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Environmental Policy Statement Newry and Mourne District Council

This is the Environmental Policy Statement for the services within the scope of the Council's ISO 14001 system. It outlines our aims and policy with respect to ISO 14001. We aim to be an Environmental Leader for the district and will actively strive to enhance our local environment, improve the health and well being of our local community and reduce the negative impact that we have on our environment year on year.

Environmental Performance

The services within the scope of the system are committed to continual improvement and prevention of pollution by reducing the environmental impacts that arise from its business activities and delivery of its services.

Through the implementation of an Environmental Management System we will:

- Set realistic and measurable objectives and targets together with an Environmental Management Programme to ensure continual improvement in environmental performance.
- Regularly review the policy through management review to ensure it continues to be effective and representative of the departments' activities and services.
- Endeavour to:
 - Minimise the amount of waste generated internally and disposed of to landfill. Where reduction is not practical, seek to reuse or recycle waste and ensure the safe disposal of all waste.
 - Introduce measures to ensure best practice and the responsible use of natural resources such as water, fuel and energy where possible.
 - Investigate and introduce measures to minimise the release of pollutants which cause damage to land, air and water due to the department's activities where possible.
 - Reduce the environmental impact of goods purchased at the same time encouraging suppliers and contracted services to improve their environmental performance.

Legal Requirements

The services within the scope of the system make the commitment to comply fully and where possible exceed the requirements of applicable legislation and regulations and any other environmental requirements through the application of Best Practice techniques.

Communication

This policy shall be communicated in an effective and accessible manner so as to be understood and practised by all our employees. We shall raise awareness of the EMS Policy and sustainability issues among all those working for or on behalf of the Council through appropriate training and dissemination of information in different formats where appropriate.

We will strive to consult with and educate local people on the principles of Sustainable Development, so that the quality of life in the district can be maintained and enhanced where possible

The services within the scope of the system will address environmental issues in an open manner and maintain close links with relevant authorities, regulatory agencies, research institutes, the local community and all relevant stakeholders to improve and protect our local and global environment.

We will ensure the Environmental Policy is readily available to the public and actively promoted.

Signed: 
Clerk and Chief Executive

Date: 11/11/2014