

Environmental Management Policy

AVOW (Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham) is the County Voluntary Council (CVC) for Wrexham County Borough. There is a network of 19 similar organisations covering the whole of Wales and between us and WCVA (Wales Council for Voluntary Action) we provide support and advice to Voluntary and Community groups to help them achieve their missions. AVOW also encompasses "The Land" (a junk playground) and Little Sunflowers Childcare (LSCC) in Plas Madoc.

We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and are continually improving our environmental performance in all areas of our organisation. AVOW ensures that all its activities are carried out in accordance with the relevant environmental legislation and seeks to achieve continual environmental improvement, to minimise waste, promote recycling, reduce energy and water consumption.

To meet our commitments we will:

- Achieve and maintain the Green Dragon Environmental Standard levels 1 & 2.
- Continue to operate a purchasing policy to ensure products and services are purchased in line with environmental policy and from environmentally friendly suppliers.
- We will seek to reduce the amount of energy used and specifically reduce electricity consumption by another 2% by Dec 2016.
- We will manage waste generated according to the principles reduce, re-use, recycle.
- We will improve our disposal of WEEE (Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment) items.
- Comply with all applicable legislation, AVOW requirements and any other adopted requirements which relate to our environmental aspects.
- To review the environmental management system (EMS) and environmental policies annually to ensure their suitability, adequacy and effectiveness in consultation with staff and trustees.
- Apply the principles of continuous improvement in respect of air, water, noise and light pollution from our premises and reduce any impacts from our operations on the environment and local community.

Environmental management is everyone's responsibility and a principal responsibility of all levels of management.

We will provide adequate and appropriate resources to implement this policy ensuring it is appropriately communicated and well understood.

This statement reflects AVOW's position on environmental issues and the policies and practices we will apply in conducting our business to ensure our environmental objectives are integrated in a cost effective manner within the organisation.

Signed: *J. Leece Jones*

Position: *Chair*

Date approved: *11 August 2015*