Environmental Policy 2026-2027

Milton Keynes Veterinary Group (MKVG) consists of an RCVS accredited veterinary hospital and four branch surgeries, and specialises in small animal care. At Milton Keynes Veterinary Group we strive to provide quality, affordable care to help pets achieve the best health possible. Our primary focus is the care of our clients' pets, delivering a friendly, helpful service where 'pets are family'. We acknowledge that our operations have an effect on the environment and have identified our key environmental aspects that contribute to our environmental and carbon footprint:

- Consumption of electricity, gas, water, and other fuels
- Use of anaesthetic gases
- Waste generation
- Transport emissions
- Use of raw materials, including prescribed drugs and medicines
- Procured goods and services with their own environmental impact

Milton Keynes Veterinary Group is committed to reducing its environmental impact through a journey of continual improvement by working through the Investors in the Environment accreditation scheme. As an RCVS accredited veterinary hospital we constantly review and upgrade our facilities and equipment to maintain the high quality health care we provide for pets in the region, and a safe and healthy work environment for our employees.

Our environmental commitment can be demonstrated in our established objectives and goals below:

- Compliance with all applicable environmental regulations and public/customer expectations. We are aware of the government consultation taking place in September to November 2026.
- Monitoring our key resource usage and implementing conservation techniques to achieve our environmental targets, with monthly reviews for the resource usage. In addition, six monthly audits for key resources.
- Reducing scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions
    - Scope 1 – monitoring and reducing anaesthetic gases through effective pre-medication, lower flow anaesthesia, and local anaesthetic techniques. Anaesthetic gas capture in place at Willen site, and looking to install at our Stoke Road branch.
    - Scope 2 – planning to switch to renewable energy contracts as part of our 5-10 year strategy from December 2027, use of LED lighting replacing all non-LED lighting when replacements required, diagnostic machines turned off when not in use, electrical switch off procedures in place.
    - Scope 3 – Reducing single use plastics, procuring items with reduced and/or fully recyclable packaging, optimizing bedding and towel use during procedures, moving to reusable items including incontinence sheets, scrub hats and gowns. Implementing reusable drapes for low risk procedures at all sites. Use of laminates to reduce paper usage, and fully digitised accounting. Implementing sustainable waste/recycling and procurement policies, and following the waste hierarchy. Working with suppliers to

ensure they acknowledge and decrease the environmental impact of their products, and thereby reduce our scope 3 emissions, and regularly discussing our suppliers sustainability commitments. Implementing new practice management system (Lupa) in January 2027 including electronic signatures and reduced paper usage with a more integrated digital system across the hospital and branches.

- Taking part in One Health sustainability projects with our staff, and sharing this information with our clients.
- Publishing and distribution of an annual organisational sustainability report.
- Continue to work towards encouraging sustainable travel for staff and clients. Including commuter traffic within our carbon footprint calculation.
- Our senior management team are looking at additional carbon literacy CPD to further our understanding of net zero and how we might achieve this.

We will continue to improve our environmental management system by working to the Investors in the Environment (iiE) criteria, considering any changes in legislation, our organisation, and other factors. We will convey this policy to all our employees ensuring that they are provided with training to increase awareness of environmental matters.

Rachel Church, Veterinary Surgeon, is our Sustainability Champion and has designated responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy.

Milton Keynes Veterinary Group will make this policy available when requested to interested parties including members of the public. A copy will be made available on the Milton Keynes Veterinary Group website.

Signed:_____A Cilliers_____

Date: _____21.09.26_____

Review date: September 2027

Position: Clinical Director

