



# **Arnside & Silverdale**

## **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**

Green Action Plan 2012 - 2015

The AONB Partnership is committed to working in a sustainable way and to making a positive contribution to the local economy and communities in carrying out our work. We will continuously strive to improve our performance in this area.

Our policy is to:

**A:** Comply with all relevant environmental legislation and regulations, and with other environmental requirements and standards to which we subscribe.

**B:** Set ourselves targets and actions within our own working environment and within our work areas in the wider AONB community, which we can influence and have significant environmental impacts.

**C:** Work with the AONB partners and others to encourage them to adopt similar policies, and act as strong advocates of “Green Action” within the AONB

**D:** Review the policy every 3 years, and report back on progress annually.

Our main objectives are to:

### **Using resources wisely**

We will:

- Reduce, reuse or recycle wherever possible
- Use water efficiently
- Strive to reduce our use of paper both in the office and when producing publications
- Use resources wisely and encourage others to do the same

### **Saving energy**

We will:

- Monitor and strive to reduce our energy consumption by adopting energy efficient business practices
- Encourage others to use energy efficiently
- Encourage the installation of renewable and low carbon micro generation in the AONB

### **Travelling sustainably**

We will:

- Work to reduce the carbon emissions generated by our business travel
- Use sustainable transport options whenever possible
- Encourage others to use sustainable forms of transport by promoting and linking our events to public transport whenever possible
- Promote walking and cycling

### **Purchasing ethically and locally**

We will:

- Promote and purchase local products
- Work with appropriate local contractors, suppliers and materials if possible
- Purchase only phosphate free eco-friendly cleaning materials
- Purchase recycled, ethical and/or fair-trade products whenever possible

### **Bringing benefits to local communities**

We will:

- Liaise with, consult, support and work with local communities
- Promote and support appropriate local services, businesses and products
- Work with partners to help development of sustainable tourism businesses focused on the wildlife and nature assets of the area
- Provide opportunities for local people to get involved with our work

## GREEN ACTION PLAN (Amended June 2013)

Policy objective	Action	Target	Lead
<b>1. Use resources wisely</b>			
1.1 Reduce, Reuse, Recycle wherever possible.	1.1a Only print documents where necessary and print double sided and multi page where possible. 1.1b Use laptops/projector in place of paper flip charts/post-it-notes where possible in meetings. 1.1c Reduce the printing of publications and publish on the web whenever possible. 1.1d Where printed documents (in house) are needed - all paper stock to be 100% recycled paper. 1.1e Reuse paper for notes and phone messages. 1.1f Recycle used paper and separate and recycle other materials such as plastic, glass, tins and compost. 1.1g Send off all empty ink cartridges for recycling. 1.1h Separate and recycle all litter collected during the volunteer litter picks. 1.1i All tools and equipment recycled at end of useful life	Reduce purchase of printer paper by 25% by 2013.  Regular reminders in briefings re. reducing paper use and the three Rs.  Reduce office waste to max 1 bin bag per week. Clearly labelled recycling bins set up in reception room for paper card and plastics. Compost bin set up.	ALL  ALL  ALL ALL CFO CO CO
1.2 Reduce our water use.	1.2a Use water bottle to reduce WC flushing capacity and turn off /repair any dripping taps. 1.2b Install rainwater harvesting to be used for cleaning tools. 1.2c At events and meetings reduce use of bottled water (offer jugs) and encourage partners to follow our policy. 1.2d Maintain availability of filtered tap water for all drinking water supplies	Cistern bottle installed  Install water butt by Oct 2013.	CO  CO ALL  CO

<b>2. Save energy</b>			
<p>2.1 Monitor and reduce our own energy consumption.</p>	<p>2.1a Switch to a 100% green tariff electricity supply</p> <p>2.1b Turn off lights, screens, printers and other electronic devices when not in use.</p> <p>2.1c Only fill the kettle with the water required.</p> <p>2.1d Use the wood burning stove and wood pellet boiler instead of the electric heating.</p> <p>2.1e Additional temperature controls fitted to wood pellet boiler</p> <p>2.1f Install LED/low energy lighting when bulbs are replaced.</p> <p>2.1g Purchase a new lower energy fridge and microwave.</p>	<p>Digital meter installed 2012, Energy supply switched to green tariff January 2013. Reduce energy use by 10% by 2013.</p> <p>Room thermostat fitted by November 2013</p> <p>Aim to have switched all lighting to low energy by 2014.</p> <p>New appliances now in service.</p>	<p>AO/CFO</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>AO</p> <p>AO</p> <p>CFO</p>
<p>2.2 Encourage others to use energy efficiently.</p>	<p>2.2a Encourage businesses (through GTBS), community groups and individuals to reduce energy use.</p> <p>2.2b promote our own practise and good building design as examples of good practice.</p> <p>2.2c Continue support for Bittern Countryside CIC Renewable Energy / woodfuel leaflets and ensure updates carried out</p>	<p>Maintain the information on reducing energy use on the website, continue hosting awareness raising events.</p> <p>Range of information is available in web and printed formats</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>AO</p>
<p>2.3 Encourage the installation of renewable and low carbon energy sources.</p>	<p>2.3a Explore the feasibility of installing solar panels.</p> <p>2.3b Support the installation of micro renewable energy through SDF, Feed in Tariffs and other projects.</p> <p>2.3c Information on Living Sustainably is available on the AONB website: <a href="http://www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk">www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk</a></p> <p>2.3d Obtain an Energy Performance Certificate for the office prior to installing solar panels</p> <p>2.3e Explore establishment of a local woodfuel supply scheme and options of woodfuel from a community-based woodland management initiative</p>	<p>Panels installed by 2014</p> <p>At least 2 projects supported each year.</p> <p>Regularly update and add new content</p> <p>Certificate issued (graded C)</p> <p>Workshops and events attended, promoted and organised during 2013</p>	<p>AO</p> <p>CFO</p> <p>AO/CFO</p> <p>AO</p> <p>AM/AO</p>

<b>3. Travel sustainably</b>			
3.1 Reduce the carbon emissions generated by our business travel.	3.1a Reduce the team's car use by using alternative forms of transport. In order of priority; walking or cycling, using public transport and car sharing. 3.1b Work from home where possible. 3.1c Investigate webinars and teleconferencing. 3.1d Investigate the costs/options of changing vehicles to biodiesel.	Reduce business mileage by 20% by 2014.  Reduce travel carbon emission by 25% by 2015	ALL  ALL AM AO/AM
3.2 Encourage partners and visitors to use sustainable forms of transport.	3.2a Arrange AONB events and walks with access to, and to coincide with, timed public transport wherever possible. 3.2b Encourage partners and visitors to use public transport via promotion and information links on our website and in all publications. 3.2c Promote local walks and cycling opportunities via promotion and information links on our website and in publications.	90% of AONB events to be serviced by public transport by 2012.  Reduce tourist traffic.	CFO  CFO  CFO
<b>4. Purchase ethically and locally</b>			
4.1 Promote and purchase recycled, ethical and/or fair-trade products.	4.1a Provide fair-trade tea and coffee at the office and at events. 4.1b Purchase, and promote the use of recycled or FSC paper in all printing contracts. 4.1c Purchase recycled paper products and other recycled goods where possible e.g. stationary, bin bags.	Fairtrade products to be used at all times All publications to state use of recycled or FSC paper.  Regular review of purchasing options carried out	ALL CFO  CFO
4.2 Promote and purchase local products, and work with appropriate local contractors.	4.2a Stipulate local produce at AONB events, and promote suppliers to guests. 4.2b Encourage our suppliers to buy local and fair-trade, by asking for their environmental credentials. 4.2c Commission local products, suppliers and contractors wherever possible.	Purchased goods and trade to be local and/or fair-trade wherever possible.	ALL  ALL  ALL

4.3 Purchase phosphate free eco-friendly cleaning materials.	4.3a Purchase eco friendly phosphate free cleaning products and encourage businesses and partners to do so.	No abrasive or polluting products to be purchased/used.	CFO
<b>5. Bring benefits to local communities</b>			
5.1 Liase with, consult, support and work with local communities.	5.1a Develop website based consultation tools/methods.  5.1b Facebook and Twitter feeds maintained and regularly updated 5.1c Continue to develop e-newsletter circulation and frequency	Web consultation method developed as a tool for the Management Plan consultation June 2013. Regular twice-weekly postings by Oct 2013 Newsletter produced every two months with occasional special editions as required	AO/AM  CFO/AO  CFO/AM/AO
5.2 Promote and support appropriate local services, businesses and products.	5.2a Advertise local businesses, services and products (website, notice-boards & publications at AONB information centre). 5.2b Promote and support development through the Sustainable Development Fund. 5.2c Promote and support sustainable tourism businesses across the AONB and more widely around Morecambe Bay as part of the Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership	Produce new businesses/ attractions leaflet by 2013. Regular web updates completed At least 2 projects supported by SDF each year.  Participate in network meetings and identify business to participate	CFO  CFO/AO  CFO  AM
5.3 Provide opportunities for local people to get involved with our work.	5.3a Run and support volunteering programme, with wide participation encouraged via the website and in publications. 5.3b Hold events and activities involving residents of the area.	Continue running events and activities throughout the year.	CO  ALL