

## Environmental Policy

Sandhole Veterinary Centre is small animal and exotic animal practice at one site in Kent. Our team are always striving to provide the 'Sandhole Difference'; getting it right for our patients, our clients, our team and the environment.

We acknowledge that our operations have an effect on the environment and have identified the key environmental aspects that contribute our environmental and carbon footprint:

- Consumption of electricity, gas, water, and other fuels
- Use of anaesthetic gases
- Waste generation
- Transport emissions
- Use of raw materials, including prescribed drugs and medicines
- Procured goods and services with their own environmental impact

Sandhole Veterinary Centre is committed to reducing their environmental impact through a journey of continual improvement by working through the Investors in the Environment accreditation scheme. Our management's commitment to the environment is such that we are registered with Investors in the Environment on the bronze level that utilises innovative processes to provide a safe and healthy work environment for our employees, while guaranteeing quality service that will improve the health and wellbeing of our patients. Our business is strengthened by protecting the safety, health and environment of our employees, our customers and the people of the communities in which we do business.

Our environmental commitment can be demonstrated in our established objectives and goals below:

- Commitment to net zero carbon emissions target by 2040 in alignment with Mars Sustainable in a Generation and Linnaeus sustainability policies.
- Compliance with all applicable environmental regulations and public/customer expectations.
- Practicing pollution prevention in order to reduce waste and minimise consumption by reducing our anaesthetic gas usage per patient and practicing safe anaesthetic gas usage at all times.
- Monitoring our key resource usage and implementing conservation techniques to achieve our environmental targets.
- Implement a waste and recycling policy and sustainable procurement policy.
- Minimising unsustainable transport.
- Take part in One Health sustainability project with our staff.
- Working with suppliers to ensure they acknowledge and decrease the environmental impact of their products and transportation.
- Publishing and distribution of an annual organisational sustainability report.

We will continue to improve our environmental management system by working to the Investors in the Environment (iE) criteria, considering 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.

Sarah Foster is our Sustainability Champion and has designated responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy. Please contact her on [sarah.foster@sandholevets.co.uk](mailto:sarah.foster@sandholevets.co.uk) for any questions or to join in.

Sandhole Veterinary Centre will make this policy available when requested to interested parties including members of the public, including making a copy available on the practice website.

Signed: 

KIRSTY COWIE

Date: 17/11/22

Position: Clinical Director