



Cadwyn Clwyd Environmental Policy Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013

Section 1 – Environmental Sustainability at Project Level

1.1 Environmental sustainability is part of meeting wider sustainable development targets. The Welsh Assembly Government has a duty, enshrined in the Government of Wales Act, to promote sustainable development without sacrificing the environment. All funded via Cadwyn Clwyd will comply with Environmental legislation.

1.2 The UK-wide approach to sustainable development recognises four key priority areas:

- Climate change and energy
- Sustainable consumption and production
- Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement
- From local to global: building sustainable communities

The WAG has signed up to these key priorities, thus projects funded via the WAG should aim to address the above priorities.

1.3 In terms of projects, WAG have identified different levels of potential achievement in respect of meeting environmental sustainability targets and are summaries according to three levels:

- At the lowest level, Level 1, the project creates awareness of the environmental consequences of what is proposed.
- At the second level, Level 2, the project encourages or promotes action to address environmental sustainability
- At the highest level, Level 3, the project achieves a measurable change that enhances the environment or improves sustainability.

1.4 All Cadwyn Clwyd RDP projects will meet the minimum standards of Level 1., and will aim for more progressive projects to meet Level 2 (desirable), and Level 3 standards (ideal).

1.5 Cadwyn Clwyd will ensure adopt WAG's guidance as to the type of activity within a project that would enable it to meet the 3 different levels of achievement for each key environmental priority:

Key Priority for environmental sustainability	Level 1 Create Awareness	Level 2 Encourage Action	Level 3 Achieve actual enhancement / behavioural change
1 Climate Change and energy	Create awareness of energy use and climate change	Actively encourage adaptation nor behaviour change	Achieve reduced emissions, or adaptation to climate change
2. Sustainable consumption and production	Create awareness of consumption issues	Actively encourage new products and lower consumption	Achieve reduced consumption or new eco-friendly products
3. Natural resource protection/environmental enhancement	Create awareness of the natural environment	Actively encourage sustainable management	Achieve environmental enhancement
4. Building sustainable communities	Create awareness of local community issues	Actively encourage sustainable local businesses and communities	Empower local people and achieve
For each project:	Minimum standard	Desirable standard	Ideal standard

1.6 Projects will be reported quarterly to the PTAG and BOD and will be monitored against the above criteria in terms of environmental sustainability.

Section 2 Environmental Policy at Organisational Level

2.1 Cadwyn Clwyd continually aims to improve its environmental performance by:

- **conserving** energy, water, wood, paper and other resources - particularly those which are scarce or non renewable - while still providing a safe and comfortable working environment;
- reducing **waste** through “reduce, re-use and recycling” and by using refurbished and recycled products and materials where such alternatives are available;
- encouraging practices to minimise vehicle emissions;

- encouraging **manufacturers, suppliers and contractors** through tighter specifications to develop environmentally preferable goods and services at competitive prices;
- ensuring that any **products derived from wildlife** such as timber, plants and leather goods are from sustainable sources, and comply with EU and international trading rules such as CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species);
- working with **contractors** to improve environmental performance where this is relevant to the contract and to the achievement of value for money;
- ensuring, where practicable, that **buildings** occupied by Cadwyn Clwyd are designed, constructed and operated to improve their environmental performance;
- **educating, training and motivating staff and contractors** to work in an environmentally responsible manner and to play a full part in developing new ideas and initiatives; and
- **communicating** openly with staff about environmental policies and best practice (including best available scientific advice) and **co-operating** with others in the public and private sectors at home and abroad to develop and promote environmentally sound practices.

2.2 Cadwyn Clwyd will preserve natural resources and reduce pollution by striving to achieve the following objectives.

Conserving resources

(a) Energy

to improve energy efficiency within Cadwyn Clwyd's activities by promoting best practice.

- buying energy efficient equipment which achieves value for money;
- introducing new techniques and technologies for using energy more efficiently without loss to productivity or comfort; and

(b) Waste

to reduce the solid waste produced from Cadwyn Clwyd's operations by using resources more efficiently and improving recycling schemes and to ensure that:

- all waste is dealt with in accordance with legal requirements and best practice,
- all staff are encouraged to practice the 3 "Rs", i.e. reduce, re-use and recycle.

(c) Water

- to monitor water consumption within Cadwyn Clwyd;
- to use the information to develop benchmarks against which targets can be set to reduce water consumption by following best practice, where feasible, installing flow restricting devices, waterless urinals and more efficient technologies where it is economic and practicable to do so; and where appropriate, specifying water-efficient appliances and equipment.

(d) Wood:

- to purchase sustainably produced timber and timber products (such as joinery, fittings, furniture and veneers) by, for example, specifying in orders and contracts that suppliers provide documentary evidence (which has been, or if necessary can be, independently verified) that the timber has been lawfully obtained from forests and plantations which are managed to sustain their biodiversity, productivity and vitality, and to prevent harm to other ecosystems and any indigenous or forest-dependent people.

(e) Paper

- to reduce the use of paper, e.g. by double sided printing and copying and maximising the use of alternative technologies and electronic media;

Reducing pollution

(f) Climate Change:

to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide by:

- reducing energy consumption in Cadwyn Clwyd buildings (*see 5(a) above*);
- encouraging practices to minimise vehicle emissions;
- reducing emissions of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds and oxides of nitrogen by cutting vehicle emissions (*see 5(g) below*).

(g) Vehicle emissions

- reviewing staff travel and encouraging staff to consider forms of travel and communication which are less polluting than cars such as walking, cycling, public transport, tele-working and video-conferencing.

(h) Hazardous Substances

- to continue to discourage smoking through education and by prohibiting it except in designated smoking areas.

(i) Bio-degradable Substances

to use fully bio-degradable substances such as wood, cardboard and paper where they provide the best environmental option and value for money.

(j) Litter

to comply with the Environmental Protection Act 1990 by keeping Cadwyn Clwyd's grounds clear of litter and refuse - taking account of the statutory Code of Practice on litter.

(k) Noise

to comply with statutes, regulations, by-laws and codes of practice to keep noise levels as low as practicable.

2.3 Procurement of Goods & Services

Procurement has a very significant environmental impact. Cadwyn Clwyd is therefore committed through its buying decisions to:

require that all purchases are made in accordance with this policy statement, relevant current and foreseen legislation, its guides for suppliers and buyers and other official guidance.