

# Environmental Policy

## Paragon Veterinary Group

### 2023

## Environmental Policy

Paragon Veterinary Group is a privately owned veterinary practice which provides small animal, farm, equine care and advanced breeding services. At Paragon our veterinary teams provide outstanding client care and are always striving for clinical excellence. Our staff work with our practice values in mind; achievement, taking responsibility, teamwork, integrity, clinical excellence and client care, all of which we strive to do sustainably. We acknowledge that our operations have an impact on the environment and as such feel an obligation to do what is in our power to mitigate this impact. We have identified our key environmental aspects that contribute our environmental and carbon footprint:

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

Paragon is committed to reducing its environmental impact through a journey of continual improvement by working through the Investors in the Environment (iE) accreditation scheme and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Practice Standards Scheme.

Our commitment to the environment and doing what we can to reduce our impact saw us set out our sustainability plan, which was launched in 2020.

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

- Commitment to SME Climate Hub, to achieve net zero carbon emissions target by 2030 in alignment with corporate sustainability policies, by at least our scope 1 and 2 emissions
- Compliance with all applicable environmental regulations
- Monitoring our key resource usage and implementing conservation techniques to achieve our environmental targets
- Continue to improve our waste and recycling policy and sustainable procurement policy
- Working to further reduce our use of anaesthetic gases
- Minimising unsustainable transport and ensuring that staff think sustainably when planning all other travel
- Working with suppliers to ensure they acknowledge and decrease the environmental impact of their products and transportation
- Supporting the 15 members of the dedicated Green Group with their sustainable actions at all practices
- Striving to keep our staff and clients engaged and informed on our sustainability plan via regular agenda slots in practice meetings and updates via the website and newsletters
- Continuing to enhance our local biodiversity and green spaces, with woodland creation and hedgerow planting at both the Dalston and Newbiggin practices

We will continue to improve our environmental management system by working to the iiE and PSS criteria, continually 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.

Laura Binnie is our Sustainability Champion and has designated responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy.

Paragon Veterinary Group make this policy available when requested to interested parties including members of the public and have a link on Paragon's website on their dedicated Sustainability Page.

Signed: 

Date: 11th April 2023

Position: Managing Director