

Ashfield House Veterinary Hospital

Sustainability policy

Ashfield House is a small animal veterinary practice that has a main hospital in Long Eaton, Derbyshire and 3 other branches in the surrounding areas of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. We are part of the VetPartners corporate group.

We are proud to deliver high quality services to pets across the region. Our lovely team members take a preventative approach to veterinary care and can help to keep your pet healthy and happy through every stage of their life.

We understand that providing veterinary care can have impacts on the environment. We have identified areas that we need to monitor and/or improve;

- Practise responsible resource use by
 1. Reducing our fossil fuel usage for energy and heating by remembering to turn appliances off and switching to renewable energy where possible.
 2. Reducing use of disposable materials usage
 3. Use paper free management systems where possible and ensure responsible paper sourcing, use and disposal.
 4. Put water-saving measures in place.
 5. Make sustainable choices when purchasing equipment or consumables.
 6. Review and optimise waste management :reduce, re-use, recycle.

- Be sustainable in our operation
 1. Include eco-principles in building design or adaptations where possible.
 2. Ensure environmental legislation compliance.
 3. Use evident-based infection control measures and minimise use of ectotoxic chemicals.
 4. Minimise the greenhouse gas impacts of anaesthetic agents.
 5. Enhance on-site green spaces and promote biodiversity in surroundings
 6. Promote animal welfare
 7. Create a travel-policy to reduce emissions from business travel, commuting and freight.
 8. Support walking, cycling or public transport use, by staff and clients
 9. Reduce carbon emissions from conferencing education and practice meetings.

- Use medicines responsibly
 1. Practice responsible antimicrobial and parasiticide use
 2. Avoid drug wastage through good stocking principles
 3. Dispose of drugs correctly (avoid ecotoxicity)
- Empower the team
 1. Support staff wellbeing and development, eg through sustainability education and projects, and encourage formation of a 'Green Group'
 2. Recognise that good health and wellbeing supports all aspects of practice operations. Empower you team to make changes.

Megan James and Paola Sponza are our practice Sustainability champions. And she helps to implement this policy. Email: megan.james@ashvet.co.uk or paola.sponza@ashvet.co.uk

This policy is available to any interested parties including the public and it shall be reviewed annually.