

**Policy Title: Environmental Policy**

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# Introduction

* 1. Leonard Cheshire recognises the global challenges presented by climate change and acknowledges that it has a part to play in reducing its impact upon the environment.
  2. The charity was set-up by our founder to contribute to a better world, and one of the ways we intend to act upon his vision is by making a positive contribution to our environment.
  3. As a pioneering organisation, we want to take the lead in making a positive environmental impact across the communities and stakeholders we work with in the UK and internationally.
  4. We are particularly mindful that people with disabilities are more likely to be affected by global climate change and are more vulnerable to its negative effects.[[1]](#footnote-2)
  5. As responsible people who do the right thing, we want to make sure that we focus our limited resources on our strategy. Wasting energy, water, and fuel, and arranging for the safe disposal of unnecessary amounts of waste, will tie up finance and resources that otherwise could be spent on the people we aim to serve.

# Outline & Scope

* 1. This policy is intended to provide a framework for the setting and reviewing of environmental objectives and targets which form part of Leonard Cheshire’s approach to environmental management across the UK and internationally.
  2. Leonard Cheshire is committed to continual improvement: always identifying ways to reduce waste and pollution and focusing our limited resources on our strategy. The scale of our activities means that our environmental impact is significant, and we want to ensure this is well managed and monitored.
  3. The policy and our approach to reducing our environmental impact will be communicated to all our employees and customers, and to delivery partners, contractors and funding organisations, where relevant.

# Policy Intention

* 1. Leonard Cheshire operates around the world, and is committed to saving energy, reducing waste, protecting biodiversity, minimising pollution, and cutting the amount of carbon and other emissions generated by our operations, our staff, our customers, our contractors, our suppliers and our delivery partners.
  2. Internationally, we currently operate from leased buildings or shared offices with delivery partners.  We will ask them to demonstrate their environmental commitments, whilst taking into consideration the types of countries we operate within and the lack of supply of water, fuels and energy in some locations.
  3. Many of our people have good ideas about how to reduce our environmental impacts and some are already implementing them. We will give our people permission to pioneer local reduction projects and behaviours, we will measure their effectiveness and then we will communicate successes around the wider organisation to replicate the results.
  4. This policy is linked to the following policies already in existence:
     + Procurement policy

# Our Environmental Impacts (UK)

* 1. Leonard Cheshire has identified the following aspects of its environmental impact resulting from its activities in the UK in the table below:

Table showing our environmental impacts in 2018

| **Aspect** | **2018 Usage** | **Impact** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Use of Electricity | 18,062,820 kWh | Air pollution  Depletion of natural resources  Contribution to climate change |
| Use of Gas | 28,520,418 kWh | Air pollution  Depletion of natural resources  Contribution to climate change |
| Use of Bulk Fuel Oil | 562,322 litres | Air pollution  Depletion of natural resources  Contribution to climate change |
| Use of Water | 133,715 cubic metres of water | Depletion of natural resources |
| Use of Vehicle Carbon Emissions | 12,206 kg carbon[[2]](#footnote-3) | Air pollution  Depletion of natural resources  Contribution to climate change |
| Generation of Waste | 1,014.28 tonnes of waste | Contaminated land  Air pollution  Depletion of natural resources |
| Travel | 24,071 kg carbon[[3]](#footnote-4) | Air pollution  Depletion of natural resources  Contribution to climate change |

# Policy Objectives

* 1. Leonard Cheshire has agreed the following qualitative objectives:
* Objective 1 — Reduce the amount of carbon dioxide we emit.
* Objective 2 — Reduce the primary energy use (kWh/m2/year) from our services.
* Objective 3 — Identify and roll-out alternative sustainable energy solutions.
* Objective 3 — Reduce the amount of waste we produce.
* Objective 4 — Minimise the use of water across our organisation.
* Objective 5 — Minimise travelling to meetings where feasible and increase the use of technology to communicate and interact.
  1. We will set quantitative targets — to be delivered within three years (i.e. 2023) — during the first review of this policy in 2020.

# Our Approach

* 1. Leonard Cheshire will undertake the following to support the delivery of this policy:
     1. We will use the opportunities for environmental savings identified by our Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme audits to shape our delivery and future investment plans.
     2. We will invite our people — our staff, our customers and their families, our volunteers, and our contractors — to pioneer and practice behaviours and projects that reduce our environmental impacts.
     3. We will be transparent with metrics that measure our impacts so that our people can track the effectiveness of the changes they make.
     4. We will identify and acknowledge local successes and share that learning around the wider organisation.
     5. We will provide coaching from inside and outside the organisation to assist our people in reducing their environmental impacts.
     6. We will provide information and training to enable our people to understand the impacts we make on the environment and how we can reduce them.
     7. We will set up and maintain an Environmental Working Group (EWG) who will collectively shape the delivery of the policy objectives, set targets, measures of success and champion environmental initiatives.
     8. We will build relationships with our partners to learn from them.
     9. We will work with our supply chains to ensure that our suppliers and delivery partners are committed to this policy.
     10. We will work closely with our operations and work-winning colleagues to ensure we meet our service commissioners’ environmental requirements.
     11. We will review the policy every year to ensure that it is fit for purpose.

# Monitoring, Review and Performance Information

* 1. The monitoring and effectiveness of this policy will be managed by the Head of Health, Safety and Environment, and the Head of Procurement.
  2. The Environmental Working Group (EWG) will suggest annual environmental targets, milestones and measures of success, for approval by our Executive Team.

1. http://adaptation.ei.columbia.edu/files/2018/02/Disability-and-Climate-Resilience-Lit-review-.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Based on 41,579 miles and average UK passenger car in the online calculator available at http://www.carbon-calculator.org.uk [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. A sum of flights (8153.65 kg), trains (10482.9 kg) taxis (15.15 kg) and hotel use (5418.9 kg) rounded up to the nearest kilogram. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)