduce the fear of crime or persecution.
- promoting equality of opportunity for all and avoiding discrimination on account of disability, age, race, gender, economic circumstance and sexual orientation or beliefs.
- maximising everyone's access to skills and knowledge and helping break down barriers to participation.
- promoting opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation for all.
- promoting local distinctiveness and valuing cultural diversity.
- supporting a vibrant local economy, giving access to satisfying and rewarding work and meeting local needs.



- promoting a culture that supports, values and encourages voluntary work.
- encouraging access to facilities, services and goods in ways which minimise the need for travel, make less use of the car and greater use of alternative forms of transport.
- reducing adverse impacts on global communities.



Principles of action

The council will work to achieve these aims through its own activities and influence over others by

- ensuring total compliance with relevant legislation
- ensuring that all decisions about council services are made with knowledge of their social, environmental and economic implications in line with this policy's core values.
- integrating the social, environmental and economic objectives within the council's work, strategic planning and procurement.
- considering the mitigation of and adaptation to impacts of climate change in the council's work and strategic planning.
- continually working towards improving the council's own sustainable development performance and setting an example of excellent practice through its management, services and behaviour.

- ensuring that all organisations employed by contractual arrangements or supported by council grant schemes are aware of the Council's core values and aims and recognise and meet their own responsibilities.
- ensuring that all staff are fully aware of the Sustainability Policy and are committed to its implementation.
- promoting public understanding of sustainability and the council's core values and aims.
- working in partnership with others to achieve these aims.
- minimising negative impacts from transportation and office activities and working to embed sustainable working practices throughout the organisation.



If you need any further information on Sustainable Development or any related issues, please contact:

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