**Reviewed May 2024**

**Mawr Community Council**

**Environmental Policy**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

Mawr Community Council aims to carry out its activities with environmental efficiency, actively seeking to protect and enhance the local environment within its area of operation. Mawr Community Council endeavour to ensure wider adverse environmental impact does not occur as a result of its activities.

**AIMS**

In all its activities Mawr Community Council will aim to:

* Use energy, natural resources, and non-renewable resources efficiently and will strive to minimise waste, pollution and cost.
* Inform residents of the Community Council’s environmental policy and activities. The Community Council will respond/react to feedback.
* Encourage and support individual behaviour changes in residents, lead by example and support environmentally friendly activities.

***PRINCIPLES***

Mawr Community Council will strive to:

1. Meet all relevant environmental legislation and regulations.
2. Regularly update and improve standards in light of improved understanding and knowledge.
3. Make the most efficient use of energy. The Community Council will endeavour to use the minimum quantities of energy in accordance with the safe and efficient operation of heating, cooking and lighting. It will, from time to time, review its energy sources, energy using appliances and energy efficiency with a view to causing the least environmental impact. It will monitor consumption and eliminate excessive or unnecessary use.
4. Avoid waste and encourage the appropriate conservation, re-use and recycling of resources. The Council will re-use and recycle materials as far as possible and, if this is impractical, dispose of waste by means which conform to statutory requirements and have the least impact on the environment. The Council will encourage users to minimise waste by providing separate disposal facilities for recyclable materials in accordance with the policy of Swansea City and County Council.
5. Ensure that the potential environmental impact of any building projects will be assessed and minimised. This will include, where possible, methods of construction which makes best use of resources; designs which result in low maintenance and high energy efficiency together with the use of building materials, such as timber, from sustainable sources.
6. Encourage volunteers and hirers to use and operate the facilities correctly to conserve energy and minimise waste.
7. Mawr Community Council will seek, where possible, to purchase from local or regional suppliers, in order to maximise support for the local economy and the local community and minimise carbon emissions from transport.

**SPECIFIC ACTIONS**

**Climate**

Mawr Community Council will monitor its energy use and improve energy efficiency within its buildings (three Welfare Halls) by adopting energy-saving measures and equipment. The Community Council will increase awareness of energy efficiency and encourage energy-conservation amongst Welfare Hall users and contractors.

**Water**

Mawr Community Council will ensure that minimum quantities of water are used during all activities. The Community Council will ensure that water supplies meet statutory standards of purity. Waste water will be disposed of in the cleanest condition possible. The Community Council will reduce leakage and eliminate excessive or unnecessary usage - e.g. through avoiding unnecessary flushing of urinals when the hall is not in use. It will communicate to users the need to conserve water by displaying signage which reminds them to turn off taps after use.

**Wast***e*

Mawr Community Council will minimise its waste production wherever possible by reducing, repairing and reusing resources and recycling waste materials. Rubbish will be disposed of safely, following the correct procedures, and only licensed contractors will be used to remove and dispose of hazardous wastes.

The Community Council fully endorses the **REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE** campaign.

**Transport**

The Community Council will continue to encourage sustainable transport systems within Mawr such as cycling, walking, car sharing and using the community bus service.

**Asbestos**

Mawr Community Council will comply with the latest asbestos regulations.

**Biodiversity and Green Spaces**

Mawr Community Council will, wherever possible, consider the conservation and promotion of local biodiversity in all its activities and the management of its land.

Signed by:

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Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Date : 14th May 2024