**Sustainability policy**

**Introduction**

The earth’s environment is under severe stress from uncontrolled human activity, threatening the survival of our society and the performance of Banstead Village Vet’s mission.

BVVS accepts that it must work to preserve the environmental sustainability of the planet, at all levels of its operations.

BVVS aspires to minimise its impact on our environment and maximise the effective use of resources. We strive to achieve this by increasing communication and awareness of our efforts in accordance with this policy and fostering responsible environmental behaviour amongst the team.

BVVS is committed to complying with applicable laws.

**Purpose**

This Environmental Sustainability Policy aims to integrate a philosophy of sustainable development into all the organisation’s activities and to establish and promote sound environmental practice in our operations.

**Policy**

Banstead Village Vets commits itself to minimising its impact on our environment through,

* Providing a safe and healthful workplace.
* Having an environmentally sustainable aware culture, where responsibility is assigned and understood.
* Being an environmentally responsible neighbour in our community.
* Conserving natural resources by reusing and recycling.
* Using, in our own operations, processes that do not adversely affect the environment.
* Ensuring the responsible use of energy throughout the organisation.
* Participating in efforts to improve environmental protection and understanding.
* Taking steps to improve environmental performance continually.
* Working with suppliers who promote sound environmental practices
* Enhancing awareness among our employees, educating, and motivating them to act in an environmentally responsible manner.

**Responsibilities**

It shall be the responsibility of the Practice Principal to ensure implementation of these policies and procedures.

Procedures

* 1. BVVS will develop guidelines for the team to adopt sound environmental work practices, and adequate training will be provided to ensure these practices are carried out.
  2. BVVS will act responsibly to correct incidents or conditions that endanger health, safety, or the environment. It will promptly report any such incidents to the relevant authorities and inform affected parties as appropriate.
  3. BVVS will, use reasonable endeavours to, reuse and recycle materials, purchase recycled materials, and use recyclable packaging and other materials.
  4. BVVS will use all reasonable endeavours to that its services and products are safe, efficient in their use of energy, protective of the environment, and able to be reused, recycled, or disposed of safely.
  5. BVVS will use all reasonable endeavours to minimise materials and energy use, prevent air, water, and other pollution, and dispose of waste safely and responsibly.
  6. BVVS will use all reasonable endeavours to conserve energy by improving energy efficiency and giving preference to renewable over non-renewable energy sources when feasible.
  7. BVVS will, use reasonable endeavours to utilise its knowledge and experience to contribute to environmentally sustainable techniques, technology, knowledge, and methods.
  8. BVVS will use all reasonable endeavours to contribute to the maintenance and increase of biodiversity through its management of its landholdings.
  9. BVVS will use all reasonable endeavours to meet or exceed all applicable government requirements and voluntary requirements observed in its field, and will, in addition, adhere to the more stringent requirements of its own environmental policy.
  10. BVVS will maintain an open and honest dialogue with team members and the public about the environmental, health and safety performance of its operations and services.
  11. BVVS will use reasonable endeavours to ensure that every employee is informed of and expected to follow this policy and to report any environmental, health, or safety concern to management so that prompt action may be taken.