

FamilyCare

Healing pasts • Building futures

An abstract graphic consisting of several overlapping, rounded, organic shapes in various colors: orange, pink, red, brown, green, olive, and blue. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. The colors are vibrant and naturalistic, suggesting themes of growth, healing, and community.

Environmental Policy

www.family-care.co.uk

Environmental Policy

Implemented/Reviewed: September 2026

Date of Next Review: September 2027



Policy

This policy is guided by relevant environmental legislation & initiatives including the Environment Act 2021 and the Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended), along with the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (as amended), and the UK Waste Duty of Care Code of Practice, Simpler Recycling 2026.

Family Care Group and its senior management recognise that its operations will have, in some way, an impact upon the environment in which it operates. This impact may be recognisable in many aspects of its operations, particularly in relation to the delivery of its services, the resources it consumes, and the manner in which it manages waste and by-products.

The organisation commits to:

- Complying with all relevant environmental legislation and regulatory requirements
- Preventing pollution and minimising environmental harm
- Continually improving environmental performance
- Supporting the UK's wider sustainability and net zero objectives

Family Care Group commits, as far as is reasonably practicable, to limit the harmful effects that its operations may have upon the environment and to manage its activities with a view to continuous improvement.

Procedure

Audit, Targets and Recognisable Improvement

Family Care Group will periodically review its environmental performance and identify opportunities for improvement:

- a) Audits of key areas of environmental impact
- b) Achievable and measurable targets for improvement

The creation and distribution of this policy reinforces the organisation's commitment to environmental responsibility.

An audit of environmental performance will:

- Examine key areas of environmental impact
- Monitor compliance with legal and regulatory requirements
- Establish measurable targets for improvement
- Review progress against previous objectives

Examples of measurable targets may include:

- Reduction in energy consumption
- Reduction in waste sent to landfill
- Increase in recycling rates
- Improved resource efficiency

Roles and Responsibilities

To ensure effective implementation:

- **Senior Management:** Provide strategic oversight and ensure compliance with legislation
- **Registered Managers / Service Managers:** Implement the policy at a local level and monitor performance

- **Employees:** Follow procedures, minimise environmental impact in daily tasks, and report concerns

Employee Contribution, Recognition and Involvement

Suggestions for sustainable improvements in environmental performance will have greater impact where employees understand and are engaged in the environmental objectives. Employees will therefore be:

- a) Encouraged to examine key areas of environmental impact within their service
- b) Asked to identify and contribute ideas for improvement

Key Areas of Environmental Impact

Family Care Group has identified the following key areas of environmental impact over which it has influence and can measure improvement.

Employees are encouraged to contribute additional suggestions for improvement.

Service Delivery and Operational Activities

The organisation recognises its responsibility to consider environmental impacts across all aspects of its service delivery, including building management, procurement, and daily operations.

Energy Use

The organisation will:

- Promote energy efficiency within its buildings
- Use energy responsibly and seek reductions in consumption
- Where practicable, support the use of sustainable energy sources

Resource Consumption

Family Care Group will:

- Promote sustainable procurement practices
- Reduce unnecessary consumption of materials
- Encourage efficient planning and use of resources

Recycling

Recycling forms a key part of the organisation's environmental strategy. Materials will be recycled wherever practicable in accordance with local authority guidance.

Waste Disposal

The organisation will:

- Minimise waste production, particularly hazardous waste
- Ensure all waste is handled and disposed of safely and in compliance with legal requirements
- Comply with Duty of Care responsibilities for waste management
- Dispose of confidential and sensitive waste securely in accordance with the organisation's Data Protection Policy and waste management procedures.

The Supply Chain

Family Care Group will work with suppliers to:

- Encourage environmentally responsible practices
- Reduce environmental impact in goods and services provided
- Consider sustainability in procurement decisions





Transportation

The organisation will:

- Promote efficient travel planning
- Reduce unnecessary journeys where possible
- Encourage environmentally responsible transport options
- Support the use of remote meetings and technology to reduce unnecessary travel where appropriate

Training and Awareness

All employees will:

- Be made aware of their responsibilities under this policy
- Be informed of their responsibilities under this policy
- Be encouraged to contribute to environmental improvements

Environmental Incident Management

Any environmental incidents (e.g. spills, incorrect waste disposal) must be:

- Reported immediately to management
- Investigated appropriately
- Recorded and reviewed to prevent recurrence

Monitoring and Review

Environmental performance will be:

- Monitored through audits and reporting
- Reviewed annually or sooner if legislative or operational changes occur
- Updated to reflect current legal requirements and best practice

References to Legislation and Quality Standards

- Environment Act 2021
- Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended)
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (as amended)
- UK Waste Duty of Care Code of Practice
- Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 – Regulation 13 (Leadership and Management)