

MALVERN TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

Introduction

This Environmental Strategy provides a vision, shared objectives, and pathways to advance sustainability across our town. It also outlines the actions required for Malvern Town Council to integrate sustainable practices into its operations, as well as its community programmes and services.

In this document, 'The Council, and 'The Town Council' refer to Malvern Town Council.

This Environmental Strategy is the action plan which supports Malvern Town Council's Environmental Policy.

1. Biodiversity and Green Spaces

Malvern Town Council will:

- 1.1. seek to manage Town Council-controlled green spaces in a manner that promotes and protects biodiversity, including enhancing connectivity between areas of biodiversity by preserving and creating green highways within the town. Also to include rewilding, tree planting and wildlife corridors.
- 1.2. encourage further development of biodiversity and support the conservation of trees, hedgerows, ponds and streams and encourage others to do so.
- 1.3. develop and implement a plan to reduce to a minimum and consider further alternatives of pesticides/herbicides on all land management and horticultural activities.
- 1.4. ensure Town Council planting schemes are predominantly pollinator-friendly perennial flowers.
- 1.5. not permit the release of balloons or sky lanterns on Council land.
- 1.6. seek to identify the landowners of green spaces within Malvern Town boundaries and create a map showing these.
- 1.7. be peat-free in its horticultural activities by 2022.

2. Energy and Resource Management

Malvern Town Council will:

- 2.1. seek to ensure electricity contracts maximise the use of green energy in place of fossil fuels.
- 2.2. promote and support the use of public transport, cycling and walking.
- 2.3. support initiatives to improve sustainable transport options and continue to lobby for an integrated public transport hub.
- 2.4. monitor, manage and reduce the use of resources by cutting demand and improving efficiency in existing and new buildings.

- 2.5. use recycled resources where feasible.
- 2.6. minimise printing and the generation of wastepaper.
- 2.7. use the 'Hierarchy of Waste' where possible (Omit, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Harvesting of Energy).
- 2.8. utilise electronic communications wherever possible.

3. Sustainable Procurement

Malvern Town Council will:

- 3.1. procure, where possible, goods and services locally where requirements for value and quality are met.
- 3.2. require that all tenders in excess of £10,000 must submit an environmental policy.
- 3.3. procure electric tools/vehicles for grounds maintenance where it is viable to do so.
- 3.4. ask all contractors to demonstrate a working knowledge of sustainability in their work sector.
- 3.5. work with suppliers, contractors and tenants who seek to lessen the environmental impacts of their operations.

4. Awareness, Lobbying and Partnerships

Malvern Town Council will:

- 4.1. set an example by continually seeking to improve the Town Council's environmental performance (produce baseline and set targets).
- 4.2. work with organisations to help meet the Town Council's environmental objectives.
- 4.3. promote the awareness of environmental issues within the community.
- 4.4. support and initiate projects which contribute towards meeting national environmental objectives across the wider community.
- 4.5. ensure that all individuals involved in the organisation are aware of their responsibilities in implementing this environmental policy.
- 4.6. support and encourage groups and organisations that seek to promote sustainable environment practices and increased environment awareness within the town boundaries.
- 4.7. encourage measures to support local traders to retain a vibrant high street and thereby reduce the need to have to travel to larger distant towns and out of town shopping centres.