



## NORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Northam Town Council is committed to the creation of a sustainable community, particularly in the following areas:

**Water** – The Council will aim to use water efficiently for Council activities and on Council premises, parks, greens and allotments. The Council's Planning Committee will consider issues of water use, water run off and water pollution when making recommendations on planning applications. The Council will support the use of sustainable drainage systems in new developments and redevelopments to reduce flooding risks.

**Development** – The Council's Planning Committee will consider sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity when commenting on planning applications and development control policies from the Local Planning Authority, and also when developing or redeveloping any of its own buildings.

**Climate Change and energy Conservation** – The Council will monitor its energy use and aim to improve upon energy efficiency within its buildings. It will aim to increase awareness of energy efficiency amongst employees and encourage energy-conserving behaviour and support energy-saving projects in the community.

**Waste** –The Council will encourage waste reduction in the community and minimise its own waste production wherever possible, by reducing, repairing and reusing resources (e.g. paper), and by recycling the waste its activities produce.

At a Full Council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 the Council resolved *That Northam Town Council adopt the Surfers Against Sewage stance opposing the proliferation of single use plastics in this area in order to both cut down on coastal pollution and the waste of natural sources they represent.*

**Transport** – The Council will encourage sustainable transport systems, promoting public transport and car sharing and non-polluting modes of transport within the town, such as cycling and walking. Members and employees will endeavour to use public transport, walk, cycle or car share when attending meetings and events on behalf of the Council.

**Biodiversity and Green Spaces** – The Council will promote local biodiversity in all its activities, but particularly with regard to the management of its land.

**Sustainable Procurement** – Council procurement will be assessed for sustainability implications, with the intention of purchasing renewable/recycled, environmentally low-impact and recyclable materials. The Council will aim to purchase from companies that have environmental management systems in place.

The policy and its success will be reviewed annually.