



# Sustainability Policy

Sussex County FA is committed to minimising the environmental impact of its activities through adopting sound principles and implementing good practice, and by continuous improvement in environmental performance. The Association will seek to develop an ethos of environmental responsibility in all its staff, visitors, users and learners as well as in the management of its facilities, and in doing so, aims to become a sustainable community.

## Core Policy Statement

This Sustainability Policy will act as a guiding document for all future improvements and is linked to all other Association policies. Accordingly, it is the policy of the Association to:

- Manage the Association in a manner that reduces the resource intensity and impact, with emphasis on reducing its carbon footprint:
  - ❖ Reduction in energy use
  - ❖ Adoption of conservation measures
  - ❖ Introduce renewable energy sources
  - ❖ Reduction in water usage through wise use and adoption of conservation measures
- Seek cultural change through raising awareness of collective and individual responsibility in working towards achieving a sustainable Association community
  - ❖ Encourage sustainable travel practices by staff and visitors
  - ❖ Minimise waste production through sensible purchasing and reduced consumption and the adoption of efficient waste management
  - ❖ Encourage re-use, re-cycling and recovery
- Continually increase its knowledge base of sustainability issues
- Consider the wider environmental impact of its spending decisions through seeking an appropriate balance between cost and sustainability and apply sustainability criteria to procurement
  - ❖ Commit to the wise choice of products and suppliers and using sustainable procurement processes

- Conform to and where possible exceed minimum legal requirements for reducing adverse environmental impacts
- Adoption of best practice in any new build and refurbishment projects, as set down by the BREEAM assessments (see **Appendix 2**)
- Work with partners and external communities, to help promote sustainability within the local area
  - Improved communication between all sections of the Association community (staff, officers, learners, visitors, users and partners), in order to promote shared responsibility, to celebrate achievement and success and to further improve quality of life at Sussex County FA for all
- Improve the quality of life at the facility through encouraging appropriate and considerate behaviour in relation to litter and anti- social behaviour
- Monitor and regularly audit its environmental performance and develop management systems that seek continuous, measurable progress
- Ensure that this policy and all reports and reviews of environmental performance, are communicated to and involve all staff, and are available to the public.

The policy will be monitored by the Stadium Manager who will also be responsible for its implementation.

### Sustainability Action Plan (SAP)

The SAP will be a 'live' document (see **Appendix 3**) that will:

- Identify and set out those objectives and targets required to achieve greater sustainability at Sussex County FA over the short and long term
- Prioritise actions based on speed, responsibilities, practicalities and costs
- Monitor progress against targets
- Review objectives, targets and progress on an annual basis
- Create and maintain a GREEN office (see **Appendix 1**)

Ken Benham  
Chief Executive

Easy steps to create more environmentally friendly working surroundings:

### GET EVERYONE INVOLVED

- Communicate with employees to let them know your aims and plans
- Hold regular meetings so money saving ideas can be shared
- Put together a calendar of national environmental days and weeks throughout the year, to encourage all staff to get involved in making a difference

### CREATE AN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN

- Designate responsibility between team members to encourage involvement
- Use your Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) as a checklist of what you have to complete in order to become 'greener' – every job ticked off is a step closer to the goal!

### RE-USE AND RE-CYCLE

- Before you recycle, are you able to re-use office materials first? Think about using both sides of paper when printing and taking notes
- Look into your local recycling schemes, including kitchen waste, printer ink cartridges, cardboard, paper and more!

**Bad waste practices are costing UK businesses at least £15billion per year!**

### REDUCE STATIONARY AND EQUIPMENT

- Encourage staff to share stationary and to order refills rather than brand new items each time you make a stationary order
- Consider sacrificing convenience by sharing printers, scanners and other IT equipment across departments to save electricity
- Encourage staff to print double sided to reduce the amount of unnecessary paper used.

**Encourage recipients not to print the emails you send them.**

### USE WATER WISELY

- From making a round of tea, to washing your hands, a great deal of water can be saved in commercial buildings...
- Only boil enough water for the number of drinks you are making
- Consider changing your toilets to modern dual-flush models, which can save up to five litres of water per flush!

**The UK has less available water per person than most other European countries, yet we use approximately 150 litres of water each, per day.**

## **REDUCE ELECTRICITY EXPENDITURE**

- Do lights need to be switched on in all areas of the office all day? Switch them off when they are not needed to ensure to making savings on energy bills
- Encourage staff to switch off monitors when away from their desks, and to switch off any unused plug sockets
- Take time when comparing energy suppliers, to make sure that you are using a green energy supplier

## **CUTTING UNNECESSARY TRAVEL**

- Meet with staff to discuss greener ways in which they could commute to work, including car shares, public transport, cycling and walking. Try offering an incentive to anyone who tries new options, for example a train season ticket
- Could any of your offsite meetings be done via wide conferencing technology in order to reduce car and train journeys?

## **ECO-FRIENDLY SUPPLIERS AND PRODUCTS**

- Aim to favour eco-friendly suppliers and products
- Using locally sourced suppliers will also reduce the carbon footprint of your deliveries

Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) sets best practice targets for the efficiency and environmental performance of new build and refurbishment projects.

### **Management (MAN)**

Responsible management practices are encouraged to ensure that sustainability objectives are followed throughout the operation of the building. Sustainability should be embedded from the initial design stage through to the appropriate provision of aftercare.

### **Health & Wellbeing (HEA)**

This category encourages the increased comfort, health and safety and quality of life of occupants, visitors and others in the vicinity.

### **Energy (ENE)**

Sustainable and efficient energy use should be used throughout building developments. BREEAM Credits are awarded for steps taken to improve the management of the energy efficiency of the building, including reduced energy use and carbon emissions.

### **Transport (TRA)**

Building developers and designers are encouraged to provide access to sustainable means of transport, including public transport and alternative solutions such as cyclist facilities. This supports the reduction of congestion and carbon emissions.

### **Water (WAT)**

Sustainable water use in the operation of the building and its site is rewarded. BREEAM assesses the building development's water monitoring including consumption, leak detection and the use of efficient equipment.

### **Materials (MAT)**

Encourages steps to reduce the impact of construction materials throughout the design, construction, maintenance and repair process. Where possible, materials should be durable, resilient, sourced responsibly and have a low embodied impact throughout extraction, processing, manufacture and recycling.

### **Waste (WST)**

Construction waste and maintenance and repair waste of the building should be sustainably managed. Developments should aim to reduce waste, divert away from landfill and consider climate changes throughout the design to reduce the need to make wasteful future amendments.

### **Land Use & Ecology (LE)**

Credits will be awarded for sustainable land use, habitat and ecological protection and long-term biodiversity improvement for the building and its surrounding land.

### **Pollution (POL)**

Encourages the prevention and control of pollution and surface water run-off. The building should have a reduced impact on light and noise pollution, flooding and emissions to surrounding air, land and water.

### **Innovation (INN)**

Assessment for exemplary performances and innovations that go beyond, or are not included within, the credit criteria requirements to be recognised for extra credit.