



Environmental & Social Sustainability Policy

Kaikoura is a unique community, with dramatic mountains and deep-sea trenches, making it an important tourist destination. It is our challenge to protect the distinctive environment for visitors and for our residents. We will protect these local values by focusing on sustainable management in many areas including the commitment of the District Council to retaining Green Globe certification.

Kaikoura District Council's aim is to sustain the social, economic and environmental well being of the community now and for future generations.

To assist Kaikoura to become a sustainable community, Kaikoura District Council will:

- commit to continually improving the Green Globe benchmark indicators and shall record and supply this information annually to Green Globe and interested members of the community;
- take into account relevant international, national, regional and local legislation, strategies, agreements, policies and treaties relating to environmental and sustainable practices;
- communicate environmental policies and actions to council stakeholders, staff, visitors and the community;
- facilitate community participation in and increase awareness of sustainable practices;
- engage Kaikoura's tourism sector to monitor impacts and ensure that corrective action is taken as and when necessary;
- respect and include the Maori culture and values in decision making processes;
- commit to employing people from the Kaikoura community when their skills exceed or are equal to those required by the vacant position;
- adopt the best practical options to eliminate or at least reduce adverse effects on the environment resulting from council's activities;
- prevent pollution and reduce waste by committing to and promoting minimal impact practices, reduction, recycling and reuse;
- use energy and water efficiently to minimise waste and greenhouse gas emissions;
- encourage the protection and expansion of biodiversity values while making sustainable use of natural resources and conserve non-renewable resources through efficient use and planning;
- protect and enhance the open spaces, water, trees and heritage buildings and other items in councils ownership;
- endeavour to source goods and services with origins as close as possible to the local community to reduce the impact of moving goods and services from further afield;
- work with contractors and consultants involved in Council's activities to ensure that their activities and practices are sustainable and integrate with those of Kaikoura District Council;
- incorporate environmental performance standards and/or give positive weight to those contractors who have environmental management systems in place, in contracts and service level agreements, within legislative constraints;

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Stuart Grant
Chief Executive Officer
July 2007