

## Environmental Policy Statement

*In this statement the term 'sustainability' includes the natural, built, economic and social environments of Museums Worcestershire.*

1. Museums Worcestershire is committed to uphold the principles of sustainability set out in the UK Sustainable Development Strategy, for the benefit of present and succeeding generations;

- Living within environmental limits
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society
- Achieving a sustainable economy
- Promoting good governance
- Using sound science responsibly

2. These principles are integrated into all of our work for the long-term benefit of Worcestershire's communities and to minimise the negative impacts on the local and global environment.

3. We will demonstrate this commitment by:

- Continuously improving our environmental, social and economic performance to maximise our positive and minimise our adverse effects on the environment and society
- Meeting or exceeding all relevant legislation, regulations and codes of practice
- Encouraging and monitoring responsible environmental, social and economic performance by our suppliers and contractors
- Raising awareness of and encouraging action for sustainability amongst our staff, partners and users

4. In particular we will:

- Endeavour to improve our use of resources – energy, water, materials, supplies and assets
- Work to reduce our carbon emissions
- Ensure that social and environmental issues are considered alongside economic ones in decision-making
- Protect and enhance biodiversity

5. We will achieve this by:

- Reducing staff travel by private car, particularly when only one person is travelling
- Using public transport wherever possible
- Introducing water-saving measures in public facilities

- Adopting methods of working that reduce or eliminate waste and pollution, emissions and discharges
- Publicising a 'switch it off' campaign at all sites
- Introducing energy-efficient light bulbs as traditional ones fail
- Re-using materials wherever possible
- Recycling those that cannot be re-used
- Sourcing goods and materials locally to reduce transport impacts and support the local economy
- Supporting and raising awareness of Fairtrade food and drink products in museum cafes
- Influencing our partners to act ethically and responsibly
- Raising sustainability awareness and commitment amongst staff through training and briefings
- Promote environmental awareness as part of our work with local Communities.

6. Our commitments in 2015-16 include:

- To reduce the energy consumption at the Commandery by 15% through the introduction of more energy efficient heating and humidity control, as part of a phased capital development plan.
- To develop proposals for the use of solar energy at the Hartlebury store in partnership with the City Council.
- To work with and support proposals to preserve natural habitats as part of the Hartlebury development project.
- To work with partners to develop cycle and walking trails at Hartlebury and within Worcester.
- To ensure all sites have received an energy efficiency review within the period of our current strategic plan 2015-18.