

Environmental Policy

The Whitley Wildlife Conservation Trust (WWCT) is an education, scientific and conservation charity dedicated to protecting our global wildlife heritage that owns significant visitor attractions in the South West of England. The WWCT recognises that the conservation of wildlife and that of materials and resources are intrinsically linked and that the daily activities of the sites it owns create significant environmental impacts, especially in the areas of waste production, water and energy usage.

The WWCT is committed to managing existing and new practices at each of its sites so as to minimise the environmental impact of these activities and to support the principles of sustainable development. Each site will do this by investigating and using the best available, and most cost effective, techniques and will put aside resources in terms of time and money to achieve these goals, and to:



1. Continually improve its environmental performance in relation to its activities, products and services.



2. Comply with all current legislation and other standards of relevance to zoos.



3. Review all of its activities, products and services to identify, quantify and evaluate their environmental impact.



4. Prevent pollution; monitoring and reducing any adverse impact of its operations on the environment and local community.



5. Demonstrate efficiency in the use of energy, water and natural resources.



6. Minimise waste by re-using and recycling where practicable.



7. Purchase cost effective, environmentally sustainable, goods and services where possible, encouraging suppliers and contractors to demonstrate a responsible attitude towards the environment.



8. Develop appropriate emergency response plans for potential incidents on its land to minimise their environmental impact.



9. Train staff to enhance awareness of relevant environmental issues and ensure effective management of its environmental impacts.



10. Develop educational programmes to provide opportunities for visitors to further their understanding of environmental issues and sustainable development.



11. Communicate the environmental policy to all those who have an interest in the WWCT, including staff, volunteers, visitors, suppliers, contractors, investors, appropriate authorities, local communities and other organisations.



12. Actively improve the sites' habitats for the benefit of native species of fauna and flora.

In order to meet these commitments, the WWCT has Environmental Management Systems at each of its sites and develops objectives and targets each year in order to achieve continuous improvements in resource management and awareness of environmental matters.

The Environmental Policy has been communicated to all members of staff. It is available on each of the WWCT's websites: www.paigntonzoo.org.uk; www.newquayzoo.org.uk; www.livingcoasts.org.uk