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Environmental and Sustainability Policy

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1. Introduction

This policy outlines The Salvation Army’s environmental commitments and forms the basis of its work to implement these through an Environmental Management System.

The Salvation Army is a Christian church and registered charity. As a major provider of social and community services we recognise and take responsibility for the direct effect our services, facilities, and employment practices can and do have on the environment.

In line with our Territorial Positional Statement on the Environment, the starting point within this policy is to affirm the biblical motivation underpinning our mission and ministry, that God is the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things and that as a consequence we have an obligation to care for God’s creation as faithful stewards to be responsible for all that God has made.

This policy expresses our care for the environment, and desire to minimise any negative environmental impacts (including pollution) resulting from our varied activities, products and services. A desire to fight injustice and work towards a just sharing of the world’s resources is a fundamental outworking of our foundational principles.

In developing this Environmental & Sustainability Policy we will comply with existing environmental legislation and the policy will be reviewed to ensure compliance to any future legislation.

2. Scope

This Environmental & Sustainability Policy applies to The Salvation Army UK Territory with the Republic of Ireland. It applies to its practices, buildings, land, produce, vehicles, and other goods and services purchased and/or provided by it.

It is the responsibility of all officers, employees and volunteers to implement and consider this policy in their work activities and decision-making.

This policy will be considered in the development of other policies and procedures.

This Policy will be shared with employees and others working for or on behalf of the organisation (commissioners of services, prime contractors, subcontractors, partners, suppliers), the public, and those accessing our services to positively influence their environmental & sustainability practices.

3. Policy

3.1 Commitments

The Salvation Army is committed to:

- 1 Protecting the environment, including prevention of pollution and other specific commitments identified as relevant to our activities
- 2 Promoting and resourcing work to minimise any negative environmental impact of its activities
- 3 Aligning its work to the wider sustainability agenda, both in the UK and internationally; e.g. carbon emission reduction, and the use of ethically sourced goods.
- 4 Measuring its environmental aspects and impacts by setting objectives, targets and programmes to enable continual improvement

3.2 Methodology

In order to meet our Commitments, we will operate an Environmental Management System that complies with the requirements of the ISO14001 Environmental Standard.

The Environmental Committee, chaired by the Secretary for Business Administration and made up of key service representatives from across The Salvation Army, will oversee an Environmental Management System in compliance with the ISO14001 environmental management standard.

The environmental agenda will be led at a strategic level, integrating it into organisational policies, corporate planning and strategies

The Environmental Management System:

- Pertains to Territorial Headquarters and the work undertaken by the Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Unit in the provision of services required by the Home Office ATMS Victim Care contract. Thereafter, it will be implemented in a phased approach across different parts of the organisation.
- Will enable continual improvement by allowing us to:
 - Measure our environmental aspects and impacts
 - Set a baseline for objectives and targets to achieve
 - Monitor progress against targets
- Complies with legal, regulatory, contractual and other applicable requirements

4. Further Support

If you would like more information or have additional training needs please refer to the 'Environment' section on OurHub or contact the Territorial Risk Advisor.