



# Environmental Policy Statement

## Introduction to Cats Protection

Cats Protection (CP), incorporating Cats Protection Trustee Ltd and Cats Protection Enterprises Ltd, is the UK's leading feline welfare charity. We help around 200,000 cats and kittens every year thanks in no small part to our network of over 230 volunteer-run branches and 37 centres. We provide an array of cat care information via our publications, website and National Information Line; promote the benefits of neutering to prevent unwanted litters from being born and becoming the abandoned cats of tomorrow and seek to educate people of all ages about cats and their care. The charity also has a portfolio of circa 130 retail shops.

Cats Protection is committed to continuous improvement in reducing our environmental impact and incorporating sustainable ways of working throughout the organisation. We will operate in compliance with all relevant environmental legislation and we will strive to use pollution prevention and environmental best practices in all that we do. We aim to do this in the most cost effective manner ensuring that all funds are utilised for Cats Protection's primary objectives.

## Key aims

- Protect and enhance our ability to help cats and people, and protect volunteer and employee wellbeing
- Integrating the consideration of environmental concerns and impacts into our decision making and activities, alongside our charitable objects and other moral and legal concerns
- Continually seeking to measure and improve environmental performance
- Minimising our waste and reusing or recycling as much of it as is viable
- Minimising energy and water use within our buildings and processes in order to conserve supplies and minimise the consumption of natural resources
- As far as is possible, purchase products and services that do the least damage to the environment and encourage suppliers to provide goods and services with the minimum adverse environmental impact

## Travel

- Reduce our travel and increase the use of video and teleconferencing
- Review our fleet of vehicles and how they are used in order to reduce the emissions and air pollutants and to ensure vehicles are used as efficiently as possible
- Discouraging the use of cars for single occupant journeys and encouraging staff to car share, <sup>1</sup>use public transport, cycle and walk to work when it is practical
- Air travel will be used only where there is no alternative viable option

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<sup>1</sup> COVID-19 Update: car sharing and public transport use will not be encouraged until government guidance advises that it is safe to do so.

## **Our people**

- We encourage environmental responsibility among our employees and volunteers and as an organisation comply with relevant legislation as a minimum level of performance
- All employees and volunteers will be expected to take measures to minimise environment impact through simple measures
- We will raise employee and volunteer awareness of environmental issues and promote individual good practice through communications and the presence of Environmental Champions
- Managers will ensure that environmental issues are integrated into the planning and decision-making process
- We will communicate environmental performance both within the organisation and communicate our environmental commitment to supporters, customers and the public and encourage them to support it

These commitments will be demonstrated through the introduction of suitable policies, practices and programmes. It is our intention to report on our environmental performance and our Executive Management Team will monitor the charity's environmental impact and review this policy statement annually.

**Signed**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Yeates', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

**James Yeates**

**Chief Executive Cats Protection**

**Date: August 2020**