

Sustainability Policy

Brighton & Hove City Council recognises that our own operations and the activities that take place in our buildings and on our land have an impact on the environment, on people and on the local economy. We will manage these activities in a way that maximises positive impacts and minimises negative impacts for the benefit of residents, businesses and visitors. This policy helps deliver the council's Corporate Priorities:

- Tackling inequality
- Creating a more sustainable city
- Engaging people who live and work in the city
- Modernising the council

The policy covers events on council land, the Royal Pavilion & Museums, Hove Town Hall, the Brighton Centre and all city venues owned and run by directly the council. An Environmental Management System (EMS) that meets the International Standards ISO 14001 and ISO 20121 helps us manage our sustainability impacts to reduce costs and the use of natural resources. It focuses on the areas of highest environmental impact – energy, water, waste, food & transport.

We will:

- Support the organisers of exhibitions, conferences and events to find innovative ways to improve sustainability and celebrate their successes to visitors.
- Promote walking, cycling and public transport to visitors, staff and event suppliers.
- Encourage use of local & sustainable products & services, especially food.
- Minimise waste from exhibitions and events by designing them to maximise reuse potential and use materials with a lower environmental impact.
- Reduce use of natural resources and costs by improving utility consumption monitoring and investing in energy / water efficient and digital technologies.
- Buy 100% renewable electricity and send no waste to landfill through our corporate contracts.
- Encourage staff through education and training to work in an environmentally responsible way and to play a part in developing and delivering new initiatives.
- Commit to the principles of stewardship, inclusivity, integrity and transparency and leading by example in the field of sustainable events. We also commit to the prevention of pollution and will comply with relevant legislation and other requirements.

The council has developed a Sustainability Action Plan with partners containing targets and actions that will be taken to improve the sustainability of our own operations and deliver benefits across the city. The plan is overseen by the Executive Director of Environment, Development & Housing and it will be measured and monitored by senior management to ensure continual improvement. Sitting under the city wide plan, each area covered by this policy will have an action plan focused on specific areas of highest impact.

This policy will be reviewed annually and displayed within the buildings it covers and on the website. It will be circulated to all staff and contractors working in the areas covered.

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