

Local Government East Environmental Policy (7.0)

Date of Policy	Sign Off by SLT	Review Date
15/07/2026	Sign off by Senior Leadership Team	July 2028

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At LGE our mission is to support our member authorities in the East of England to be the best they can be for their communities. We have also adopted our RISE corporate values; Resilient, Inclusive, Supportive, Empowering. One aspect of being resilient is understanding the need to adapt our actions and behaviors in response to a changing climate. At LGE we want to take this action ourselves, and lead by example, alongside supporting our member authorities to do the same.
- 1.2 Many of our members have declared a Climate Emergency and have linked their local priorities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Councils play a significant role in reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change, and this is particularly true in the East of England which faces a unique set of climate challenges; coastal erosion, flooding and water scarcity, yet plays a crucial role in delivering renewable energy for the whole of the United Kingdom. As guardians of place, our members are leading the region and, as their membership organisation, we want to lead by example.
- 1.3 We acknowledge that our activity as an organisation has an effect on the environment and we have identified the key elements that make up our environmental and carbon footprint:
 - 1.3.1 Consumption of electricity, gas, water and other fuels
 - 1.3.2 Waste generation
 - 1.3.3 Transport and other emissions from our office space and our operations
 - 1.3.4 Use of non-renewable materials
 - 1.3.5 The environmental impact of our procured goods and services
- 1.4 Our commitment to improving our sustainability and reducing our environmental impact is driving cross LGE action designed to engage our colleagues in making change and driving positive benefits for our organisation and our region.
- 1.5 Through our policies and practice, we will seek to:
 - 1.5.1 Minimise our carbon dioxide emissions, including transport emissions
 - 1.5.2 Integrate sustainability into our everyday decisions
 - 1.5.3 Minimise our energy usage and increase our use of renewable energy
 - 1.5.4 Make our members, suppliers and partners aware of our approach and encourage them to adopt sustainable practices.
 - 1.5.5 Minimise waste and promote use of recycling facilities

1.5.6 Use materials efficiently and procure material and services from sustainable sources

- 1.6 We will continue to adapt our working practices to reflect climate change and resilience, and will share this policy with all colleagues to increase awareness and enable collaboration to evolve our practice.
- 1.7 All LGE colleagues have a role in delivering this policy. The Director of Policy and Corporate Services is responsible for this policy. This policy will be publicly available on our website.