

Yorkshire Building Society

Environment Policy Overview

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1. Purpose

The Purpose of the Policy

YBS have an Environmental Policy to ensure that all colleagues and contractors understand their responsibility with respect to the protection of the environment, conservation of resources and reduction in waste.

This policy sets out the requirements and aspirations of the Society and colleagues with regards to managing environmental matters. Adherence to the policy will not only ensure the Society and colleagues adhere to the legislative requirements set upon them, but will also create an environmentally efficient and healthy and safe working environment.

The Environmental Policy applies to all colleagues working for or on behalf of the YBS (Branches and Offices), and where applicable third party contractors. It covers all YBS sites and business activities.

We do everything we can to ensure:

- YBS acts within the regulations set out to protect the environment.
- Appropriate measures are taken to reduce or avoid emissions or discharges to the environment including those to air or water, and proper disposal of waste (including, municipal, chemical and hazardous wastes).
- YBS are committed to reducing/eliminating, where possible, our environmental impact.
- We endeavour to continually improve, where possible, our environmental performance as part of our operating model.
- We aim to promote sustainability and environmental awareness and engagement across the YBS.
- Use of resources are undertaken in an efficient manner
- Appropriate permits and licenses for the disposal of waste, emissions to water etc., are maintained.
- Arrangements are in place to protect the environment in case of an emergency event.
- YBS remains compliant with any and all government regulation surrounding the environment.

Applicable Regulations and Legislation

The requirements outlined in this Policy and supporting Environmental Management Manual (available on our Intranet only) must be understood and followed by all colleagues and contractors. They must work in conjunction with their managers and Property's Environmental and Sustainability Team, in all aspects of environmental management to ensure that controls and procedures are effectively implemented to ensure legal compliance and achievement of the YBS' environmental objectives and targets.

Key environmental legislation that may impact on our business in England, Wales and Scotland include:

- Climate Change Act 2008
- CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme Order 2013 (SI 1119) * Will be phased out by January 2020. YBS must keep records of compliance until 2025.
- The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (SI 988)
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Environment Act 1995
- The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006 (SI 3289)
- The Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 (SI 894)
- Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
- The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012
- Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme Regulations 2014
- Minimum Energy Efficiency Scheme 2018

- The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013(20) introduced changes to require quoted companies to report their annual emissions and an intensity ratio in their Directors' Report. The 2018 Regulations(21) in March introduced new carbon reporting requirements known as Streamlined Energy Carbon Reporting (SECR). This took effect from April 2019 and replaces the CRC.

Requirements of the Policy

At the YBS we recognise that our activities have an impact on the environment. We have a responsibility to manage this impact, both for our members, and for the communities in which we operate. We are committed to continually improving our environmental performance in line with best practice and demonstrating leadership in environmental management.

The Society's Board and Management believe that this policy clearly reflects our commitment to operating in a sustainable and responsible manner. This policy and our associated performance is reviewed on an annual basis and updated as appropriate.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all YBS Colleagues and main sub-contractors.

This policy relates to all colleagues, all of which can adhere.

3. Policy Statements

This policy commits YBS to the following;

- Evaluating our business activities to identify all significant environmental aspects and energy uses. Primary responsibility will rest with Property to carry out known plans in relation to key initiatives (water usage, energy savings, waste reduction, carbon offsets etc.).
- A commitment to be Carbon Neutral (on a first and second scope basis) until 31/12/2019. The GHG Protocol Corporate Standard classifies a company's GHG emissions into three 'scopes'. The YBS commitment applies to scope 1 and 2. Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from owned or controlled sources. Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy.
- Implementing systems to; measure, monitor and report on our performance in line with the relevant legislation and standards, and recognised best practice. Property will continue to utilise existing systems and identify improved monitoring and management through supply chain opportunities (Consultancies engaged to assist). Legal will be expected to provide support in both the identification of and interpretation of newly formed legislation and what the wider impact such legislation may have on the Society. Whereby other key groups have a part to play in the achievement of our key targets they will show the necessary awareness and have the measures and controls to ensure goals are achieved (e.g. colleague awareness and efficiency awareness when going through their procurement process for high energy use equipment).
- Fostering awareness and engaging colleagues in the delivery of our environmental objectives, providing information on the issues involved, and support and resources. Property will lead on key initiatives. The environmental coordinator will work closely with CR to communicate key initiatives around the business.

- Reducing the amount of waste we generate, by avoiding, re-using and recycling, and disposing of all wastes in a legally compliant and environmentally responsible manner. Property will lead primarily through the introduction of effective communication/instructional means to further promote the environmental agenda as well as maximising the use and expertise of its third party supplier base.

4. Implementation and Monitoring

Implementation

This Policy will be communicated via the YBS Intranet.

Colleagues will have the ability via the Intranet to seek clarification of policy.

Director of Data, MI and Business Services must ensure that the key requirements of Policy as detailed are met using the teams at her disposal.

Senior Facilities Manager must ensure that adequate resources and planning are put into place to enact key requirements as detailed.

Monitoring

Monitoring of compliance against key requirements will be completed by the Property Environmental working Group and by Senior Manager Facilities Manager.

5. Approval

Policy should be approved by Customer Services Division Risk Committee.

This Policy is reviewed annually.