

CLEVELAND FIRE BRIGADE



Protecting local
communities

Policy No. 25

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Date Issued:	Dec 2013
Reviewed By:	Technical Services Directorate
Ratified By:	ELT
Date Ratified:	Apr 2013
Date For Review:	Jan 2015

1. POLICY

1.1 Policy Statement

The purpose of the Policy is to set out the principles, procedures and standards upon which the Brigade's Sustainability activity is based. The Fire Authority's Policy Statement is below:

- a. We will seek to minimise our impact on the environment by reducing our carbon footprint and by monitoring our use of the resources that are required to deliver our services.
- b. We will seek to maximise the potential for the re-use and recycling of materials on every project and actively promote methods aimed at minimising waste.
- c. We will develop our workforce and raise awareness of sustainability issues through our employees, supply chain and partners to ensure that our workforce is able to meet the future needs of local communities.

1.2 Policy Objectives

This policy is intended to outline the approach the Brigade will take to the application of principles which will contribute to the mitigation of adverse effects upon the natural environment. It acknowledges that there is an important role for the Brigade to undertake in improving awareness and understanding of environmental issues, both within the Brigade and the wider community.

Specific objectives are:

- i. Compliance with European Union (EU) and United Kingdom Legislation; and,
- ii. Mitigation of CFB contribution to environmental issues.

1.3 Policy Category

This Policy is categorised as '**Brigade**' within the Policy and Strategy Framework.

1.4 Scope

This policy applies to all employees and managers within the organisation.

2. ORGANISING: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Cleveland Fire Authority (CFA) is responsible for :

- Setting the Authority's vision and strategic direction with regards to sustainability

2.2 The Brigade's Executive Leadership Team is responsible for:

- Providing organisational leadership in implementing this policy to achieve the Authority's vision, priorities and objectives
- Ensuring this policy is applied in a fair and consistent manner for all staff
- Ensuring this policy is appropriately resourced

2.3 The Director of Technical Services is responsible for:

- Developing and strategically managing the Authority's policy for Sustainability
- Providing high quality advice and support on matters relating to Sustainability
- Overseeing Sustainability throughout the Brigade
- Championing Sustainability with the Authority and throughout the Brigade

2.4 The Head of Assets

- Monitoring progress towards achieving the annual targets identified within the Sustainability Strategy 2013 – 2018
- Working with the Head of Procurement to ensure that sustainability is firmly embedded within the procurement process that supports the Brigades Built Environment, Fleet, Waste management and ICT activities
- Providing regular update reports to the Director of Technical Services regarding how the Sustainability Strategy is being implemented throughout the Brigade.

2.5 All Managers are responsible for:

- Implementing the Brigade strategy to deliver the Authority's vision and strategic direction in relation to Sustainability
- Ensuring they comply with the key principles of this policy
- Supporting the Estates Department to ensure delivery of Sustainability activities

2.6 All Employees are responsible for:

- Understanding the importance of Sustainability and the part they play in conserving natural resources and protecting the environment
- Promoting sustainability amongst colleagues, partner-agencies and the wider community whilst carrying out their duties.

3. PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Links to Other Policies, Strategies and Procedures

As well as being supported by the Sustainability Strategy this policy is linked to both the Brigade's Procurement Strategy 2010 – 2014 and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2009 – 2014.

The Brigade's Procurement Strategy states that the Brigade aims to carry out procurement activities in an environmentally responsible manner and in line with the Brigade's Sustainability Strategy.

The Brigade's Health and Wellbeing Strategy identifies the importance of ensuring high quality environments are protected by a sustainable approach to the Brigade's activities.

3.2 Resource implications

The financial resource implications associated with this policy will be funded through the Capital Expenditure Programme in line with the Asset Management Plan and the Revenue budget for replacement of non-planned items due to failure.

Any expenditure requirements identified in year and not included within the Estates budget will be reported to Executive Leadership Team for consideration and possible approval.

It is anticipated that there will be opportunity to achieve financial savings by the effective application of energy reduction measures.

3.3 Equality Impact Assessment

This policy has been equality impact assessed in line with the Authority's procedure and no adverse issues have been identified.

4. MONITORING

4.1 The Head of Assets will monitor this policy through the Asset Management Group to ensure it is being correctly and consistently applied across the Authority.

4.2 The Risk and Performance Unit will monitor this policy to ensure adherence to the approved Policy and Strategy Framework. The unit will also ensure that this policy and associated strategy is maintained within the register of policies and strategies, is maintained by the Brigade.

5. AUDIT

5.1 Monthly utility usage graphs and annual energy benchmarking figures will be used to assess the energy and water usage of buildings, this performance information will be used to help us to identify any areas for development or improvement.

6. REVIEW

The Director of Technical Services will undertake a review of this policy in line with the policy framework to ensure that it is taking account of any new or emerging political, economic, social, technological, legislative, environmental, and competitive, citizen or reputational factors. Implementation of the Sustainability Policy is closely linked to on-going reviews, in particular, the Best Value Review of Estates. The application of

environmental and energy usage indicators is inherent within the Best Value exercise, and will inform some of the value-for-money assessment of the property portfolio.

Specifically, Utility Costs per location and Energy Costs per person and per square metre, will be transposed into the performance of the Sustainability Policy. The policy is to be reviewed every year as the Strategy is linked to the Asset Management Plan.