

Groundwork London

Environmental Policy

February 2023

Policy Review

This policy and procedure will be valid for the next 12 months unless reviewed before the end of this period.

1st Approved: November 2009

V2	November 2010
V3	November 2011
V4	November 2012
V5	December 2013
V6	March 2014
V7	March 2015
V8	March 2016
V9	March 2017
V10	March 2018
V11	March 2019
V12	March 2020
V13	March 2021
V14	February 2022

Groundwork London

Environmental Policy Statement

Groundwork London is part of the Federation of Groundwork Trusts, a leading environmental charity whose aim is to build sustainable communities through joint environmental action. Groundwork London is committed in protecting the environment, bringing about sustainable improvements to the local environment and contributing to the economic and social regeneration of London. Groundwork London's environmental management system is central to the development of Groundwork London's business plan.

Groundwork London meets or surpasses all applicable legislation and other requirements, such as those provided by our funders, to ensure the protection of its employees, Londoners and the environment. Groundwork London's Environmental Management System is accredited according to the ISO14001:2015 and it is subject to continual review and improvement.

Groundwork London strives to carry out all its operations in an environmentally sensitive manner, as well as to control and minimise its environmental impacts and prevent contribution to pollution. As such, Groundwork London aims to minimise the consumption of resources; releases to the atmosphere; water consumption and waste disposal. Groundwork London follows good environmental practice on purchasing, energy use, transport and waste management.

Groundwork London promotes the dissemination of good environmental practice and plays an active role in developing more sustainable communities through education, community involvement, physical improvements, employment programmes and business support. Environmental training is provided to all staff.

As part of this Policy, the following objectives and targets have been set, reflecting the most significant environmental aspects of Groundwork London's operations that have been identified including those aspects in which the organisation can influence, as well as those that it can control directly.

During the COVID years, the carbon impact of our direct operations reduced through restrictions on office occupancy, virtual delivery of services, and pauses and restarts to operational delivery. The dominance of home working with travel reductions having a positive effect on our impact of our office operations.

As direct operations have resumed we have improved the environmental impact we have had through energy saving, water saving and our reuse programmes, these will continue into 2023/24.

During 2023/24 Groundwork London will:

- Divert **420** tonnes of waste from landfill
- Divert **7,000** tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere
- Contribute to saving **1,000** mega litres of water

Quantifying our environmental impacts in relation to our office operations is challenging as our staff teams spend more time in the office as we move further towards hybrid working (shared time between the office and the home). We therefore need to:

- Monitor the environmental impact of hybrid working on our operations through our offices and sites and devise improvements on an ongoing basis, establishing a cross team working group to take this forward
- Embed improvements to our environmental management systems updated during 2022/23

In 2021 Groundwork London committed to the Federation's approved carbon reduction commitment. We quantified our baseline greenhouse gas emissions in 2021 and agreed with an ambition to achieve net zero emissions by 2030. To progress this commitment, we will:

- Capture and report emissions on a yearly basis
- Work through our cross team working group to explore the options reduce the carbon emissions associated with our premises and operations, investigate associated costs and anticipated carbon savings, and establish a timeline for implementation

This Policy encompasses the environmental policy objectives of Groundwork London, has the support of the Board and actively engages our staff and volunteers. It has been communicated to all interested stakeholders, partners and contractors. The Director of Groundwork London is responsible for implementing this Policy and ensuring that it is communicated to all employees.

This Policy is subject to regular review to ensure that it continues to reflect the aims of Groundwork London and promotes continuous environmental improvement throughout its operations.

Signed:



Lindy Kelly
Executive Director



Alan Smith
Chairman