

Thu 26/02/26

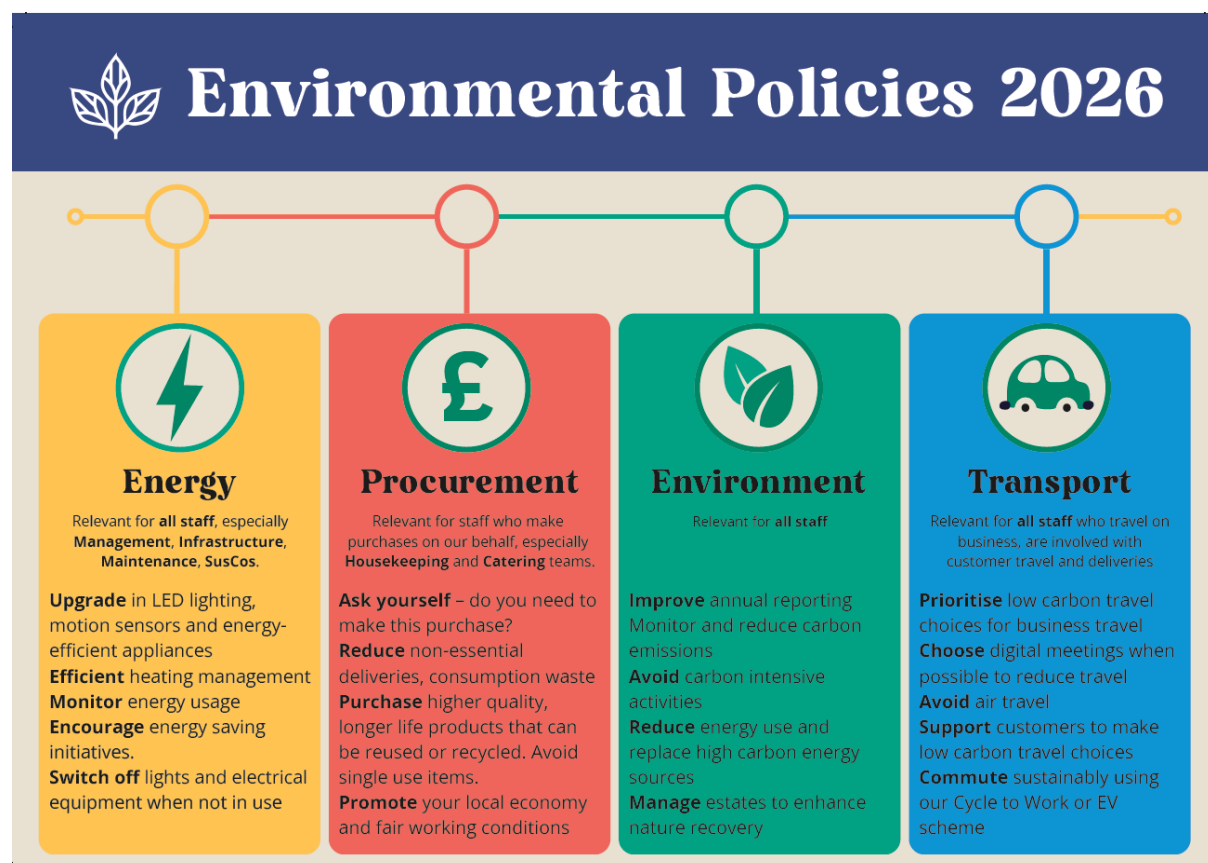
Dear Colleagues,

Environmental Policies

I'm pleased to share our Environmental Policies, recently updated for 2026. They reinforce our **Environmental, Energy, Sustainable Procurement, and Transport & Carbon Reduction** commitments.

These updates strengthen our response to the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis, and outline how we will reduce carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency, and support nature recovery across all our sites. You can find copies of the policies in your iHASCO hub or in [this folder](#) (chose open in Webapp) where you will also find the new Sustainable Procurement Guide to help staff make consistent, environmentally responsible buying decisions in their day-to-day roles.

The infographic below summarises the focus of each policy.



These policies are supported through the Carbon Reduction and Nature Recovery Action Plan, owned by Environmental and Sustainability Working Group, with annual reviews and ongoing support for centres and teams. Thank you for the steps you already take to help us reduce our environmental impact and lead by example.

If you would like any further support, or have any questions or ideas, please contact Sam Thurston, Sustainability Manager.

+Adventure

Over 70 of you managed to attend Matt's 'Lunch & Learn' session this week to hear more about our Adventure-Learning push to schools. Lots of work has been taking place since January with inputs from all departments across the charity:

- Teaser social media has already started with the official campaign launch on 23rd February, followed by an 8-week email, print advertising and social media campaign running to the beginning of May
- We are currently building the adventure pages on the website and incorporating the new '+Adventure' branding.
- Commercial Team colleagues attended a 2-Day workshop to enable them to talk about the benefits of Adventure-Learning with customers.
- We have also designed +Adventure programmes for key centres and started to draw together a Centre-by-Centre analysis of skills and equipment needs.
- A Teacher CPD day at Preston Montford in March and we are sending out printed invitations to 1400 heads/teachers within a 40-mile radius. We will roll these events out to RYC and CH later in the year.
- We have also developed new ways to record the revenue associated with Adventure-Learning programmes on Cinolla

Our next focus is to support the operational roll-out of this refined approach to Adventure-Learning. We will be working closely with on Centre teams to prepare for the incoming business this marketing push will generate. The meeting was recorded so if you missed it, we will share details of how you can catch up shortly.

Big Give's Earth Raise – marketing opportunities

We're taking part in Earth Raise (previously known as Green Match Fund) in April, and the Big Give have shared some opportunities for us to contribute to their national marketing campaign. There are a couple of ways we can get involved and we'd be very grateful if anyone can help with this.

Engaging influencers. Do you have any content creators/influencers in your network? Whether up-and-coming or famous, if you have someone you might be able to introduce us to, please let us know.

Hosting activities.

Are you doing any nature-based work/activities or running events at your centre that an influencer could join, with content creation in mind? Or do you have any ideas for something you could run with them at short notice? Preferably something easy to arrange!

It's short notice and the Big Give are working at pace on this, so we really appreciate all input. Activities would have taken place by 23rd April (preferably earlier) to give people a chance to put content together, as the campaign ends on 28th April. Please contact David Plant with any ideas or questions.

Visitor Levy Consultation

The government are giving Mayoral Strategic Authorities in England the power to create local overnight visitor levies. We worked with others in the sector to respond to a consultation on the design of the scheme. We were surprised that educational visits and youth activities were not included on the suggested list of exemptions. So we made a robust case against what would be a "tax on learning", especially on the most disadvantaged groups. We also called for charities that provide accommodation as part of their charitable objectives to also be exempt. We have high hopes of a U turn.

Welcome to Field Studies Council

New starters this week:

Eduard Ionescu has joined the team at Blencathra as Seasonal Chef

Also this week:

Shaun Hanner has an additional role as Casual Chef at Castle Head

Best regards

Mark