

## Environmental Policy

Ash Tree Vets is a small animal veterinary practice made up of 3 branches providing veterinary care in the Leicestershire and Northamptonshire area and is part of the wider Vet Partners corporate group. We are dedicated to providing a high quality, caring and professional service to all of our clients and the animals in our care. We acknowledge that there are potential environmental aspects associated with the provision of veterinary care and our operations. We have identified these key aspects as follows:

- The consumption of electricity, gas and water
- Waste production and disposal
- The use and disposal of medications including inhalant anaesthetic agents, antibiotics and parasiticides
- Paper usage
- Staff travel such as commuting, CPD attendance and home visits
- Procurement of equipment, medications and supplies

Ash Tree Vets is dedicated to reducing such aspects and continually improving the sustainability in relation to our services and operations. Our environmental commitment can be demonstrated in our continual audit of processes and by the established objectives and goals across all of our sites in which we aim to:

- Comply with all applicable environmental legislation, regulations and public/customer expectations
- Monitor our key resource usage and set annual targets for reduction.
- Implement resource conservation techniques in order to meet annual targets.
- Maintain a waste management strategy increasing recycling and reducing the use of single use items where possible.
- Practice responsible prescribing and usage of medicines, engaging staff and keeping up to date with the latest guidelines.
- Perform yearly travel surveys of staff and encourage and support greener travel options where feasible
- Work with suppliers to ensure they acknowledge and decrease the environmental impact of their products and transportation
- Engage staff and clients in environmental issues and sustainable pet ownership
- Publish and distribute an annual organisational sustainability report

We will continue to improve our environmental management system through annual reviews and updates, taking into account any changes within legislation, our organisation, and other factors. We will convey this policy to all our employees and provide training where necessary to increase awareness of environmental matters.

Louise Hastings as a practice Sustainability Champion has a designated responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy. Contact: [Louise.Hastings@ashtreevets.co.uk](mailto:Louise.Hastings@ashtreevets.co.uk).

Ash Tree Vets will make this policy available when requested to interested parties including members of the public. This Policy is reviewed annually.