



**ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
POLICY  
2021**

## **ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY**

### **1 MISSION STATEMENT**

EAST COWES TOWN COUNCIL aims to carry out its activities with environmental 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.

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

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.

### **2 The Council will specifically consider the following:**

- a) the impact that operating its assets has on the environment,
- b) the impact that the goods and services it procures, including the environmental commitment of its suppliers, has on the environment,
- c) where possible and appropriate, replace environmentally inefficient assets with environmentally friendly alternatives
- d) the impact that implementation of the Council's activities may have on the environment

### **3 AIMS**

In all its activities the Council will aim to:

- a) Minimise the consumption of all resources used in its operations, particularly in respect of the buildings and equipment it uses and the administration of its activities.
- b) While tendering for work the Town Council will ask contractors and suppliers to provide their environmental policy. This will be taken into account along with quality, price and locality.
- c) where possible, affordable, and commensurate with Town Council powers and duties, support local initiatives aimed at climate change and or, biodiversity protection or enhancement.

### **4 PRINCIPLES**

The Council will strive to;

- a) Meet all relevant environmental legislation and regulations
- b) Regularly update and improve standards considering increased understanding and knowledge.
- c) Avoid the creation of unnecessary waste by adhering to a policy of considered, strategic purchasing.
- d) Recycle and reuse waste materials where possible.
- e) Dispose of all necessary waste through safe and responsible methods.
- f) Investigate the use of sustainable energy sources.
- g) Respect and protect natural resources by practicing conservation and good management.
- h) Encourage contractors and suppliers to minimise their impact on the environment.
- i) Encourage its members and employees to take responsibility for ensuring that the best environmental policy is always used and adhered to.

j) Inform residents where possible of environmentally friendly services, advice, resources, educational skills, and goods available

N.B Draft Environment Policy B (attached) will be used as a point of reference for aspirational targets by the Council