

# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

## Contents

Introduction .....	1
Purpose.....	1
Scope .....	2
Charity Commission Guidance or References Applicable .....	2
Responsibilities .....	2
Process .....	2
Managing this impact.....	2
Section 2 .....	2
Version Control - Approval and Review.....	3

## Introduction

None of us can save the planet alone, but all of us can do something and as a charity we should. All parts of society are being encouraged to think about environmental sustainability, and the expectations on charities to address these issues are growing.

On average, each person in the UK throws away their body weight in rubbish every 7 weeks.

Up to 80% of the contents of our dustbins could easily be recycled or composted.

## Purpose

We aim to reduce and effectively manage our impact in a responsible manner, by ensuring that environmental considerations are integrated into decision making.

We will identify potential environmental risks and strategies will be implemented to eliminate or minimise these risks.

## Scope

This policy applies to all Trustees, other volunteers, employees and contractors of The Institute of Psychosexual Medicine. Its requirements should be reflected in other policies and procedures, agreements and contracts as necessary.

## Charity Commission Guidance or References Applicable

[Charity Commission: Going Green: Charities and Environmental Responsibility](#)  
[Charity Commission: Environmental responsibility for charities](#)  
[Environment Agency: Waste Management](#)

## Responsibilities

The IPM does not own or rent a building, but we will consider the environment when carrying out our work. All Trustees and employees will seek to limit our environmental impact.

## Process

### Managing this impact

Impact can be managed through the Waste Hierarchy below:

Eliminate	Reduce	Re-use	Recycle	Dispose
Avoid producing waste in the first place	Minimise the amount of waste you do produce	Use items as many times as possible	Recycle what you can only after you have re-used it	Dispose of what's left in a responsible way
Best				Worst

## Section 2

Ideas to consider or initiatives we are using:

1. Where practicable buy products manufactured from recycled waste.
2. Use digital versions rather than printing.
3. Double-sided printing and back-to-back photocopying should be undertaken where practicable.
4. Make use of e-mail in preference to hard copy mail.
5. Mobile phone, toner and cartridge recycling can generate some income.
6. Encourage the use of effective environmentally friendly cleaning products and other products such as e-cloths.

Date of Issue: 1 October 2024

Author: Rebecca Hobbs

**CONTROLLED DOCUMENT**

Page 2 of 3

7. Ensure that staff and Trustees, where practicable, make use of public transport.
8. Encourage shared use transport use by staff and Trustees where it is practicable.
9. Co-ordinate meeting timings and locations to minimise travel.
10. Review the work of meetings to reduce committee sizes and frequency of meetings and use online. It cuts travel, and can save wasted work time.
11. Avoid automatic attendance at meetings on every occasion and instead, staff should only attend when active role is required.
12. Review our investment policy with the intention of moving to ethical funds wherever reasonable to do so.

**Version Control - Approval and Review**

Version 1			Reviewed and approved by Council	Oct 24