Environment Policy

Environment Policy | July 2024

South Holland District Council
Boston Borough Council
East Lindsey District Council

served by One Team

South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

Climate Change is widely considered to be one of the greatest challenges facing our society and the Environment is a core priority within the South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership's Sub-regional Strategy.

As one of the three pillars of sustainability, environmental considerations should be equally balanced alongside economic and social considerations to achieve positive change across the sub-region. The Partnership recognises the impact of its own operations and is committed to using its powers and influence to minimise and address this while supporting others to do the same.

This Environment Policy provides the overarching framework for a number of more detailed strategic documents and project plans. It sets out four key themes that provide the context for the Partnership as it works to deliver priorities within the Sub-regional Strategy.

Theme one:
Protecting and recovering our natural environment

Theme two:
Mitigating and adapting to climate change

Theme three:
Protecting and enhancing our built environment

Theme four:
Ensuring a sustainable approach to waste and resource management

Under each theme, several priorities have been identified.

Theme One:

Protecting and recovering our natural environment

- Work collaboratively to ensure the sub-region's natural capital is recognised, better managed and more connected
- Ensure development proposals maximise opportunities to retain, protect and enhance biodiversity
- Maintain and enhance the quality of Council-managed landholdings to maximise biodiversity potential
- Recognise and develop the role that the sub-region's green spaces have in connecting people to nature and supporting the health and wellbeing of residents

Theme Two:

Mitigating and adapting to climate change

- Implement actions to reduce the carbon footprint of the three sovereign Councils in line with their respective agreed targets
- Work with the South and East Lincolnshire Climate Action Network (SELCAN) to deliver the Climate Change Strategy
- Promote and encourage the development and use of renewable energy solutions
- Work with local businesses to support the development of a low carbon economy
- Build increased resilience of our communities by supporting them to adapt to a changing climate

Theme Three:

Enhancing our built environment

- Implement sustainable design and management practices in all Council-led developments
- Ensure planning policy sets strong ambition for low carbon, energy efficient new housing development schemes and retrofits of existing stock which are fit for the future
- Provide advice and support to residents to eliminate fuel poverty and pursue energy efficient, affordable heating options
- Develop an approach with partners that ensures net gain delivers for both biodiversity and our residents

Theme Four:

Ensuring a sustainable approach to waste and resource management

- Ensure procurement decisions consider the environmental impacts of goods and services working closely with suppliers/contractors
- Minimise avoidable single-use item usage across Council operations
- Maximise opportunities to support residents, business and visitors to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste and take a tough stance against environmental crime
- Demonstrate a commitment to responsible water management across Council operations
- Promote sustainable travel behaviours amongst local authority employees

The four key themes outlined in this Environment Policy will be considered across Council operations, ensuring recognition that a healthy natural environment provides the foundations for strong economic and social prosperity.

Under each theme, any statutory obligations will be identified alongside appropriate additional targets and actions under the development of relevant strategies and plans where necessary.

served by One Team

South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

Environment Policy | July 2024