

Central England Co-operative

Environmental Policy

As a responsible business Central England Co-operative Society has always had a purpose beyond profit. We are committed to protecting the environment by reducing waste, improving efficiency, lowering carbon emissions and preserving natural resources. Our aim is to develop our business in a sustainable manner, reduce our impact on the environment, and, as a member of The Co-operative Retail Trading Group (CRTG), continue to support the environmental policies of the wider Co-operative movement.

Central England Co-operative believes that protecting the environment is integral to the long term sustainability of the business. We recognise that our business operations have both a direct and indirect impact on the environment and the wider community, and acknowledge a responsibility to protect the environment and promote environmental awareness and best practice to our employees, members, customers, suppliers and the community in which we serve.

This policy supports the Society's vision 'to be the UK's best consumer co-operative society by making a real difference to our members and our communities'.

The policy is supported by an environmental programme which clearly defines specific measurable targets to improve our environmental performance across the four key areas outlined in our Corporate Responsibility policy: **carbon reduction, waste prevention, preserve natural resources, and encourage sustainable behaviour.**

In defining our programme to improve our environmental performance, we will:

- Comply with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and codes of practice.
- Establish environmental objectives and targets to promote continual improvement.
- Implement an environmental management system that is independently audited on an annual basis.
- Use resources efficiently and minimise waste production, applying the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Ensure potential environmental impacts are assessed for all new processes, projects and for the acquisition, design, refurbishment, location and use of buildings.
- Ensure environmental impacts are taken into consideration in the procurement of goods and services and that suppliers demonstrate their respect for the environment by following responsible business practices.
- Work in partnership with our employees, members, customers, supply chain and the wider community to encourage sustainable behaviour, promote best practice and to deliver high quality sustainable products and services.
- Review the policy on an annual basis and amend as necessary.

The Board of Directors and Management Executive are fully committed to this policy and will continue to ensure its implementation.

Martyn Cheatle

Chief Executive

April 2015

Review date January 2016

The **co-operative**