

Healthwatch Croydon Environment Policy

Purpose of this document

Healthwatch Croydon aims to protect the environment by ensuring the sustainable use and disposal of scarce resources.

This policy translates the core environmental aims and beliefs of the organisation into objectives and guidelines for action, which will inform and have an impact on all areas of our work.

We will review this policy on a regular basis.

Date: January 2015

Date for review: January 2016

Healthwatch Croydon will:

- Adopt and aim to apply the principles of sustainable development - that is, development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Strive to adopt the highest available environmental standards in all areas of its operations.

To achieve this we will: Investigate new environmental techniques and practices to ensure Healthwatch Croydon is keeping abreast of what can be done and implementing them where appropriate.

- Aim to minimise the use of all materials, supplies and energies.

To achieve this we will:

- Aim to use suppliers who recycle their products such as toner cartridges
 - Have a policy to always use both sides of a piece of paper
 - Unwanted printed paper will be turned into booklets for making notes.
 - Aim to incorporate energy saving technologies when purchasing and replacing office equipment.
- Minimise waste production in all areas of the organisation and aim for waste-free processes.
 - Purchase, where feasible, sustainable products for use in the organisations' operations, ie recycled, FSC or low environmental impact products and energy from renewable sources.
 - Publicise our environmental position.

To achieve this we will: Publicise stories about Healthwatch Croydon's green practices through:

- newsletter
 - Website
 - Publicity material
- Expect employees and volunteers to follow this policy.
- To achieve this we will:**
Include a discussion of this policy in our inductions and include this policy in our Volunteer Handbook and on our website.
- Assess the environmental impact of all its operations on a continual basis.