

Global Healthcare Information Network

Environmental and Ethical Policy

The following policies were agreed by the GHI-net directors in August 2010

Global Healthcare Information Network promotes creation and sharing of appropriate information in the Health Sector and in particular seeks bold action to ensure that frontline healthcare workers are equipped with the information they need to save and sustain lives. As an organisation, Global Healthcare Information Network recognises that climate change is an important threat to health worldwide, and in particular in the countries for which we focus our efforts. GHI-net also recognises that our own activities have an impact on the environment and seeks to minimise any detrimental effects at all times.

All members of staff are expected to adhere to Global Healthcare Information Network's sustainable policies in relation to energy, waste, transport and procurement. As a member of Global Healthcare Information Network team you are also expected to uphold the company's mission and values while at, or representing, Global Healthcare Information Network.

1. Waste and the environment

Global Healthcare Information Network looks to minimise its impact on the environment where possible and, when joining the company, you are expected to take responsibility and behave in an ethically and environmentally conscious manner at all times.

Henceforth, Global Healthcare Information Network will use only recycled paper for printing and our printers are set up for double-sided printing where appropriate. Where we outsource production of information or marketing materials (business cards, leaflets, headed paper etc) we shall ensure that the specifications are to the highest environmental standards possible.

GHI-net provides recycling facilities. We aim to recycle: compost, glass, metal, plastics as well as paper and cardboard.

As a member of Global Healthcare Information Network Team, you are responsible for ensuring that you keep your waste to a minimum and recycle where possible.

Global Healthcare Information Network has a strict procurement policy that is in line with our environmental standards. We preferentially use companies which also adopt strict environmental policies and guidelines.

You will also be expected to act in an environmentally responsible manner when using energy and water. You should make sure that you turn lights off if you are last to leave any room or building, or if you have finished using a kitchen or toilet facility. You should not leave taps running or the heating on unnecessarily, and you should avoid having windows open when the heating is switched on.

2. Transport

Global Healthcare Information Network has put in place a series of policies to encourage its staff to minimise their carbon emissions associated with getting to work and any travel that is undertaken whilst at work.

2.1. Travel to Work

The company is keen to encourage all staff to walk and cycle to work where possible. Otherwise, public transport is preferred.

2.2. Travel at Work

All employees are encouraged to act responsibly and avoid travelling to meetings unnecessarily. Before a decision is taken to attend a meeting, employees are encouraged to consider whether a face-to-face meeting is really necessary.

All GHI-net Board of Director meetings are held either by SKYPE, or by minimum travel on public transport.

All staff must travel by public transport at all times to attend business meetings unless impossible to do otherwise.

Global Healthcare Information Network monitors all journeys made by staff on company business.

3. Facilities

- When tea and coffee making facilities are provided, fair trade items are purchased whenever possible.

4. Events

All events must be organized with the environment in mind; food should be sourced locally where possible and should be vegetarian, organic and fair trade. Tap water is used for events as well as in the office. If external contractors are used for events, their environmental and ethical policies will be a key factor.