

Ardgay Public Hall

Environmental Policy – Draft – Jun 2025

Statement

Ardgay Public Hall is used by the community for a variety of activities from sporting, arts and music to community markets and larger events including music, funeral teas and weddings.

We recognise the need to care for the environment and provide opportunity to our hall users to reduce the environmental impact of their events and meetings.

Policy Aims

We have developed this policy to provide focus on the steps that we need to take to reduce our environmental impact. We are at the beginning of this journey and intend to use this policy to develop an Environmental Action Plan.

We endeavour to consider and review:

- compliance with and exceed all relevant regulatory requirements
- continually improve and monitor environmental performance
- continually improve our policy and reduce environmental impacts
- Incorporate environmentally conscious thinking into all decision making
- Increase volunteer awareness and training

Responsibility

Ardgay Public Hall Committee is responsible for ensuring that this environmental policy is implemented, however, we hope that hall volunteers and users will take responsibility to ensure that the aims and objectives of this policy are met.

Key objective 1: Energy

- We will always supply our energy from a supplier who sources 100% renewables
- We will seek to reduce the amount of energy used as much as possible
- Heating systems must be operated on a timer basis
- Lights and electrical equipment will be switched off when not in use
- Heating will be adjusted with energy consumption in mind
- Energy consumption and efficiency will be taken into consideration when purchasing products.

Key objective 2: Paper

- We will minimise the use of paper at all levels of operations
- We will seek to buy recycled and recyclable paper products
- We will reuse and recycle all paper where possible
- We will reduce packaging as much as possible

Key objective 3: Plastics

- We will not use disposable plastics in any of our events or activities, and endeavour to ensure hall users do the same
- Where plastic use is unavoidable, for example in packaging from suppliers, we will ensure that it is firstly put to a new use if possible, or otherwise recycled
- We will try to purchase items not packaged in plastic

Key objective 4: Procurement

- We will evaluate if the need can be met another way
- We will evaluate if renting/sharing is an option before purchasing new equipment
- We will purchase refurbished products whenever possible
- We will evaluate the environmental impact of any new product we intend to purchase
- We will favour more environmentally friendly and efficient products whenever possible

Key objective 5: Waste

- We will endeavour to ensure that hall users reduce waste as much as possible
- We will provide opportunities to reduce waste and improve recycling for our hall users

Key objective 6: Cleaning

- We will endeavour to ensure there is minimal impact on the environment with our cleaning products

Additional Key Objectives to review include: banking, weeding, development projects

Monitoring and Improvement

- We will review this policy and consider new aspects to implement on a quarterly basis.
- We will update this policy at least annually in consultation with employees, members, volunteers and stakeholders where necessary

Culture and communication

- We will involve staff in the implementation of this policy, for greater commitment and improved performance
- We will provide staff with relevant environmental training
- We will provide workshops and focus events for our volunteers
- This environmental policy will be made publicly available
- Adherence to the environmental policy will be included in new employee and volunteer inductions
- Environmental consciousness will be communicated to members of our community

Signed and dated by the board or senior management

Draft, to be reviewed and agreed July 2025