

ENVIRONMENT POLICY

SUMMARY

As the Diocese of St Albans, we affirm that:

- caring for God's creation is a Biblical requirement, a gospel imperative, and central to the Missio Dei.
- the Fifth Mark of Mission commits us: "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth".
- our Diocesan Living God's Love vision commits us to loving care and service to the world which we share with countless other species.
- we recognise that we are living in a time of climate and environmental crisis which affects the whole of God's creation.
- we acknowledge and seek forgiveness for our part in causing the degradation and destruction of our common home.
- as a commitment to action, the Diocese of St Albans has registered with A Rocha to achieve the Bronze Eco Diocese award by the end of 2022 and to progress to Silver and Gold award levels. As part of this commitment, we will work to achieve the Church of England target of Net Zero carbon emissions across all Diocesan operations by 2030.
- we will embed principles of sustainability across all our operations, seeking to protect and restore the Earth for the benefit of future generations.
- we will listen to and work with young people, acknowledging that the environmental crisis will directly affect health, well-being and quality of life in the future.
- we will set at the heart of our commitment those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, supporting climate mitigation and working for climate justice.

- This version of the policy has been updated to contain two revised paragraphs which enhance the content on biodiversity. (May 2022)

Approved by Diocesan Synod on 18 June 2022

+ Alan St Albans

