

St Madoc CYC Environmental Policy

Introduction

St Madoc CYC recognises the importance of promoting, protecting and enhancing the environment as an essential prerequisite, together with social and economic measures, of engaging in and bringing about sustainable development.

To this end St Madoc CYC is committed in all its activities to ensuring that it acts to **increase, conserve or promote awareness of:**

- **bio-diversity**
- **natural resources**
- **the philosophy and ethics of reduce , reuse and recycle**
- **the environment and sustainable development**
- **the aesthetic qualities of the environment, both natural and built**

St Madoc CYC regards action to conserve or create a sustainable environment as an essential component of community development activity. Individuals and communities cannot exercise full and meaningful control over their own lives if they do not also have a measure of responsibility and the capacity to influence their own environment. St Madoc CYC is committed to making its own work an example of best practice for other groups in the area. In its work with other community organisations and voluntary groups it will encourage them to take the broadest possible view of their objectives and activities and to develop integrated policies and strategies which take the social, economic and environmental context of their work into consideration.

Responsibilities: This commitment affects everyone who works with and for St Madoc CYC including Board members, staff and volunteers. The responsibility for implementing this policy lies with an individual yet to be appointed.

Specific working practices and Commitments

Purchases and Supply

The following measures will be implemented to the degree that they do not become cost inhibitive:

- Wherever possible purchases will be from locally manufactured or available products and services.
- Ensure that all purchases of paper are of those that contain a significant proportion of re-cycled material (we will aim for 100%) preferably from post-consumer waste.
- All paper purchased will be of the lowest grade compatible with the intended use.
- St Madoc CYC will not purchase tropical hardwood from unsustainable sources and will instead seek to use locally (Wales) sourced hardwood or that from other sustainable temperate sources.
- All cleaning products purchased by St Madoc CYC will be as environmentally friendly as possible. Preference will be given to pump action (re-usable) aerosols and non-spray products(e.g. furniture wax) will be used
- No use will be made of peat or peat based products.

Natural Environment

- Where appropriate St Madoc CYC will ensure that ecological surveys are undertaken and the results incorporated into the planning and development of a project.
- The St Madoc CYC will make maximum use of native trees and shrub species in its practical projects
- COSHH regulations and Countryside Council for Wales recommendations for the use of herbicides and other chemicals will be upheld.
- The St Madoc CYC will give consideration to becoming a member of an appropriate local, specialist organisation working to conserve and enhance the local environment.

Transport

- The Organisation will encourage the use of bicycles for short trips and public transport for longer journeys.

- Work towards reducing fuel consumption by vehicle sharing, combining journeys, good planning and regular maintenance of vehicles.
- St Madoc CYC does not currently own vehicles but will ensure that future purchases take environmental performance into account.

Recycling

- St Madoc CYC will adopt a basic strategy of **reduce** , **reuse** and **recycle**
- St Madoc CYC will set up systems and operations to ensure that as much of its waste as possible is recycled and recognises that sorting of its waste is a critical factor in achieving this.

Energy

The St Madoc CYC will seek to minimise power consumption by

- Ensuring the correct installation and operation of all electrical and fuel consuming devices.
- All new electrical items to be purchased on the basis of their energy efficiency where possible.
- Lighting and other equipment to be switched off when not in use.
- Consideration will be given to purchasing all electricity under a “green generation” option.
- When considering the renovation of a property or a new build A N Organisation will ensure that the equipment and construction specifications ensure low energy consumption.
- **Relationships with Others**
- St Madoc CYC will not undertake to work for any group, client or organisation if there is reason to believe that they are pursuing or likely to pursue activities that will cause unnecessary and avoidable damage to the environment and where St Madoc CYC is unlikely to be able to exert a positive influence on the situation.
- The Co-ordinator shall be entitled to withdraw the St Madoc CYC from any organisation which cannot be persuaded to refrain from activities which cause unnecessary or avoidable environmental damage, provided that there are no legal or contractual implications in doing so. If there would be legal or contractual implications in withdrawing from a project on these grounds, the Co-ordinator will immediately

inform the Chairman of the Board who will decide what action to take in the best interests of the environmental policy and of St Madoc CYC reputation.

- **Contracts with others:** Any individual or organisations contracted to work for the St Madoc CYC will be expected to comply with this policy.

Monitoring

St Madoc CYC will monitor the application of this policy on an annual basis to ensure that its practices comply with the requirements of the Policy. The Co-ordinator will report on any major issues arising in relation to the policy in his regular reports to the Board.

In due course St Madoc CYC will consider setting specific targets by which performance against this policy can be more closely monitored and evaluated.

Promotion

All Board members, staff and volunteers will receive a copy of this policy and will be made aware of its content and requirements through induction.