

Coleman & Starkey are committed to the achievement of outstanding environmental performance and sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations.

We are striving to ensure every aspect of our business incorporates the principles of sustainability. This means we will strive for sustainability in our roles as a dentists, business owners and employers

We recognise that we have a responsibility to adhere to the guiding principles of the UK Sustainable Development Strategy – live within environmental limits, ensure a strong and healthy society, achieve a sustainable economy, promote good governance and use sound science responsibly. This means that we will respect the planet's resources, take a precautionary and polluter pays approach to preserve the environment for future generation, incentivise resource efficiency, use sound scientific evidence to inform our policies where available and work with stakeholders to achieve these aims.

Coleman and Starkey Dental Practice makes the following commitments both in respect of its own activities and, where appropriate, in its influence over the wider community:

1. To reduce our demand for natural resources and energy, to improve efficiency and to increase reliance on greener and renewable energy sources
2. To seek to minimise the waste produced, to recycle and to support the implementation of the Zero Waste Strategy
3. To continuously improve the sustainable management of our buildings, reducing the emission of air pollutants and greenhouse gases
4. To be mindful of the impacts of climate change of the delivery of our services and increase the resilience of our services to impacts such as flooding and heatwaves
5. To prevent environmental harm or pollution incidents at our premises by ensuring our working practices comply with all relevant legislation
6. To ensure that all staff are aware of our environmental standards and shared responsibilities and encourage improvement in our supply chains and partnership networks.
7. To maintain continuous improvement by reviewing corporate policies and strategies to ensure integration of sustainable development principles and practices

We will:

- Use this policy as a framework for setting objectives and targets for environmental improvement
- Operate a procurement and contracting policy that conforms to these objectives
- Operate effective management of environmental impacts
- Communicate the requirements of this policy to all employees, suppliers and partners
- Make this policy publicly available and keep the public informed of its environmental performance

## Actions to be taken as of December 2022

1. We have asked our suppliers to reduce their packaging
2. We have asked our suppliers to offer us environmentally friendly/recycled products if available
3. We try to combine our orders to minimise shipments, so reducing carbon emissions by reducing supply chain frequency.
4. We have reduced the frequency of collection of our clinical waste to again reduce on the transport needed.
5. We have arranged to have the waste collected outside of rush hour to reduce the time spent by the driver in traffic queues
6. We have sourced a local clinical waste collection agency, not a Nationwide company, to reduce the distance driven between depot and practice
7. We recycle most of our non clinical waste. We need to assess exactly how much and then hope to improve on this.
8. We recycle all paper, plastics, cans, glass, ink cartridges and cardboard
9. We produce our own reverse osmosis water on site to reduce transport costs and plastic container use for shipping
10. Due to the nature of dental activities and the requirements of HTM01-05, we are beholden to mandatory requirements to use plastic coverings on clinical touch points. However we are do continuously checking legislation updates and try wherever possible to come up with alternatives

For example. The light above the dental chair, if used, requires 3 separate plastic covers for every patient to be changed after each patient. One for each handle and one for the switch. Considering we have 4 surgeries and around 100 patients a day, this mounts up

However All clinicians now use integrated illumination with their loupes eye vision and so the use of the dental chair light is no longer used, hence a reduction in plastic but also in electrical useage as the illumination is far more efficient.

11. We use recycled paper tissues, toilet paper and kitchen roll
12. We will source recycled paper for printing
13. We ask all patients for email addresses so that correspondence can be sent electronically - reducing paper/ink/power to print, environmental impact of postal delivery.
14. We ask patients for mobile phone numbers so appointment reminders can be sent by text for the same reasons as above.
15. We correspond with colleagues, secondary health services etc, electronically, where possible
16. We request electronic invoices from suppliers rather than by post, and pay 100% of our invoices by BACS, reducing our use of cheques by post to zero.
17. We use environmentally friendly cleaning products

18. We try as a practice to employ staff who live locally. This will reduce the carbon footprint of their travel to and from work .

Using the website [www.ukdistance.com](http://www.ukdistance.com)

The furthest away our staff members have to commute from : 16miles (Calne/Devizes)

90% of our staff live within a 5 miles commute

19. We encourage walking and cycling , use of public transport to work.

At present 20% of our staff use this method of transport

20. The practice has storage heaters which are not the most energy efficient. We have invested over the last 2 years in energy efficient air conditioning /heat exchange units which can not only cool the air, but also warm the air. These are in all 4 surgery's, reception and decon room and will dramatically reduce our overall energy consumption.

21. We provide water from a water cooler for our staff but we have stopped requesting and being supplied with disposable cups. Staff members use their own reuseable cups/bottles

22. We use digital x-rays to remove the requirement for use and disposal of chemical solutions for fixing and developing

23. We are progressively changing our light fixtures to environmentally friendly LED lighting. This has been achieved in one surgery, waiting room and reception

23. We use a licensed disposal company for the specialist and environmentally safe disposal of our plaster models

24. We recycle any removed precious metal crown and bridge work through licensed operators

25. When surgeries are not in use at lunchtime, all non essential power is turned off. Eg lights, air conditioning, radios, display screens and viruskillers

26. We try and use local tradespeople and dental engineers to reduce the carbon footprint of those travelling to help us provide our services.

#### Ongoing actions

- Discussions with manufacturers regarding packaging and environmental options
- Measure the percentage of recycling of general waste
- Make our suitability policy available to the general public via our website
- liaising with our water cooler supplier to confirm if the plastic containers are made from recycled plastic
- Reviewing plastic coverage within the surgery
- Reviewing our general production, ensuring correct use of recycling facilities
- Try and encourage mores staff to travel in a sustainable manner
- To start to raise this issue regularly at staff meetings and welcome staff ideas
- To measure our carbon footprint wishes the WWF footprint calculator
- Review our energy useage and consider ways to save energy.

Date compiled. 5th December 2022 by Mike starkey

Date for review 5th December 2023