

Environmental Policy

Bargoed Town Council recognises it has a significant impact on the local environment within Greater Bargoed and is committed to support the creation of a sustainable community.

Within its area of operation, the services, events, and activities it delivers, Bargoed Town Council aims for environmental efficiency, actively trying to protect and enhance the local environment and biodiversity while striving to ensure wider adverse environmental impact does not occur as a result.

Bargoed Town Council works in partnership with Caerphilly County Borough Council and supports their stated commitment to protect and enhance the environment for future generations by promoting sustainable practices and considering environmental, ecological, social, and economic factors in decision-making.

The Council considers the following two goals of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 appropriate within the context of this policy:

1. A prosperous Wales: An innovative productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change).
2. A resilient Wales: A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic, and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change.

In accordance with the section 6 Biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Town Council has produced an Action plan which is reviewed regularly.

Bargoed Town Council will consider the impact its activities have on both climate change and biodiversity issues and where practicable, within the resources of council, will attempt to introduce measures that either mitigate negative outcomes or actively support beneficial outcomes.

The overarching aims of the Environmental policy are:

- To preserve and enhance the Natural Environment within the Greater Bargoed area.
- To support residents' enjoyment of the local environment.
- To support the principles of sustainable development and the impact of activities on future generations.
- To promote the value of the local environment on well-being and quality of life.

Bargoed Town Council will strive to:

- Comply with current environmental legislation and meet its statutory environmental responsibilities.

- Minimise the consumption of all resources used in its operations and in the administration of its activities. [using renewable resources and electronic communications wherever possible].
- Avoid the creation of unnecessary waste by considered strategic purchasing.
- Recycle and reuse waste materials where possible, disposing of all necessary waste through safe and responsible methods.
- Conserve and enhance the built and natural environment within its area of operation, helping to enhance the well-being of local people and visitors.
- Promote local biodiversity in the activities carried out by Council.
- Where possible, support local initiatives aimed at climate change and/or biodiversity.
- Reduce the need for the movement of people and resources. Where movement is necessary, encourage the use of public transport and active travel options including cycling and walking.
- Source resources and services locally where possible to minimise environmental damage caused through the movement of goods and people. [conditional upon value for money and quality]

This policy will be reviewed every three years to ensure it reflects the Town Council priorities and action plans whilst also adhering to legislative duties and reporting requirements.

Date policy adopted: 28th November 2024

Signed:

Chair, Policy & Resources Committee on behalf of Bargoed Town Council.

Next review due: November 2027