



Bishop's Stortford RFC Environment Policy

Our core business is the playing and enjoyment of rugby in a safe environment, inclusive for all as a community club in Bishop's Stortford.

We aim to ensure our activities do not negatively impact our local environment and will seek to address those areas where this is not the case. We value our role in the community and recognise our responsibility for creating and fostering a sustainable future.

Our main aims within this policy are

- To develop a wider understanding of how our activities impact our environment
- To minimise or eliminate adverse impacts from our activities on the environment
- To promote best practice wherever possible

Measurement and control

BSRFC will:

- Monitor the impacts of our activities on the environment and seek to reduce them where both practical and possible to do so, whilst maintaining our Core Mission and Vision as a rugby club (see www.bsrfc.co.uk)
- Ensure the use of environmentally friendly products and eliminate the use of environmentally exploitative products through procurement and specification practices
- Minimise, where possible, the creation of waste, especially hazardous waste and wherever possible, recycle or reuse materials; dispose of all wastes through safe and responsible methods in compliance with the relevant environmental legislation.
- Ensure the responsible use of energy throughout the organisation by conserving energy, improving energy efficiency, seeking to utilise safer energy sources and giving preference to renewable over finite energy resources wherever possible.

Actions

- We are a "volunteer lead organisation" but within that restraint we will seek to appoint an Environment Officer to lead our initiatives, reporting via our Executive Committee, and to monitor and co-ordinate the environmental performance of BSRFC.

Areas of activity will include

- Effective communication of the environmental policy throughout BSRFC, providing appropriate training and education where necessary to ensure its effective implementation.
 - Conducting periodic environmental reviews and self-evaluation of BSRFC's compliance with the environmental policy
 - Preparing and implementing action plans to improve our environmental impact.
 - Specifically undertake a review of the viability of the club installing Solar Energy Systems.
- Audit procurement of all goods and services with focus on

- Engaging with contractors and suppliers to ensure they have environmental controls and/or policies in place
 - Wherever possible specify and request recycled or re-used materials
 - Seek to reduce impacts by using local materials and contractors
- Local wildlife and our grounds
 - We manage both leased boundaries and owned boundaries, main hedgerows which we undertake to manage to encourage nesting birds and other wildlife
 - Working with our main landlord, Silver Leys trust we will promote access for walkers via our designated footpaths, helping to reduce vehicle journeys to our town centre.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

June 2024