ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Questions about the environment are themselves questions about justice - about behaving in such a way that all may have the same kind of access to the goods that this world produces - including the good of beauty and solitude that is offered by a world that has not been ravaged by exploitation,

The Archbishop of Canterbury, 2005

BACKGROUND IN THE DIOCESE
This is a 'light touch' Environmental Policy, a working and active document, that has its roots in an undertaking by the General Synod on 17th February 2005 that challenged the General Synod and all members of the Church of England to:

- Care for creation by promoting sustainable lifestyles,
- Repent for the exploitation of creation,
- Lead by example by promoting study on the scale and nature of lifestyle change necessary to achieve sustainability and initiatives encouraging immediate action towards attaining it,
- Put into practice the mission of care for creation by adopting an environmental policy committed to recycling, low energy use or renewable energy, low water use and a procurement policy of purchasing, where possible, recycled, refurbished or low impact goods.

This Environmental Policy is fundamental to Christian faith, practice and mission. We believe Christian concern to work for the care of creation and the environment is grounded in the fundamental truths of the Christian gospel.

This Policy is set out to encourage Diocesan, Deanery and Parish level organisations and parishioners to care for creation by adopting specific and targeted measures to reduce consumption of non-renewable resources and to become more sustainable.

Environmental Action already undertaken by Church House

- Using Fair Trade tea and coffee which is also available to staff.
- Encouraging two-sided photocopying.
- Turning off lights when not essential.
- Turning off photocopiers and other office machinery in the evenings and over the weekends.
- Departments scanning documents to allow electronic storage and sending.
- Developed e-bulletin rather printing and posting papers.
- Training staff in IT systems to encourage electronic methods of work and storage.
- Encouraging car sharing wherever possible.