

# Monmouthshire Museums Service

## Environmental Sustainability Policy

This policy will guide the activities of Abergavenny Museum, Chepstow Museum, The Nelson Museum and Local History Centre at Monmouth and Caldicot Castle. It takes into consideration the Museum Services' Vision which is:

*To be dynamic Museums that play a revitalising role in Monmouthshire's communities, act as agents of social change and promote good and active citizenship, connecting the past with the present to inform and shape the future.*

As a service we will also refer to Monmouthshire County Council's (MCC) Sustainable Development Policy, which is specifically aligned to the wellbeing goals and the sustainable development principles of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

Our museums will achieve this vision by reducing their impact on the environment through:

### **Compliance with regulations, targets and best practice**

- We will comply with all relevant environmental legislation
- Hazardous waste will be disposed of in accordance with regulations.
- Where possible environmentally sustainable alternatives will replace use of hazardous products.

### **Waste management**

- Waste produced on site will be reused or recycled when possible.
- Maximum utilization of electronic documents and records will be practised.

### **Sustainable procurement**

- Concepts of sustainable procurement will be considered by staff when purchasing products. Where possible this will include the use of recycled products and consideration of a product's Life Cycle before purchase.

### **Energy management and use of other natural resources**

- We will review our Automatic Meter Readings to understand the Museums current energy use and identify areas where energy use can be reduced.
- Lights, unnecessary computers, printers and laboratory equipment will be turned off overnight and when not in use during the day.
- We will work with MCC's Property Services Department to improve the energy efficiency of the Museum buildings, exploring options for renewable energy generation and heating systems across our sites.
- We will commit to using low energy light sources at all sites.
- Water use across the sites will be reviewed.
- The Museum's Environment will be managed whilst being mindful of its environmental impact.
- The castles and the country park's environment will be managed to conserve and enhance its biodiversity interest and be mindful of all environmental impacts.

### **Pollution management**

- An emergency plan is in place to deal with accidental pollution following COSHH regulations

### **Staff and Public involvement and communication**

- Staff will be encouraged to work and make decisions in an environmentally responsible manner
- We will encourage the use of sustainable transport where practicable.
- We will communicate issues surrounding environmental sustainability and climate change with visitors through exhibitions and other work.
- Environmental efforts and successes will be displayed prominently.

### **Review of the success of sustainability efforts**

- This policy and all efforts to improve environmental sustainability will be reviewed annually.

**Signed:**  
**Position:**

**Date:**  
**Date of Next Review: Sept 2017**