

HELP THE NEEDY

CHARITABLE TRUST

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**



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## **HELP THE NEEDY CHARITABLE TRUST ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY 1.**

### **Principles**

Help The Needy Charitable Trust care and believe in protecting *environment* and as an organisation will act *responsibly towards the nature and environment, giving people access to resources their use*. Help The Needy Charitable Trust believes in having a duty of stewardship to respect the integrity of God's creation and to act responsibly towards it.

People and the environment are inextricably linked and a healthy sustainable environment is vital for us all. The poor in developing countries and we in the UK depend on fertile soils, clean water and other environmental resources for our livelihoods and health. All of us will be affected by the implications of climate change.

Everyone and every organisation has an impact on the environment and Help The Needy Charitable Trust is no exception. If we are to help build a future in which people live in harmony with their natural surroundings, then it is important that Help The Needy Charitable Trust understands and endeavours to minimise the impact on the environment of its day-to-day operations. Help The Needy Charitable Trust understands that sustainable development practices are the only long-term solution for alleviating poverty. In addition we have a responsibility to promote sustainable consumption practices.

Help The Needy Charitable Trust recognise the relationship between social and environmental objectives, in that the short term immediate needs of the poor may have to be balanced with longer term environmental sustainability.

As an organisation Help The Needy Charitable Trust will strive to continually improve its environmental performance and share its own learning and knowledge, in this area, with others.

### **2. Scope**

Every activity that Help The Needy Charitable Trust engages in has an impact on the environment. Help The Needy Charitable Trust endeavours to understand which of its activities has the most significant environmental impact and to focus its improvement activities on these areas.

### **3. Policy Aims**

We aim to achieve continuous improvements in the environmental impact of our activities by:

- Identifying which areas of our activities have the highest impact on our environmental footprint and taking positive steps to address these and minimise them.
- Compensating for our environmental footprint where we are unable to be environmentally neutral;
- Complying with the requirements of environmental legislation and ethical guidance that apply to our operations and strive to exceed the legislation where viable;
- Training staff in environmental awareness and encouraging them to engage in good environmental practices in their own lives;
- Encouraging our supporters and beneficiaries to be aware of environmental issues;

### **4. Key activities and actions**

Help The Needy Charitable Trust's environmental aims will be pursued through our own activities and where appropriate through Help The Needy Charitable Trust influencing the activities of others. Help The Needy Charitable Trust will apply its environmental principles by:

- Setting annual environmental objectives and targets for each of the significant direct effects (e.g. energy consumption, waste, procurement);
- Allocating time and money each year to support continuous environmental improvement and ensuring our environmental footprint is compensated for where we are unable to be environmentally neutral;
- Monitoring and applying best available environmental practices, techniques and technology in our operations where economically viable;
- Minimising our environmental footprint through:
  - Minimising the consumption of energy and other resources at our project sites e.g. water and electricity
  - Reducing, where practicable, the need for our staff to travel. Encouraging the use of least damaging forms of transport where possible, both for staff travel but also for the movement of goods
  - Recovering and recycling materials where feasible
  - Reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfill

- Increasing the awareness of Help The Needy Charitable Trust staff of environmental issues through specific training and briefings;

## **5. Responsibility**

Trustees are responsible for overseeing the implementation of this policy in Help The Needy Charitable Trust.

## **6. Review Date**

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Help The Needy Charitable Trust Boards.