

Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough: Environmental Policy

Statement

Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is committed to developing and promoting policies and practices which help to sustain the environment. We recognise and accept our responsibility to minimise our impact on the environment and to comply with all statutory environmental requirements.

Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough wishes to promote environmental awareness amongst our Board members, staff and volunteers, and ensure that the physical environment is welcoming for everyone. Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough aims to minimise:

- the consumption of resources
- the production of waste
- harmful emissions to air, land and water.

To achieve these objectives Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough endeavours to take the following steps, while taking into due regard their appropriateness and cost effectiveness.

1. Transport

Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough wishes to limit the harmful effects of our traffic on the environment. When travelling to and from Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's various sites and when attending meetings, all Board members, staff and volunteers are encouraged to walk, use bicycles, public transport or communal transport and are discouraged from the single occupancy use of private vehicles. Where possible and appropriate the business of the organisation will be conducted through remote working and virtual meetings.

2. Purchasing

Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough wishes to conserve resources. Through our purchasing we will seek goods and services which do least harm to the environment in their production, delivery and packaging use, re-use, recycling and disposal. We will seek to purchase from local or regional suppliers which will maximise our input to the local community and minimise transport.

3. Waste management

Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough wishes to conserve resources by minimising our generation of waste. We will do this by reducing the acquisition of new materials, re-using materials, recycling existing materials and, if the former is impractical, disposal by a means which will have least impact on the environment and conforms to statutory requirements. A designated bin for recyclable materials is available in the office and staff and volunteers are encouraged to reduce, reuse and recycle wherever possible.

Approved by Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Board of Directors
Date: July 2020

For review: July 2023

Responsible Officer
Chief Executive Officer of Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough