

FERRYHILL PARISH CHURCH, ABERDEEN



PURCHASING POLICY

Members of Ferryhill Church love and care for the Earth and its environment. We see it as our duty to protect it for future generations by managing it in a sustainable way.

We recognise that consumption of any item no matter how small adds to the destruction of our natural environment by creating carbon emissions as a by-product during production, transportation and disposal.

Consequently we accept it is the responsibility of all of us to consider our environment when making a purchase. Sustainable purchasing is a process whereby organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money and generates benefits not only to the organisation, but also to society and the environment. Before making any purchase, we should ask ourselves the following questions:

- Firstly, do we need the item at all?
- If the answer is yes, can we buy a version produced using sustainable resources.
- How should we dispose of it when we no longer need it: can it be recycled?

Sustainable purchasing can be applied across many areas of the Church's activities

HOSPITALITY/COFFEE SHOP

Where possible, food and drink served should be ethically produced, Fair Trade and locally sourced.

Cleaning products should be of the Eco friendly variety so as to have minimum impact on the environment.

When replacing cookers, fridges or other white goods these will have a low energy and water consumption rating.

Disposal of waste items should be in keeping with environmental interests.

TRAVEL

Individuals on Church business are encouraged to walk, cycle, car share or use public transport whenever possible.

COMMUNICATION

Modern Technology offers us the opportunity to send written information without using paper. We should communicate as far as possible via e-mail.

Where necessity dictates the printing of hard copies, using recycled paper will be encouraged.

Paper, printing cartridges and toners will be recycled.

Computers should be switched off when not in use. When replacement computers, printers etc are purchased the old ones will be sent for recycling.

ENERGY

Lighting - All areas in the building should be fitted with low energy light bulbs. Lights should be switched off when a room/area is not in use.

Heating -At a future date if heating facilities need to be replaced, consideration should be given to installing a highly 'eco efficient' system.

Provider - this is decided by Church of Scotland but we could ask them to consider a provider that generates electricity from 100% sustainable sources and offsets carbon emissions from gas usage.

MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS

Where reasonably possible, materials purchased to undertake major repairs to the fabric of our buildings should be produced using sustainable resources. Recycled materials should be considered where possible.

Due consideration should be given to environmental impact whenever any major projects are undertaken.

INVESTMENTS

We should only invest in ethical organisations that have clear policies on sustainability such as the Church of Scotland Investment Trust.

Ann Ralph, Sept 2012