

Blackshaw Environmental Action Team (BEAT) Environmental Policy

Blackshaw Environmental Action Team (BEAT) is an independent community group working to create a more sustainable future. By this we mean a future that is greener, safer, healthier and more equitable.

We recognise that our own activities can have a detrimental impact on the environment. As an organisation we also have a responsibility to ensure that we create a safe, healthy and inclusive workplace for our members, volunteers and visitors. Therefore, we have produced this over-arching policy to monitor our activities and to improve our performance.

We aim to address our operations through the following eight areas:

- **Food and Drink:** We have developed a food and drink policy to ensure that all food and drink at BEAT events is locally sourced, fairtrade and/or organic.
- **Purchasing and Procurement:** Wherever possible products and services used or purchased by BEAT are necessary, locally sourced, fairtrade, recycled and/or recyclable.
- **Energy and Water:** We encourage members and the community to purchase their electricity from a renewable energy generator and we continually seek to identify ways to reduce our energy and water usage.
- **Travel:** We encourage members, volunteers and visitors to walk, cycle or use public transport when ever possible.
- **Buildings and Local Neighbourhoods:** We will continue to identify ways in which we can make Blackshaw Head a more environmentally and socially responsible place. We will ensure that actions are taken to promote a more culturally diverse population and increase biodiversity within our local neighbourhood.
- **Inclusion and Participation:** We will provide members and volunteers with support and training to ensure they are able to work to their full potential. We will work with all local communities, both geographical and issue-based, to create a more sustainable future.
- **Partnership and Promotion:** We will continue to support existing partnerships and develop new partnerships to achieve the best outcomes and actively promote and celebrate our joint achievements.
- **Waste:** We endeavour to reduce the amount of waste that is sent to landfill by only purchasing goods that are necessary and to reuse or recycle items.

We will continuously improve our environmental, social and financial performances by regularly reviewing our activities and setting out new targets in our sustainability action plan.