

Lancaster & Morecambe u3a

Environmental Guidelines

Aims of these guidelines

The aims of this guidelines are:

- To support committees to put processes and policies in place to ensure L&Mu3a is run in a way that actively aims to limit its impact on the environment.
- For members to take opportunities to inform themselves about environmental issues and the ways in which human activities contribute to waste, pollution and global warming.
- For members to consider ways in which they can minimise their own adverse impact on the environment.

Rationale

These guidelines has been drawn up to provide suggestions on how L&Mu3a might introduce environmental guidelines within their activities in order to make a positive contribution to sustainability and the environment, and also to help mitigate climate change. More specifically, the measures listed below can help L&Mu3a to:

- address the concerns of members and wider society with regard to environmental issues
- encourage communication and dialogue on environmental issues within the L&Mu3a
- encourage a culture of awareness and a sense of responsibility within the membership with respect to sustainability and environmental issues
- provide information to members on how they might reduce their adverse impact on the environment
- minimise the environmental impact of organised L&Mu3a activities

Practical Measures

The following are suggestions to raise awareness and to minimise environmental impact. Please note that committee members and groups leaders have an important part to play in supporting these measures during the activities of L&Mu3a.

- Consider appointing one member as an Environmental Officer to monitor environmental issues arising within L&Mu3a.

- Arrange speakers on environmental topics for some monthly meetings.
- Wherever possible incorporate environmental concerns into planning and decision making.
- Consider the impact of activities which take place outside, in natural ecosystems e.g. walking and nature groups and how trips and holidays could be made more sustainable. Encourage the formation of climate and environmental groups within L&Mu3a.
- Check whether venues operate environmentally responsible policies such as using local suppliers, and encourage them to do so.
- Ensure as far as possible that refreshments are served in an environmentally friendly manner e.g. using crockery rather than disposable cups and plates.
- Minimise waste and encourage reuse and recycling.
- Encourage travel to meetings and events by walking, car sharing and public transport where available.
- Conduct a survey of members to seek their views on climate and the environment and suggestions for measures which might be taken by L&Mu3a.
- Make these guidelines available on our website and draw your members attention to it.
- Encourage dialogue on climate change issues with the wider population including e.g. younger people.

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