

## Policy

### Environmental Performance

December 2009

SWT recognises the challenges posed by global climate change and the degradation of global ecosystems through resource depletion and mismanagement. We acknowledge that our operations contribute to human-induced climate change. SWT is committed to reduce, where possible, the detrimental impacts of its activities on the wider environment. To achieve its commitment to improved environmental performance, SWT will approach the issue in two ways:

#### Our Environmental Performance

- Initiate a staff led Greening Forum, which will develop and implement an Environmental Management System for SWT;
- Evaluate the environmental efficiency of all our areas of operation;
- Raise awareness of environmental issues throughout the Trust, and encourage individual responsibility for reducing ecological impact;
- Minimise consumption of raw materials, including energy and water;
- Minimise waste by adopting the principle and practice of 'reduce, reuse, recycle' and ensuring environmental efficiency in all areas of operation;
- Procure products that have been produced and distributed with minimal impact on the environment;
- Consider environmental issues alongside cost and quality when selecting suppliers or contractors and when entering into partnership with any organisations and individuals;
- Ensure the environmental credentials of any investment and funding opportunities are given due consideration;
- Review progress of environmental performance in all areas on an annual basis, with a view to continual improvement, and report to Council via the Operational Plan.

## **Our Membership and the Wider Public**

SWT has a membership of over 35 000, operates three first class visitor centres and produces a highly regarded membership magazine. In addition, the Trust engages effectively with government and partner organisations in matters of policy and advocacy. Such an outreach will enable SWT to:

- Continue to focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation, with specific attention given to peatland and woodland management;
- Spread the message of climate change mitigation and wise resource use throughout its membership and wider public;
- Support in principle any national initiatives which promote sustainable development and environmental efficiency.

Policy to be reviewed: December 2010