

Getting a copy of the policy

The policy papers are available free on the internet.
Goto: www.bathandwells.org.uk/diocesan_information/EnvironmentPolicy.pdf

Or a copy can be ordered, price £5, from The Diocese of Bath and Wells, Old Deanery, Wells, BA5 2UG.

The papers can be reproduced. Some of them will be regularly updated. Some are discussion starters.

Not everyone will be interested in every one. Not everyone will agree with all of them. But they will help us honour our environmental commitment.



What else is happening?

The Diocesan Environment Group is chaired by the Revd David Osborne, who is also the Rector of the Pilton group of parishes.

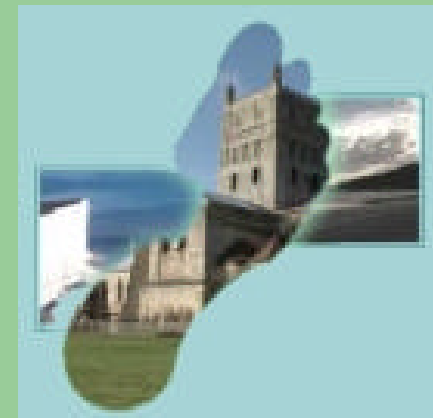
The group aims to help the diocese implement its environmental policy. Members can attend meetings, make presentations, preach, give advice, suggest other organisations or publications which might be helpful, recommend materials for worship or study, or work in other ways that might help your church or group.

If you think the group might be able to help you, contact David Osborne direct on 01749 890423 or e-mail him at osbornepilton@ukonline.co.uk

For a changing world:

An Environmental Action Plan for the Church.

The Diocesan Environment Group.



Diocesan Environment Group
The Old Deanery, Wells, Somerset
BA5 2UG.
North Somerset
01749 670777 www.bathandwells.org.uk

Email: general@bathwellsanglican.org

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Diocese of Bath and Wells.

Diocese of Bath and Wells.

Tel: 01749 670777.

Our environmental commitment

1. We are **aware** that
 - ?? the life systems of the earth are suffering serious damage as a result of human activity;
 - ?? our ways of living have contributed to this damage;
 - ?? the world's poorest people are already being affected by climate change and pollution;
 - ?? serious steps need to be taken to alter these trends;
 - ?? we face a difficult and uncertain future.
2. We **believe** that
 - ?? the world is God's creation and God cares about it;
 - ?? God is involved in the life of the world, particularly in the person of Jesus and by the action of the Holy Spirit;
 - ?? because of this there is always hope;
 - ?? with faith and hope we are called to love God and love our neighbours as ourselves;
 - ?? it is our Christian responsibility to alleviate the damage being done to the life of the earth and to live with love for other people now and in future generations.
3. We **commit** ourselves to
 - ?? live simply that others may simply live;
 - ?? respect and celebrate God's creation in nature;
 - ?? radically reduce our carbon impact;
 - ?? facilitate and empower people and groups in Bath and Wells who want to put this into practice;
 - ?? lead by example from the centre.

Cartoons by Gordon Waddington.

The diocesan environment policy

Our diocesan vision is about *Changing Lives, Changing Churches, and Changing Communities*.

But the world of which we are a part is changing. So the Diocesan Synod has now made a commitment to:

Changing Lives... for a Changing World.

On 3rd March 2007 adopted this statement of its environmental commitment.

The environmental policy, *For a Changing World*, unpacks what this means.

Eco-diocese is a picture of a possible future.

Background papers outline the scale of the problems we face, open up some of the theological themes which can help us face these and describe the relationship between simplicity and spirituality.

The next papers look at how we need to change our church life, and do things differently.

The next section describes resources which can help us in doing things differently: study courses and books, other organisations, sources of advice, but firstly, sources of material which can be helpful in our worship and prayer.

Finally there are examples of what churches have done, a description of the *Go Zero* project in Chew Magna, and for those who want clear advice as to what to do - Thirty Tips.



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