

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

The Environment is currently Rossendale Borough Council's highest profile issue. Its promise in relation to the Environment is to make Rossendale a place which has attractive rural settings, a fantastic street scene and is easily accessible for all.

In delivering the above, the Council will manage environmental issues and set objectives in accordance with the framework of BS8555 using the Acorn Scheme to achieve recognition and validation of achievements.

We recognise that our operations have an effect on the local, regional and global environment. We also recognise that we have a leadership role and responsibility in relation to the activities of others in both the local area and beyond.

As a consequence of this, the Council is committed to encouraging and delivering continuous improvement in environmental performance and the prevention of pollution.

Specifically, we will deliver the above by:-

- Delivering and encouraging continual environmental improvement and prevent pollution to air, water and land caused by our activities and those of our contractors and customers,
- Reducing the impact of our activities on global environmental issues such as climate change, ozone destruction, loss of habitat and biodiversity, reduce and effectively manage Rossendale's waste, seeking to recycle or otherwise dispose of materials in an environmentally sensitive manner,
- Protecting and enhancing Rossendale's street scene to produce a cleaner, greener environment,
- Considering the environmental impact of development, the use of land and encouraging the use of sustainable means of transport,
- Developing and participating in strategic partnerships with local, regional and national organisations to improve the management of environmental issues
- Promoting environmental awareness to schools, businesses, communities and individuals and involving community organisations and individuals in its development and implementation,
- Supporting environmental initiatives that improve health and wellbeing,
- Complying with environmental legislation and ensuring that our contractors do likewise,

- Reviewing this Environmental Policy every three years and annually assess the effectiveness of the environmental management system using environmental targets and goals,
- Producing and disseminating information about our performance to residents, staff, contractors and the wider public through the production of an annual Environmental Statement,
- Committing appropriate levels of staff and financial resources to deliver the aims of this Environmental Policy,
- Addressing its impact on the environment through the adoption of a sustainable procurement policy,
- Implementing the policy through guidelines and training and the use of a range of media including newsletters, posters, internal mail, training sessions and team meetings.