

Zone Health and Wellbeing Hub
Charitable Incorporated Organisation (C/N 1210322)
Sustainable Development Policy

1. Purpose

This Sustainable Development Policy sets out the Zone's Health & Wellbeing Hub's commitment to operating responsibly, reducing its environmental impact, and supporting a healthy community and planet. As custodians of a historic former chapel, we recognise the importance of balancing heritage preservation with modern sustainability goals.

Our aims are to:

- Minimise environmental impact
- Use resources efficiently
- Support community wellbeing through environmental stewardship
- Enhance the resilience of the historic building

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All staff, volunteers, contractors, and partners
- All activities and programmes delivered by the Hub
- The building, grounds, and any outreach work

3. Policy Commitments

3.1 Energy Efficiency

The Zone will reduce energy consumption and improve efficiency while respecting the historic fabric of the former chapel.

We will:

- Use energy-efficient lighting (e.g., LED) throughout the building.
- Install timers, sensors, and automatic shut-off systems where appropriate.
- Monitor heating zones and avoid unnecessary heating of unused areas.
- Ensure insulation improvements are made where heritage constraints allow.
- Encourage responsible energy use (e.g., switching off unused equipment).
- Prioritise energy-efficient equipment when replacements are required.
- Explore renewable energy solutions compatible with the building (e.g., heat pumps, community-generated electricity).

3.2 Waste Reduction & Recycling

The Zone will minimise waste generation and promote a culture of reuse and responsible disposal.

We will:

- Implement a robust recycling system for paper, plastics, metals, and food waste.
- Reduce single-use items and encourage staff and visitors to use reusables.
- Donate or repurpose furniture, equipment, and materials before disposal.
- Compost garden and refreshment waste where practical.
- Provide clear signage to support waste-sorting behaviours.
- Work with suppliers who offer recyclable or low-waste packaging.

3.3 Sustainable Procurement & Purchasing

The Zone will prioritise ethical, local, and environmentally responsible goods and services.

We will:

- Purchase from local suppliers where possible to reduce transport emissions.
- Prioritise products that are:
 - Recycled or sustainably sourced
 - Durable and long-lasting
 - Low in energy consumption
 - Fairtrade, organic, or ethically produced
- Ask contractors to demonstrate sustainable practices.
- Consider the whole life cost of products, not just upfront price.

3.4 Water Conservation

The Hub will reduce water consumption and protect water quality.

We will:

- Install low-flow taps, dual-flush toilets, and other water-saving devices.
- Regularly check for and repair leaks.
- Use collected rainwater for garden irrigation where feasible.
- Promote responsible water use among staff, volunteers, and visitors.
- Choose drought-resistant and low-maintenance plants for landscaping.

3.5 Garden & Grounds Use

The garden is a key wellbeing asset. Its management will support biodiversity, community health, and sustainability.

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and is located at The Zone, Main Rd, Dowlunderry, Cornwall, PL11 3JZ

We will:

- Maintain the garden as a wildlife-friendly space using native plants.
- Avoid chemical pesticides and fertilisers, using natural alternatives.
- Create spaces for mindfulness, outdoor activities, and community programmes.
- Use compost produced on-site where possible.
- Provide opportunities for community gardening, learning, and engagement.
- Encourage pollinator-friendly planting to support bees and other species.

3.6 Community Engagement & Education

The Zone will use its platform to promote sustainability and wellbeing across the community.

We will:

- Integrate sustainability messages into programmes and events.
- Partner with local organisations, schools, and groups on environmental projects.
- Provide information and workshops on sustainable living.
- Encourage active travel (walking, cycling, public transport) for visitors and staff.

3.7 Monitoring & Continuous Improvement

The Hub will regularly evaluate progress and identify opportunities for improvement.

We will:

- Set annual sustainability goals and review them each year.
- Monitor energy, water, and waste usage.
- Report progress to stakeholders, staff, and volunteers.

4. Roles & Responsibilities

- **Trustees:** Overall responsibility for policy implementation and resourcing.
- **Volunteers:** Day-to-day adherence and promotion of sustainable practices.
- **Contractors & Partners:** Expected to comply with the Hub's sustainability principles.

5. Approval & Review

This Policy was reviewed and approved on **4/04/2026** and will be reviewed annually, or at change of legislation.

Next Review date January 2027

Adrian Kemp MBE

Chair of Trustees

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