



For better
mental health

RICHMOND BOROUGH MIND

Environmental Policy

1 Introduction

Richmond Borough Mind (RB Mind) recognises the importance of the conservation of natural resources and of sustainability. It undertakes to encourage a climate of awareness of the environmental impact of its activities and act responsibly in efforts to minimise them as far as practicable and affordable.

2 Scope

Responsibility for the policy rests with the trustees of RB Mind, and has been delegated to its Director and to Project Managers, but all staff, volunteers and users will have a part to play and ideas to contribute.

3 Waste reduction

The overall aim of reducing waste will involve –

- Careful purchasing, especially of perishables like food, geared to actual need;
- A preference for re-use rather than 'throwaway' products;
- Recycling of ink cartridges, and of books and other things saleable to raise money.
- Use of 'Freecycle' and the local 'furniture scheme' and other second-hand donated or recycled goods wherever appropriate
- Use of any produce grown on the allotment;
- Full compliance with the recycling arrangements in buildings in which RB Mind provides services, and an active and considered practice in its own Centre 32.

4 Transport



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Walking, bicycling, or public transport will normally be used for the day to day work of RB Mind projects, and trips held with clients will use public or group transport (e.g. minibus community transport or hired bus) wherever possible. This clause should also be read in conjunction with the RB Mind Expenses procedure which sets out the expected use of taxi cabs.

5 Energy conservation

RB Mind will comply fully with the energy conservation policies for any buildings in which it runs services. Where it has direct responsibility RB Mind will seek to reduce energy usage (regulating heating and turning off lights and equipment when not in use), and will maximise the efficiency of energy consuming systems and have regard to the environmental credentials of suppliers as well as cost.

6 'Green purchasing'

RB Mind will bear in mind the desirability of purchasing goods produced with the least environmental impact where these are affordable.

7 Supporting the local environment

RB Mind will encourage staff, volunteers and service users to enjoy and show concern for the natural riches of our local environment, and to play their part as individuals in maintaining its health and appearance.

RB Mind will maintain an allotment and make it fruitful and where possible will not use harmful herbicides or insecticides.

It will give service users information on environmental topics and help those who wish to do so to volunteer in local environmental projects.

8 Implementation

Name of policy / procedure:
Handbook section and code:
Status:
Approved by:
Review date:

Environmental Policy
General procedures
Approved
Management Committee 9th February 09
9th February 2011



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This policy will be communicated to all staff, volunteers and users, so that it becomes part of the ethos of all services.