

## **Environment Policy**

Pursuant to The Environmental Protection Act 1990 and The Environment Act 1995

The Management Committee and Trustees of St John's in the Vale Centre considers the protection of the environment to be of major importance. Environmental protection is perceived to be an integral part of efficient management in every sphere of the Centre's activities. High standards are to be applied by all staff and users of the centre in complying with legislation, codes of practice and official guidance relevant to environmental protection.

The effectiveness of this policy and its implementation will be monitored and reviewed from time to time.

### **Environmental Policy Objectives**

#### **Awareness and Commitment**

- to promote awareness of the principles and objectives of environment protection
- to ensure that Centre staff, volunteers and users are familiar with and implement this environmental commitment and its objectives
- to ensure that the Centre's activities comply with all relevant environmental regulations

#### **Energy and Water**

- to ensure energy is used efficiently and wherever possible reduce its use
- to use water efficiently and with care
- to avoid pollutants entering the drainage system

#### **Waste**

- to reduce the production of material waste including unnecessary packaging
- to encourage re-use, repair and recycling of materials including organic waste
- to dispose of waste in a safe and responsible way

#### **Materials and Resources**

- to buy products which are made in accordance with the principle of using material in a sustainable way and to use locally-made goods where practicable
- to take into account the lifetime costs of materials when repairing, altering or rebuilding premises
- to maximise the proportion of paper used from sustainable sources and recycled materials
- to offer electronic communication as an alternative to paper for those who are suitably equipped

#### **Natural Environment**

- to take appropriate opportunities to conserve and enhance the natural environment surrounding the Centre
- to be sensitive to the impact of activities on the local environment

#### **Travel**

- to make every effort to reduce air pollution and energy consumption resulting from the use of the car by avoidance of unnecessary travel and the use of energy efficient vehicles
- to encourage the sharing of transport where possible