

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

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ISSUED BY: Director of Finance

MSSC Environmental Policy

CHANGE CONTROL RECORD

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Environmental Policy

PREFACE

The Environmental Policy is issued with the authority and approval of MSSC Council to confirm and direct MSSC with regards to our impact on the environment and how we can minimise that impact.

This document is applicable to all MSSC employees and others working within or volunteering for the charity .

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Environmental Policy

1. Policy Statement

- As a guiding principle MSSC are committed to sustainable development, meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Concern for the environment is an integral and fundamental part of this commitment.
- Our aim is to reduce the impact on the environment from our operations whilst continuing to successfully deliver our charitable purpose.
- We all have a role to play, whether we are employed by or volunteer for the charity. If each and every one of us puts protecting our environment at the heart of everything we do, together we will limit our impact on the environment.
- To deliver our vision, we will seek to:
 - Look after our environment, so that we can all continue to enjoy it.
 - Make sure we all understand our impact and how to help reduce it.
 - Challenge poor environmental practice.
 - Conserve resources for future generations to enjoy it
- MSSCs environmental policy outlines our commitment to reduce our impact on the environment, and provides a framework for setting objectives and targets to improve our environmental performance.
- Alongside this we will seek to establish a culture that continually reduces or offsets our carbon footprint

2. Scope

This policy:

- Governs MSSC's approach to managing our impact on the environment
- Applies to all MSSC Employees and others working within or volunteering for the charity
- Sea Cadet Corps have a specific environmental policy - [HERE](#)

3. Environmental Definitions

3.1. Environment:

Environment means all the natural surroundings such as land, air, water, plants, animals, solid material, wastes, sunlight, forests and other things. Healthy environment maintains the nature's balance as well as helps in growing, nourishing and developing all the living things on the earth.

3.2. Sustainability:

Environmental sustainability is the responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect global ecosystems to support health and wellbeing, now and in the future. Because so many decisions that impact the environment are not felt immediately, a key element of environmental sustainability is its forward-looking nature. In fact, we define this as "meeting today's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs."

3.3. Carbon Footprint:

A carbon footprint refers to the amount of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions generated by human activity. It is also one of the primary indicators used to understand an organisation's impact on global warming.

3.4. Carbon Offset

A carbon offset is a reduction or removal of emissions of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases made in order to compensate for emissions made elsewhere. Offsets are measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide-equivalent.

3.5. Biodiversity

Biodiversity is all the different kinds of life found in one area—the variety of animals, plants, fungi, and even microorganisms like bacteria that make up our natural world. Each of these species and organisms work together in ecosystems, like an intricate web, to maintain balance and support life. Biodiversity supports everything in nature that we need to survive e.g. food, clean water, medicine, and shelter.

3.6. Waste management

Refers to the various schemes to manage and dispose of wastes. It can be by discarding, destroying, processing, recycling, reusing, or controlling wastes. The prime objective of waste management is to reduce the amount of unusable materials and to avert potential health and environmental hazards.

3.7. Life cycle assessment or LCA

LCA is a methodology for assessing environmental impacts associated with all the stages of the life cycle of a product, process, or service.

MSSC Procurement policy - [HERE](#)

4. MSSC Commitment

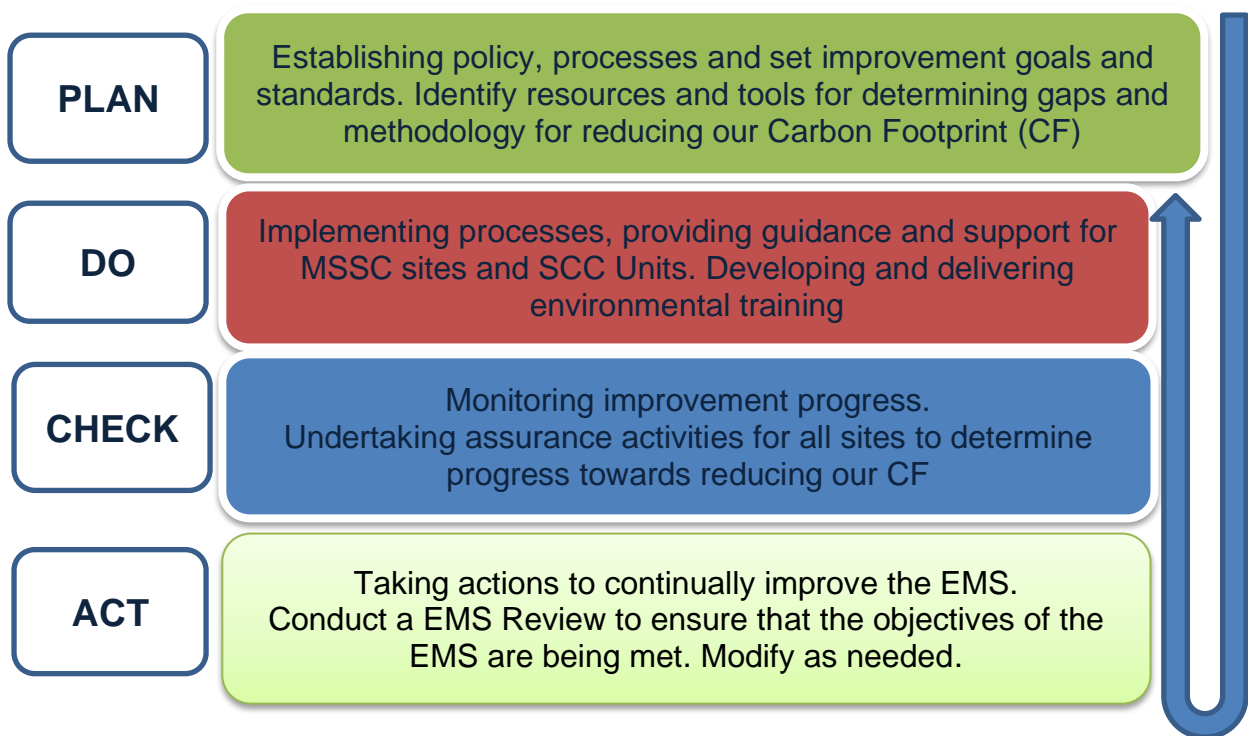
MSSC will protect the environment by operating in an environmentally responsible manner, this includes directly with MSSC managed sites and also to provide clear guidance and support to Sea Cadet UMT's on how to measure their impact on the environment and reduce their carbon footprint.

- We shall achieve this by ensuring environmental management is integral to our decision-making processes, so that we can enhance our environmental performance demonstrating continual improvement.
- Care for the environment is one of our key responsibilities and an important part of the way in which we do things. In this policy we commit MSSC to:
 - Complying with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and approved codes of practice
 - Protecting the environment by striving to prevent and minimise our contribution to pollution of land, air, and water
 - Seeking to keep wastage to a minimum and maximise the efficient use of

materials and resource

- Managing and disposing of all waste in a responsible manner
- Providing training for our MSSC Employees and Sea Cadet volunteers so that we all work in accordance with this policy and within an environmentally aware culture,
- Regularly communicating our environmental performance to our employees, sea cadet volunteers and other significant stakeholders
- Developing our management processes to ensure that environmental factors are considered during planning and implementation
- Monitoring and continuously improving our environmental performance
- Seeking to leverage our environmental impact by encouraging others that we work with to improve their environmental performance
- During the procurement stage of services, systems and products, the suppliers impact on the environment should be considered.

5. Environmental Management System (EMS)



5.1. MSSC Planning

- The planning phase involves reviewing our environmental policy and commitments, identifying the current activities we perform that may affect the environment, setting environmental objectives to manage the impacts of these activities, and then designing effective processes to ensure that objectives are met.
- MSSC documents and programs related to the planning phase include:
 - Develop and continually review our environmental policy and communicate across MSSC.
 - Provide appropriate tool/s to assist in understanding our impact on the environment and in particular our carbon footprint.
 - MSSC Aspects
 - An environmental aspect is the element of an activity, operation,

product, process, or service that can interact with and affect the environment.

- By identifying Activities, Aspects, and Impacts, MSSC provides a framework for addressing them and minimising potential environmental effects.
- Identifying environmental aspects should take account of whether a particular activity, product or service causes:
 - Air emissions
 - Effluent discharges
 - Waste
 - Land or Water contamination
 - Use of resources (e.g., water, fuel and natural resources and materials).
- The above aspects relate to those MSSC can control. There are other aspects over which the MSSC may have “control” or “influence”. These can include:
 - Product selection and procurement to improve environmental performance or extend life of products. This should include, Life Cycle Assessment ([LCA](#)), which relates to the environmental aspects and potential environmental impacts throughout a product's life cycle from raw material acquisition through production, use, end-of-life treatment, recycling and final disposal (i.e. cradle-to-grave). Procurement Policy - [HERE](#)
 - Packaging; recycling and reusing to minimise the use of material resources and energy
 - Performance; of contractors (on site) and suppliers of goods and materials, monitoring and encouraging environmental best practice
 - Land use; opportunities to improve [biodiversity](#) and wildlife habitats on all our sites
- MSSC Environmental Sustainability
 - Environmental [sustainability](#) is the responsible use of natural resources to ensure they will be around in the future. It is important because the Earth is a finite place, with limited land, water, and wildlife.
 - Sustainable resource use is the only way to make sure future generations will have what they need to survive.
 - To drive this forward MSSC will provide guidance and support to achieve a sustainable future and would ask all MSSC employees and Sea cadet Volunteers and cadets to join us on this endeavour.
- MSSC Environmental Management Programs
The MSSC Environmental Management System provides a coordinated structure to meet MSSCs environmental responsibilities and pursue sustainability goals through pro-active management.

5.2. DO – MSSC Implementation and Operation

- In the implementation and operation phase, the responsible MSSC employee, teams and Sea Cadet UMT members take actions needed to ensure that environmental objectives are met.
- They review, develop, and communicate procedures and provide training to reduce the risk of activities causing an environmental impact
- Environmental Awareness Training – development and delivery

5.3. Hierarchy of Environment impact limitation

- The waste hierarchy encourages a focus on reducing and reusing wherever possible to reduce waste.
- Recycling as much as possible is fantastic - but we need to start focusing on preventing the waste in the first place. Putting items in our recycling and general rubbish bins should be seen as the last resort.



5.4. Checking and Corrective Action

- The checking and corrective action phase involves assessing environmental compliance and its effectiveness.
- These audits examine how the overall system is performing. MSSC (Head of Safety, Health and Environment and Area Training Safety Advisors) will monitor environmental compliance and best practice as part of the normal assurance processes for SC Units and MSSC Sites.

5.5. Act - Management and Review

- In the Management Review phase, MSSC (Head of Safety, Health and Environment) management reaffirms the commitment to the Environmental policy and identifies improvements.
- Environmental incidents must be reported and investigated to determine lessons learnt and improvement opportunities.
- Audits and other aspects of the Check phase may reveal weaknesses in the system

and root cause analysis will suggest corrective actions to fix any problems.

- MSSC will make system adjustments identified in the management review.
- Repeating the EMS Review annually ensures the continual improvement of MSSC environmental performance.

6. Carbon footprint tools

Definition: The Carbon Footprint tools enable MSSC sites and SC Units to calculate and record direct and indirect emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) resulting from using facilities and resources. This will allow us to benchmark each sites impact (Carbon Footprint) and direct actions to reduce or offset this impact.

6.1. Climate Hero - [HERE](#)

6.2. WWF - [HERE](#)

6.3. Business based tool? - [HERE](#)

7. Sea Cadet engagement

7.1. Green Team/Gang – Sway - [HERE](#)

8. Green Champions

- What is a Green Champion?
 - Green Champions are people who are passionate about climate action and sustainability in their home lives and who see an opportunity to boost action in their work, and social life
 - They help to promote sustainability initiatives, engaging others and acting as a point of contact for those wanting to take green action.
 - Green Champions can develop both the environmental responsibility of the organisation, and your individual skills. It can be a great way to meet new people and effect high-level change.
Anyone can be a Green Champion, and an organisation can have lots of Green Champions. The most important thing is that you want to create change to improve your organisation's environmental impact.

9. Links to external initiatives

9.1. Sea Hives – HERE

9.2. Clean Hub - [HERE](#)

10. Links to Internal initiatives

10.1. Earthshot – [HERE](#)

10.2. Add

11. How to guides

11.1. Waste Management

MSSC Guidance - HERE (To be developed)

- Gov.UK Information - [HERE](#)

11.2. Training

- MSSC Guidance - HERE (To be developed)
- DLE - [HERE](#)

11.3. Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling (WEEE)

- MSSC Guidance - HERE
- HSE Guidance - HERE

11.4. Top 10 best things you can do

- Link – HERE