



Sustainability & Environmental Policy 2015

Owner: Henrietta Boex, Director
Next Review Date: April 2018

This document can be made available in standard and large size print
and on tape

This policy was passed by Falmouth Town Council on 20th June 2015

Sustainability and Environmental Policy

Falmouth Art Gallery is wholly owned and run by Falmouth Town Council for the benefit of local residents and visitors to the town. It is situated in the Municipal buildings on the Moor in the centre of the town and is therefore easily accessed by rail, sea, road and pavement.

The Gallery is included under the overarching Environmental Policy of Falmouth Town Council and we are committed to integrating sustainable considerations into every aspect of our business. We also aim to comply with all statutory regulation and codes of practice.

1 Falmouth Art Gallery Principles

- 1.1 Sustainability principles should guide the museum's day-to-day operations and its role and impact on the community.
- 1.2 Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 1.3 Falmouth Art Gallery is a partner of *Fal Energy Partnership* – an initiative coordinated by Transition Falmouth

2. Use of resources

- 2.1 Falmouth Art Gallery aims to contribute towards a sustainable community by encouraging staff to purchase goods and services that cause the least harm to the environment.
- 2.2 Measures will be taken to reduce our consumption in the gallery of non-renewable resources.
- 2.3 Energy and water usage in all our activities should be restricted and research is being made into an alternative energy resource
- 2.4 Falmouth Art Gallery re-uses and recycles gallery waste.
- 2.5 Where feasible the gallery uses recycled and renewable products from local sources.
- 2.6 Falmouth Art Gallery uses Fair Trade products for items, which cannot normally be sourced locally, such as tea and coffee.

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3. Pollution/Transport

- 3.1 Falmouth Art Gallery ensures, where practical, that our activities minimize the use of chemicals which are harmful to the environment.
- 3.2 The gallery will not knowingly use suppliers that do not adhere to sustainable principles.
- 3.3 The gallery will encourage staff and volunteers to walk, cycle and use public transport and car share schemes for commuting and other work related activities, bearing in mind the special needs of disabled people.

4. Health and well-being

- 4.1 Falmouth Art Gallery aims to provide a safe and healthy working environment for staff and volunteers.
- 4.2 Regular training in health and safety and first aid will be encouraged. The appointed first aid officers are currently
 - Donna Williams
 - Alex Hooper
 - Natalie Rigby

5 Local Economy

- 5.1 Falmouth Art Gallery will favour, where feasible, the use of local companies and producers. This will reduce the need to travel and will importantly help with re-generation of the county.
- 5.2 Dr Edward Deming's **14 Points for Management**¹ has a relevance not only to quality but to sustainable development. The gallery will endeavour to implement these recommendations where possible.
- 5.3 The gallery will recognize, value and support the important role played by volunteers within the gallery
- 5.4 The gallery will support work placement and volunteer schemes to help people get back to work⁶ Social Equality

¹ <https://www.deming.org/theman/theories/fourteenpoints>

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- 6.1 Falmouth Art Gallery provides an inspiring environment for people to meet
- 6.2 Staff and volunteers are supported in training and life - long learning
- 6.3 Falmouth Art Gallery will build upon its disabled access and be socially inclusive
- 6.4 Falmouth Art Gallery promotes equal opportunities both with staff, volunteers, suppliers and visitors (see the *Equal Opportunities Policy*)

7 Collections

- 7.1 Falmouth Art Gallery will manage the art collection for future generations by continuing acquisitions, conservation and documentation of works to the highest of standards with long term liabilities in mind.
- 7.2 The gallery will abide by best practice standards recommended by the Museums Association and act ethically in collecting. For example contemporary works of art using non-renewable sources (such as coral etc.) are excluded (See *Collections Development Policy*)

8. Community:

All school and community workshops are assessed to ensure that as far as possible materials are resourced from sustainable sources; paint mixing pots, water containers etc. are made from recycled plastic packaging. All waste paper is recycled; all soaps are biodegradable, toilet roll from recycled source and hand-wipes recycled. Biodegradable nappy bags are also provided. We regularly deliver workshops on environmental concerns working with organisations like CCANW (Centre for Contemporary Art and the Natural World), RAME (Research in Art, Nature and Environment) which is based at Falmouth University and Boot Up who all put the natural environment and natural materials central to their work.

9. Shop and consumables:

80% of shop stock is sourced from local artists who deliver to us when they happen to be in Falmouth. Carrier bags are compostable as are the paper bags which we use most commonly. All fabric products are from natural sources; some jewellery and automata are made from recycled materials. Where possible all printing and photocopying is done using FSC certified products and local suppliers. All print defaults are set at B&W and all screen savers at 5mins. Cartridges are recycled. We recycle used envelopes using address labels stating that we recycle.

10. Recycling:

We encourage reuse and recycling where possible. All paper, cardboard, plastic and glass bottles are sorted and recycled. We have no café but use Fair Trade products for all staff and community refreshments.

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11. Premises/heat & light:

As part of Arts Council England Strategic Support our lighting was audited by NMMC property manager and recommendations including a new switch board were installed to improve electrical consumption. We are hoping to make further in-roads by replacing all track lighting with low energy bulbs for a better environmental performance in 2015/16. We are actively replacing all electrical appliances with the most energy efficient options.

The Town Council has been installing dual flush cisterns throughout the public toilets and are exploring the use of solar/photovoltaics on some buildings.

12. Staff:

We encourage staff to be environmentally responsible by using public transport whenever possible and particularly for any out of county travel; a cycle to work scheme is offered.

13 Dissemination

Falmouth Art Gallery is continually looking into ways to improve upon its sustainable & environmental policy. It will share knowledge and learn from those who adhere to best practice.

Next steps:

We will be reviewing the environmental performance of the whole building as part of our proposed capital development programme including the possible use of grey water, photovoltaic or solar, replacement boilers etc.in 2015/16.

Falmouth Art Gallery's Sustainability Policy has been compiled in consultation with The Eden Project, Cornwall Council, Friends of the Earth and various sourced literature.