

 	<p>Title: Environmental and Sustainability Policy National Veterinary Services - Pioneering Sustainable Practices in Animal Health.</p> <p>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.</p>	
<p>Owner: EHS Manager</p>	<p>Effective Date: 15/06/24</p>	<p>Last Reviewed: 15/06/24</p>

As the UK's leading veterinary wholesaler and distributor, NVS is at the forefront of championing not only animal healthcare but also a sustainable and greener future. Understanding the significant environmental footprint of our operations, we are committed to continuous improvement and innovation in sustainability practices.

Compliance and Certifications:

1. Adherence to the UK Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) and the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) frameworks.
2. Compliance to the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) through our partners European Recycling Platform (ERP)

Our Strategic Environmental Objectives:

1. **Enhanced Waste Management and Reduction:**
 - Prioritise informed purchasing decisions to minimise waste generation.
 - Promote the reuse of materials across all operations.
 - Expand our recycling program to include the collection and recycling of returned waste from veterinary practices and other customers, aiming for a circular economy approach.
 - Achieved a landmark recycling rate of 94% in 2024, significantly reducing our carbon footprint by 40,559 tonnes.
2. **Battery Recycling Initiative:**
 - Strengthen our partnership with the European Recycling Platform (ERP) to enhance battery recycling efforts by raising awareness through their poster campaign and making available battery recycling boxes to customers.
3. **Comprehensive Hazardous Waste Management:**
 - Ensure rigorous adherence to the UK Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005.
 - Maintain strict procedures for safe containment, handling, and disposal of hazardous waste.
4. **Energy Efficiency and Sustainability:**
 - Conduct thorough energy audits in compliance with ESOS.
 - Invest in cutting-edge energy-efficient technologies, like motion-sensor lighting, to reduce energy consumption.
5. **Sustainable Electrical Equipment Disposal:**
 - Collaborate with the Community Recycling Consortium (CRC) for ethical disposal practices.
 - Support training and employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and mental health challenges.
6. **Advancing Sustainable Transport:**
 - Utilising Lightfoot's full-service system to deliver real results by empowering our drivers to be safer, steadier, and more sustainable whilst out on the road. Better driving performance is recognised and rewarded, leading to improvements in all areas of our fleet's operations.
 - Commit to regular fleet maintenance and adherence to EU Emissions standards (Euro VI/EU6).
 - Investigate and invest in renewable fuel alternatives and strategies to minimise 'empty trip' occurrences.
7. **Proactive Supplier Engagement:**
 - Build and nurture partnerships with suppliers that embody our environmental ethos.
 - Motivate suppliers to innovate and align their products and services with our sustainability goals.

Policy Communication and Review: This policy is accessible to our employees, partners, stakeholders, and third parties. Committed to transparency and accountability, we pledge to conduct annual reviews of our policy, updating it as necessary to meet evolving environmental standards and operational needs.

This policy reflects our broader commitment to environmental stewardship, emphasizing not just compliance but active leadership in sustainability within the veterinary supply industry. Through these initiatives, we aim to set new benchmarks for environmental responsibility, inspiring our partners and competitors alike to join us in making a tangible impact on the planet.

Signed



Martin Riley
Managing Director
 June 2024