



## **Environmental Policy 2024**

The Small Animal Department of Minster Veterinary Practice provides 24-hour veterinary care to animals in York and the surrounding area. Minster Vets is owned by VetPartners and comprises an RCVS accredited hospital and six branches. At Minster Veterinary Practice we take pride in offering a compassionate, dedicated and high-quality service to our clients. We acknowledge that our operations have an effect on the environment and have identified the key impacts that contribute to our environmental and carbon footprint:

- Consumption of electricity, gas and water
- Use of volatile halogenated anaesthetic gases
- Waste production and disposal
- Paper usage
- Transport of personnel and animals
- Medicines usage and disposal
- Procurement of goods and services

Minster Veterinary Practice is committed to reducing our environmental impact through a journey of continual improvement by working through the Investors in the Environment independent accreditation scheme. Our environmental commitment can be demonstrated in our established objectives and goals below:

- Compliance with all applicable environmental regulations and public/customer expectations
- To have a dedicated and active Green Group to empower members of the team to continuously drive change within the practice
- To monitor our key resource usage and implement conservation techniques to achieve our environmental targets
- To implement a waste/recycling policy to reduce our waste production

- To implement a sustainable procurement policy
  
- To publish an annual organisational sustainability report which can be accessed on our website
- To align ourselves with the wider VetPartners Sustainability Strategy
- To discuss our sustainability progress at Senior Management meetings
- To engage with staff and clients to encourage climate action and sustainable animal care
- To minimise our emissions due to fleet vehicles
- To practise responsible medicines usage and disposal
- To take part in One Health and CSR sustainability projects with our staff
- To work with suppliers to ensure they acknowledge and decrease the environmental impact of their products and transportation
- To undertake independent annual audit (iiE)

We will continue to improve our environmental management system through annual reviews and updates, taking into account any changes in legislation, our organisation, and other factors. We will convey this policy to all our employees ensuring that they are provided with training to increase awareness of environmental matters.

Lucy Hickleton and Emma Darling are our Sustainability Champions and they have designated responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy.

Minster Veterinary Practice will make this policy available when requested to interested parties and members of the public. A copy of our Environmental Policy can also be found on our website.

Signed: SFord  
*Sarah Ford BSc(Hons) BVetMed(Hons) PgC(SAS) MRCVS*

Position: Clinical Director

Date: 15/3/2024

