

Environmental Policy

Further Information for Eco Diocese award criteria

	Criteria	Notes
Bronze Eco Diocese award	An environmental policy	The environmental policy needs to be agreed by the Bishop’s Council and Diocesan Synod/Church in Wales Diocesan Conference. The policy should include points on travel, the environmental maintenance of vicarages, and a commitment to reducing diocesan carbon emissions.
Silver Eco Diocese award	An environmental policy which includes land management with an explicit reference to promoting biodiversity and managing the land for carbon reduction across the diocese	<p>A holistic environmental policy needs to extend across the diocese as a whole and critically needs to include land and biodiversity as well as buildings. A survey or audit of land is an important benchmark to be completed at this stage.</p> <p>Where a diocese has farming tenants, a diocesan policy on managing land assets should include clear social and environmental aspects, reflecting the fourth and fifth Anglican Marks of Mission.</p>

What does an Environmental Policy look like?

An environmental policy will look different in each diocese, but the objective is the same - to guide and shape care for God’s creation within the diocese. As with any policy it will need to be regularly reviewed and revised to keep it relevant and practical.

- Norwich Diocese has a simple statement for their [environmental policy](#).
- Truro Diocese has an excellent example of an [environmental strategy](#) that is visually attractive and great for sharing their vision more widely.
- Birmingham [Environment Policy](#) is presented clearly on their website and embedded into the diocese via a well-thought-out structure and mechanism called the [Environment Programme](#).

Is an Environmental Policy the same as a Net Zero Action Plan?

An environmental policy is *not* the same as a net zero plan. An environmental policy encompasses a more holistic collection of ideas including ministry training and worship, for example. **Further guidance about land at Silver Eco Diocese level is being developed.**