

Tetbury & District u3a

Environment & Sustainability Policy

1 Purpose

Our day-to-day activities have impacts on climate change, biodiversity loss and the environment as a whole. This applies equally to Tetbury & District u3a activities and we should address the issue of environmental impact of our organisation. This policy document has been produced to provide guidance on how environmental and sustainability issues should be considered and dealt with within the activities of our u3a. It is via this policy statement that these issues will form part of our planning, decision making and day to day activities.

2 Scope

This policy applies to all members of Tetbury & District u3a. It should be considered by organisers when carrying out any u3a activities such as events, meetings and group activities and any supporting actions related to these activities (such as travelling to meetings and events) and by individual members when participating in u3a activities. Where possible, we should encourage venues and any supporting third parties to follow the guidance provided within this policy document if they have none in place.

3 Aims Of This Policy

The aims of this policy are as follows:

- To ensure that organisers of u3a events and activities make these as environmentally friendly as practicable
- To ensure that individual members understand the issues and play their part in minimising their adverse impact on the environment

4 Policy In Practice

The environment is impacted by a wide range of our activities. It is not possible to identify all the means of reducing our impact on the environment but the following are examples of what should be considered when planning events and activities:

- Conserving energy;
- Saving natural resources (such as water) and minimising waste;
- Considering environmentally-friendly purchase options;
- Recycling and/or re-using materials;
- Considering our outdoor activities (visits, walking and nature groups for example) and encouraging the use of car sharing, walking, cycling and public transport.
- Following environmental policies of venues where these are available.

5 Further Information

The Third Age Trust Climate Change and Environment Network

Subject Adviser, Frances Halliday <https://climatechangesubjectnetwork.u3asite.uk>

6 Review

This policy will be reviewed at least every three years.

Approved by Trustees: 3rd November 2025

Amendment history

October 2025 – new policy.