

# Environmental Policy: Garston Veterinary Group 2023

## INVESTORS IN THE ENVIRONMENT



Garston Veterinary Group is a veterinary practice which provides small animal, farm and equine services. At Garston Veterinary Group, we are well known for providing the highest standard of healthcare for a wide variety of animals, and are proud of the personal service we deliver alongside fair prices. We acknowledge that our operations have an effect on the environment and have identified the following as key contributors to 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 the help of our in-house Sustainability Team, Garston has already become one of the first UK veterinary practices to make significant leaps forward in reducing our carbon footprint. Garston Veterinary Group is committed to a process of continual improvement and will strive to reduce our environmental impact further by working through the Investors in the Environment accreditation scheme.

Our environmental commitment can be demonstrated by our objectives established below:

- Compliance with all applicable environmental regulations
- Commitment to net zero carbon emissions target by 2040, in alignment with corporate sustainability policies
- Monitoring of key resource usage and implementation of conservation techniques in order to achieve our environmental targets
- Implementation of sustainable waste management and procurement policies
- Minimising usage of unsustainable transport systems
- Taking part in at least one 'One Health' sustainability project with our staff
- Working with suppliers to ensure they acknowledge and decrease the environmental impact of their products and distribution
- Publishing an annual organisational sustainability report
- Contributing to the wider drive towards sustainability within the veterinary profession by sharing our knowledge & experiences
- Improving the biodiversity of our green spaces

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 and ensure that they are provided with training to increase awareness of environmental matters.

Sian Naylor (small animal veterinary surgeon and manager) & Alice Moore (small animal veterinary surgeon) are our Sustainability Champions and have been designated responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy.

Garston Veterinary Group will make this policy available when requested to interested parties including members of the public, including making a copy available on our website.

Signed:

A.I. Simmons *BVetMed MRCVS*

Date: 30/03/23

Position: Partner