



RIPON CITY COUNCIL

Sustainability policy

Adopted at the Full Council Meeting on 10 th February 2025	
Last updated	Last updated on 4 th February 2025
Date of Review	2028

POLICY STATEMENT

Ripon City Council aims to carry out its duties with environmental consideration and efficiency, actively seeking to protect and enhance the local environment and biodiversity within its area of operation whilst endeavouring to ensure wider adverse environmental impact does not occur as a result.

CONTEXT

Ripon City Council recognises that a climate emergency has been declared at national, regional and within some organisations, local level.

North Yorkshire Council has committed to a Climate Change Strategy and to work with partners to achieve a carbon negative region by 2040 (<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/environment-and-neighbourhoods/climate-change/climate-change-strategy-2023-2030>).

Ripon City Council commits to do all it can to support and emulate the aims of the Climate Change Strategy.

The Council will consider the impact its activities have on both climate change and biodiversity issues and will endeavour to introduce measures that either mitigate negative outcomes or actively support beneficial outcomes, where this is practicable and affordable within the resources and financial capabilities of council.

The Council will specifically consider the following:

1. The impact that operating its assets has on the environment.
2. The impact that the goods and services it procures, including the environmental commitment of its suppliers, has on the environment.
3. Where possible and appropriate, replace environmentally inefficient assets with environmentally friendly alternatives.
4. The impact that execution of the Parish Council's activities may have on the
5. environment.

The environmental benefit to be gained by embracing new technology where appropriate within its areas of activity.

The Council will aim to:

1. Minimise the consumption of all unsustainable resources used in its operations, particularly in respect of the buildings and equipment it uses and the administration of its activities.
2. Seek, wherever possible, to only use contractors and suppliers who have their own environmental policy, which is continually reviewed, updated and measured against recognised, best practice examples.
3. Where possible, affordable and commensurate with Parish Council powers and duties, support local initiatives aimed at climate change and/or, biodiversity protection or enhancement.

PRINCIPLES

Ripon City Council will strive to:

1. Meet all relevant environmental legislation and regulations.
2. Regularly update and improve standards in light of increased understanding and knowledge.
3. Avoid the creation of unnecessary waste by adhering to a policy of considered, strategic purchasing.
4. Recycle and reuse waste materials where possible.
5. Dispose of all necessary waste through safe and responsible methods.
6. Investigate the use of sustainable energy sources.
7. Respect, protect and enhance where possible, natural resources by practicing conservation and good management.
8. Require contractors and suppliers to minimise their impact on the environment.
9. Require its Councillors and employees to take responsibility for ensuring that the best environmental policy is used and adhered to at all times.