

## Our environmental policy.

**Cohesion seeks to ensure that all of our activities comply fully with relevant environmental legislation and perceived best practice, and strives for continual improvement of our environmental management procedures. We recognise that our activities have an impact on the environment. In all our activities, working practices and business relationships, we are committed to protecting, conserving and enhancing all aspects of the environment over which we have control or can influence.**

**While we expect all our staff to consider the impact of their action on the environment, the management team take responsibility in ensuring our environmental policy is implemented and maintained within our business.**

### **To deliver our environmental policy we will:**

- Ensure that all of our activities comply fully with relevant environmental legislation and perceived best practice.
  - Set practical aims for the continual improvement of our environmental management procedures.
  - Use resources wisely by reducing resource use and re-using or recycling materials wherever possible.
  - Use Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to carry out our work and communicate with clients and suppliers – thus avoiding the generation of excessive volumes of paper waste.
  - Recycle as much waste material as possible and minimise consumption of resources such as ink, paper, raw materials, fuel and energy.
  - Encourage the use of environmentally friendly materials when designing publications for clients
  - Encourage the use of chlorine-free recycled paper and vegetable-based inks for all of our printed materials.
  - Understand the sensitivities of our customers, including the pressures of growing and changing statutory and public concern about environmental issues, and assist them in complying with environmental best practice.
  - Identify opportunities to reduce any environmental impact of our activities at an early stage and adopt these changes where appropriate.
- Raise staff awareness of environmental issues and promote individual good practice.
  - Require our suppliers to provide goods and services with the minimum adverse environmental impact, and give preference to environmentally aware suppliers whenever possible.
  - Ensure that our purchases of goods comply fully with UK government and EU legislation and recognised environmental best practice.
  - Make efficient and environmentally responsible use of energy, water and other natural resources.
  - Take all reasonable steps to prevent pollution of both our local and wider environments.
  - Employ sound waste management practices, including compliance with the requirements of the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations.
  - Continue to review our environmental performance, and strive to respond to issues as they arise.
  - Encourage staff to minimise car journeys and use environmentally sustainable transport methods for commuting and business journeys wherever practical.
  - Support our local authority's green travel objectives.