

NHM ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The Natural History Museum's principle purpose is to challenge the way people think about the natural world – its past, present and future – advancing our knowledge and inspiring better care of our planet.

The Museum is a world-renown museum of natural history and we are engaged in the storage, collection, public viewing, scientific research, marketing and communications associated with natural history specimens. We are committed to protecting the environment and seek to continually improve the environmental performance of our activities by reducing the environmental impacts of all areas of our operation through our Environmental Management System (EMS), certified to ISO14001:2004.

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it is suitable for the Museum's structure.

Aims & Objectives

1. Ensure as a minimum standard, full compliance with relevant environmental legislation and other regulations applicable to UK Government departments and Arm's Length Bodies relating to the sustainable use and protection of natural resources.
2. Raise staff awareness of and train employees on this Environmental Policy and environmental matters and legislation applying to Museum activities within the UK and other countries.
3. Implement our commitment to the prevention of pollution including: monitoring discharges and emissions to air, land and water to ensure they do not exceed consent limits, and promoting behaviours to reduce the Museum's impact on local air quality.
4. Commit to the Museum's Energy Policy for monitoring carbon dioxide emissions and making improvements in energy efficiency.
5. Promote sustainable options for staff and visitor travel and reduce impacts from exhibition and specimen transport.
6. Monitor waste generation and recycling rates, promote waste minimisation and progressively improve levels of re-use and recycling in all activities.
7. Monitor, manage and reduce mains water and borehole water use at all Museum sites to detect leaks and inefficient use of this resource.
8. Evaluate the environmental policy of contractors through the procurement process. Ensure contractors observe good environmental practice when working on Museum premises and work with them to improve environmental performance.
9. Encourage suppliers and contractors, through appropriate specifications, to develop and supply environmentally preferable goods and services.
10. Give full consideration to the impact on the environment before committing capital expenditure or entering into any new venture or project.
11. Encourage the spread of sustainable technologies and services in the Museum sector and participate in public discussions about environmental issues.
12. Carry out periodic reviews of environmental management performance and monitor progress against objectives and targets to ensure continual improvement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Dixon', written over a horizontal line.

Signed: Sir Michael Dixon, Museum Director
Date: May 2017

RESPONSIBILITIES

Executive Board

- Overall responsibility to ensure that this Environmental Policy is effectively applied across the Museum.
- Approve resources, strategic priorities and policy changes.

Head of Estates

- Overall responsibility to ensure that the Environmental Policy is effectively applied by all employees, contractors and other visitors.
- Will receive reports and recommendations from the Energy and Sustainability Manager and Environmental and Sustainability Officer on matters concerning environmental management issues.

Energy and Sustainability Manager and Environmental and Sustainability Officer

- Oversee the development of policies, procedures and guidelines for environmental management and sustainability, achieving approval from Executive Board.
- Advise on, and ensure the Museum has adequate systems and resources in place to ensure best practice environmental management is upheld and ensure environmental performance improvements are embedded into the Museum's management and services.
- Manage and coordinate the Museum's ongoing commitment to meet the standards of its ISO14001:2004 certification; be responsible for compliance and a programme of continuous improvement.

Line Managers within Departments

- Ensure their Department complies with this Environmental Policy and that environmental management procedures are adhered to.
- Liaise with the Environmental and Sustainability Officer to minimise potential environmental impacts of new projects or activities.

All Employees of the Natural History Museum

- All employees are required to understand and comply with this Environmental Policy.

Contractors, Suppliers and Departmental Visitors

- Staff responsible for the presence of contractors, suppliers and departmental visitors on Museum premises are responsible for ensuring they comply with this Environmental Policy.
- Contractors, suppliers and visitors are required to co-operate fully in achieving the aims of this Environmental Policy.