

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Introduction

The Cornwall Buildings Preservation Trust (CBPT) acknowledges the connection between the climate crisis, other environmental crises, and the resulting threats such as disease, food and water shortages, and poverty affecting millions globally.

The Trust also recognises the significant damage being caused to natural ecosystems and is conscious that a healthy environment is fundamental to the prosperity and wellbeing of our local community.

CBPT's charity's objects reflect the commitment of the Trust to sustainable development. The preservation and restoration of historic buildings inherently promotes sustainable development by reusing existing structures and the energy already invested in their construction.

CBPT is committed to minimising its carbon and environmental footprints and will comply with all relevant environmental regulations, laws, and codes of practice, striving to exceed them where possible. This policy aligns with the UK's Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Climate Change Act 2008, government documents: A Green Future: Our 25 Year to Improve the Environment (2018), Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 and Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener

Aims of Policies

The aims of the CBPT Environmental Policy are:

- To increase environmental growth across the charity's responsibilities and assets for the benefit of the local and wider community.
- To promote the importance and value of a high-quality environment, and to support local people in their enjoyment of it.
- To understand and adapt to the environmental challenges faced to play a part in mitigating the adverse effects on our environment.
- To promote the development of a Circular Economy.

List of Policies

Climate Change

CBPT have/will set out plans for immediate and long-term actions to include:

Energy

- Undertake an audit of CBPT current energy usage and emissions.
- Install smart meters and energy management systems where appropriate.

- Encouraging stakeholders to be conscious of their energy use including switch off electrical equipment and unnecessary lights when not in use.
- Encouraging stakeholders to close windows and external doors when heating is on.
- Phase in the replacement of LED bulbs in CBPT-owned or managed sites.
- Phase in the replacement of electrical equipment in CBPT-owned or managed sites with products of maximum energy efficiency rating.
- Switch to 100% renewable energy tariffs for electricity in CBPT-owned or managed sites, where economically viable.
- Phase out non-renewable heating sources (oil, gas) in favour of renewable options where practical and appropriate.
- Retrofit buildings with energy-saving measures (glazing, roof insulation) where possible.
- Introduce natural climate change solutions (such as tree planting and rewilding) at CBPT-owned or managed sites.

Nature & Wildlife

CBPT is committed to enhancing opportunities for nature to thrive on the assets it owns or manages by:

- Protecting and enhancing the natural environment in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.
- Supporting the conservation of trees, hedgerows, ponds, streams, and coastal habitats.
- Managing CBPT assets in ways that protect and increase biodiversity.
- Partnering with local conservation groups to strengthen initiatives.

Sustainable Travel

CBPT will:

- Promote and support modern working practices, such as remote working and virtual meetings amongst trustees and with interested parties.
- Encourage car-sharing among trustees where possible, when travel by car is necessary on behalf of Trust business.
- Promote and support cycling, public footpaths, and public transport.
- Prioritise where possible the installation of electric vehicle charging points at CBPT-owned or managed sites.

Water Management

CBPT is committed to responsible water management and conservation, which includes:

- Undertake a water use audit at CBPT -owned or managed sites.
- Encouraging efficient water use at CBPT-owned or managed sites.
- Where possible, utilise water butts as non-drinking water sources.
- Install water-saving fixtures and systems where appropriate.
- Ensuring awareness of which materials can be disposed of in wastewater.
- Promoting and supporting natural solutions to reduce/reuse surface water runoff at CBPT-owned or managed sites.

Waste & Recycling

CBPT will:

- Undertake a waste management audit at CBPT-owned or managed sites.
- Minimise waste through prevention, reuse, recycling, or recovery.
- Ensure proper sorting, storage, and disposal of waste.
- Eliminate single-use plastics at CBPT-owned or managed sites.
- Promote and encourage waste recycling at CBPT-owned or managed sites and events.
- Use recyclable, compostable, and/or recycled products at CBPT-owned or managed sites.
- Minimise the amount of printing and minimise the amount of wastepaper.
- Utilise electronic communications; trustees to use an opt-in scheme for printing paper documents.
- Conscientiously observe our duty of care with any project works.
- Minimise pollution and prevent it where possible (including light, noise, solids, liquids, and chemicals).

Development

CBPT will:

- Align with Policy Statements set out in Cornwall's Shoreline Management Plan 2 (SMP2) for coastal authorities.

- Consider the recommendations in the Government Guidance Note: Promoting Net Zero and Sustainability in Construction.
- Align with Cornwall Council Policy SEC1 (Sustainable Energy and Construction).
- Align with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- Keep up to date with all development policies and legislation.
- Evaluate climate risks for current or proposed sites in CPBT's care, e.g. likelihood of overheating, landslip, ground heave, flooding etc. to (a) inform mitigation and adaptation measures and (b) assess the potential impact of any Trust interventions in the longer term
- Conduct an energy audit and building performance assessment for all projects to establish an accurate baseline and identify areas for improvement.
- Assess embodied carbon and lifecycle impacts when evaluating alterations or replacements.
- Prioritise maintenance, repairs and improvements of energy efficiency building systems in association with more invasive fabric alterations.
- Apply a whole-building approach to develop integrated solutions that are effective and avoid unintended consequences.
- Include climate change resilience measures alongside energy efficiency improvements.

Responsible & Sustainable Procurement

CBPT will:

- Include environmental performance criteria in supplier selection and contracts.
- Source materials and services locally when value for money and quality criteria are met.
- Ensure that timber or similar products are from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified sources.
- Ensure the use of eco-friendly consumables (such as cleaning products and inks) at Trust owned or managed sites.
- Ensure that procurement of goods and services are weighted appropriately to encourage local suppliers thereby promoting the Circular Economy.

Awareness, Lobbying & Partnerships

CBPT will:

- Promote environmental awareness and information within the community.

- Support and advocate for local environmental concerns.
- Ensure all involved in the charity (including contractors and tenants) understand their responsibilities in implementing this environmental policy.
- Request environmental policies from all suppliers for their environmental policies and for evidence of implementation of such policies and indicate that such performance will be used as criteria for supplier selection.
- Include relevant environmental clauses in future contracts agreed with outside bodies.
- Will observe and exceed existing environmental legislation where practical.

Energy Use

CBPT will:

- Audit existing energy use.
- Develop a plan to reduce energy consumption.
- Procure energy from sustainable sources.
- Maximise the use of renewable energy at CBPT-owned or managed sites.

Circular Economy

CBPT will:

- Audit the materials and services used by the charity.
- Develop policies that encourage a Circular Economy within the charity.
- Promote and encourage the use of local suppliers in procurement policies.

Review

This policy and its application will be reviewed annually to ensure it continues to reflect the aims and objectives of CBPT and promotes continuous environmental improvement throughout the charity's operations.

This statement was approved by the Board of Trustees on 29 April 2025.

Signed:



KAREN PRITCHARD
INTERIM CHAIR

END OF POLICY

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN

This Plan covers the period from April 2024 to 31 March 2028 and forms an Annexe to the Trust's updated Environmental Policy that was approved by the Board on 29 April 2025.

Objective	Target(s) SMART	Action(s)	Reduction in scope 1, 2 and/or 3 emissions?	Responsibility (Named dept./person)	Timeline	Budget	Performance Indicator	Reporting mechanism/meeting
Reduce energy use in line with a commitment to Net Zero by 2030	Reduce energy use in line with a commitment to Net Zero by 2030	Conduct a full review of energy use	2	Secretary	May 2025 (to establish baseline for 2024-25)		N/A	Initial Review followed by Annual Reviews.
		Install smart meters and energy management systems where appropriate	3	Project Manager	May 2025- March 2028	tbc	Reduction in energy usage.	Annual Review.



CORNWALL BUILDINGS PRESERVATION TRUST

Objective	Target(s) SMART	Action(s)	Reduction in scope 1, 2 and/or 3 emissions?	Responsibility (Named dept./person)	Timeline	Budget	Performance Indicator	Reporting mechanism/meeting
Reduce the use of paper documents.	Reduction in the number of printed documents for the purpose of trust business.	Utilise electronic communications; trustees to use an opt-in scheme for printing paper documents.	3	All Trustees	Dec 2024	N/A	Reduction of number of printed documents.	Completed.
		Move to an all - electronic record system.	3	All Trustees	Dec 2024	N/A	Reduction of number of printed documents.	One Drive set up for filing.
		Move to 100% on- line banking.	3	Treasurer	Dec 2024	N/A	Opt out of all paper banking. Reduced number of visits in person to a branch.	Completed.



Objective	Target(s) SMART	Action(s)	Reduction in scope 1, 2 and/or 3 emissions?	Responsibility (Named dept./person)	Timeline	Budget	Performance Indicator	Reporting mechanism/meeting
Promote and support modern working practices, such as virtual meetings, amongst trustees and with interested parties.	Reduction in the percentage of face-to-face meetings per annum.	Utilise virtual meetings where possible.	3	All Trustees	Dec 2024	N/A	Percentage reduction on the number of face-to-face meetings per annum.	Completed. (Meeting minutes record whether in person, hybrid or 100% online attendance)
Reduce CO2 emissions.	Calculate yearly CO2 emissions for Trust business journeys.	Change of travel mode by Trustees whilst on Trust business from petrol/diesel vehicles to electric vehicles or public transport.	3	All Trustees	April 2024 - April 2028	N/A	Reduction of CO2 emissions for Trust business journeys.	Calculations spreadsheet/record of journeys taken. Annual Review.



CORNWALL BUILDINGS PRESERVATION TRUST

Objective	Target(s) SMART	Action(s)	Reduction in scope 1, 2 and/or 3 emissions?	Responsibility (Named dept./person)	Timeline	Budget	Performance Indicator	Reporting mechanism/meeting
		Encourage car sharing among Trustees where possible, when travel by car is necessary on behalf of Trust business.	3	All Trustees	August 2024 – April 2028	N/A	Reduction of CO2 emissions for Trust business journeys.	Calculations spreadsheet/record of journeys taken. Annual Review.
Shift reliance from fossil fuels to renewables.	To claim 'zero emissions' in heating Old Duchy Palace.	Phased replacement of non-renewable heating sources (oil, gas fired systems) with renewables.	2	Project Manager	April 2024 - March 2025	£24,500	Electric heating system in place.	High costs of electricity and poor efficiency rendered an electric boiler uneconomical in the current climate. Hydrogen ready more efficient gas boiler installed instead with improved radiators and control systems



CORNWALL BUILDINGS PRESERVATION TRUST

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Shift reliance from fossil fuels to renewables	To claim 'zero emissions' in heating Old Duchy Palace.	Move to a 'green' energy supplier (electricity)	2	Project Manager	May 2025 (end of current energy contract)	N/A	100% renewable energy supplier.	Current British Gas tariff is Zero Carbon Electricity for Business. Report any changes to Board.
Water Management	Reduce water use in line with a commitment to Net Zero by 2030	Conduct a review of water use	2	Secretary	May 2025 (to establish baseline for 2024-25)	N/A	Reduction in water use.	Annual Review
		Install water- saving fixtures and systems where appropriate	3	Project Manager	August 2024 – April 2028	TBC per project	Efficient use of water.	Annual Review

Objective	Target(s) SMART	Action(s)	Reduction in scope 1, 2 and/or 3 emissions?	Responsibility (Named dept./person)	Timeline	Budget	Performance Indicator	Reporting mechanism/meeting
Responsible and Sustainable Procurement	Percentage reduction in materials and services sourced out of the South West.	Source materials and services locally so long as the requirements for value for money and quality are met.	3	Project Manager	April 2024 - April 2028	N/A	Increased use of locally available resources.	Annual Review.
	To ensure compliance with Net Zero targets	Include environmental performance criteria in supplier selection and contracts	3	Project Manager	April 2024 - April 2028	N/A	Increase in meeting Net Zero development targets.	Annual Review

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol – definition of Emissions

Scope 1: An organisation's GHG emissions which are produced directly by their activities, usually through the burning of fossil fuels whilst running gas boilers, or diesel vehicles.

Scope 2: GHG emissions produced indirectly by an organisation, for example the electricity used to heat a building which has been produced by burning fossil fuels elsewhere.

Scope 3 : All other indirect emissions that are produced by an organisation's activities, such as the disposal of waste, employee commuting and the supply chain.

29 April 2025