



COTTENHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

ENERGY POLICY

We maintain and manage a Community Centre for the residents of Cottenham and the neighbourhood. As such, we are a charitable organisation focused on the local community.

We acknowledge that our operations impact the environment and have identified the key environmental aspects that contribute to our environmental and carbon footprint:

- Consumption of electricity, natural gas and water.
- Generation of waste.
- Procured goods and services with their own environmental impact.

The trustees are committed to manage all resources as efficiently as possible while striving to return a positive financial surplus each year, to enable further investment in our community building and in the activities which we provide. Our charity is strengthened by protecting the safety, health and environment of our staff, our volunteers, and the local community who access our facilities.

Our environmental commitment can be demonstrated in our established objectives:

- Compliance with all applicable standards, laws, requirements, regulations and public/user expectations.
- Monitoring our key resource usage and implementing conservation techniques to achieve our environmental targets.
- Implement a waste/recycling policy.
- Working with suppliers to ensure they acknowledge and decrease the environmental impact of their products and transportation.
- Publishing of an annual organisational Carbon Footprint / Greenhouse Gas Report with an expectation that we can continuously improve on our 2022 baseline each year (after adjustment for any change to operating hours).

Since publishing our 2022 carbon footprint baseline, we have installed a large solar energy and battery storage system which we anticipate will significantly reduce our carbon footprint in 2023 and beyond. Other key steps to reduce our carbon footprint which we intend to progress in future years as funding arrangements allow are:

- Addition of enhanced time/temperature controls & zoning to our gas heating system.
- A refurbishment of our studio space focused on significantly improved insulation of the walls, windows and roof together with updated heating arrangements.

We will continue to improve our environmental management system, considering any changes in legislation, our organisation, and other factors. We will convey this policy to all our staff ensuring that they are provided with information to increase awareness of environmental matters.

Steven Poole is our Sustainability Champion and has designated responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy.

Cottenham Community Centre will seek to make all users of our building aware of this policy by referencing it from our facilities booking documentation. We will also publish this policy on our website.

Date Written: October 2023

Date for Review: November 2025

Version 1.0. Adopted at a trustees meeting held on 15th November 2023.

Cottenham Community Centre

High Street

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Registered Charity Number: 1128604.