

Howells Veterinary Services Ltd Sustainability Policy

Howells Veterinary Services Ltd is an independently owned veterinary practice providing small animal, farm and equine services to valued clients throughout the UK. We recognise that our services have an impact on the environment and are committed to ensuring that this is as low as possible. Our policies are steered by our sustainability working group made up of employee volunteers with a passion for sustainability.

We have identified the following key environmental impacts associated with the provision of veterinary care:

- Consumption of electricity, water and gas
- Use of anaesthetic gases and veterinary medicines
- Waste production and disposal
- Transport

Howells Veterinary Services is committed to reducing our impact on the environment to reach net Zero by 2040. We comply with environmental legislation and regulations relevant to our organisation and its activities. This includes sustainability standards set by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

We are committed to working with our staff, customers, suppliers, contractors, regulatory bodies, colleagues and neighbours to achieve the following objectives:

- Focus on reducing our scope 1 and 2 emissions and liaise with organisations within our supply chain to reduce scope 3 emissions.
- Comply with environmental regulations.
- Update our clients on our sustainability achievements with guidance from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Practice Standards Scheme.
- Continue to monitor our key resource usage and implement policies to reduce our usage on an annual basis.
- Strive to improve our waste and recycling policy and aim for sustainable procurement.
- Reduce our use of anaesthetic gases while maintaining patient safety and welfare.
- Improving efficiency of transport.

This environmental policy will be displayed at all times and is openly available to all members of the public via our website – www.howellsvets.co.uk

The introduction and implementation of this policy is a commitment of the directors of Howells Veterinary Services Ltd and a shared responsibility with our employees. Luke Ramsden MRCVS has designated responsibility for this policy.

The policy will be reviewed annually as part of our organisations overall sustainability plan.