



## Forestry & Arboriculture

### Environmental Policy

#### 1. Introduction and Aim

Epic Tree Care Ltd undertakes the full range of forestry and arboricultural tree work operations including tree pruning, tree felling, stump grinding, cable bracing, advice and consultation services.

Epic Tree Care has been operating since 01/10/2014, our emphasis is on efficiency, sustainability and low impact, high quality services.

It is our aim to comply with legislation, exceed where possible, continuing to reduce the environmental impacts of our business, while operating in an environmentally responsible manner. This policy describes how we intend to achieve this aim.

#### 2. Responsibility

This environmental policy applies to all our operations including management, office services, site operations and procurement. Elaine Rush has overall responsibility for ensuring that sufficient resources are made available to enable the business to achieve our environmental objectives and targets and that the policy is implemented.

Clive Coney has the day-to-day responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of this policy are being followed and for monitoring the effectiveness of the objectives. However, all employees have a responsibility in their area to ensure that the aims and objectives of the policy are met.

#### 3. Past Achievements and Current Practices

- We have previously planted a large swathe of the surrounding farmland with Scottish hardwood trees, this is a total of 75 Acres of new woodland.
- We are committed to our recycling targets of 99% of all waste created during tree work.
- We purchased a static sawmill which allows us to board up straight timber, maximising carbon sequestration versus firewood.

- We have in-house firewood processing and chippers, the rest of the waste goes to firewood or woodchip, which is either sold for biomass, given to local projects, or composted on the yard for general gardening.
- We hold a SEPA waste carrier license.
- Increased working from home for office staff to reduce travel and vehicle usage.
- Spill kits are available on-site and at off-site locations.

## 4. Objectives

During 2024-2025, we aim to:

- Increase carbon sequestration and reduce wood levels going to firewood stock further.
- Look into renewable heat alternatives for business use.
- Continue to make efficient use of natural resources by conserving energy and water, minimising waste and recycling where possible.
- Continue to meet our duty of care requirements in relation to waste by ensuring the safe keeping, transportation and subsequent recovery or disposal of waste.
- Continue to include environmental considerations in investment decisions for new plant, equipment or working practices.

## 5. Targets

To achieve our aims, we have set ourselves the following targets:

- Continue to reduce vehicle emissions by increasing scheduling efficiency of quotes and work to reduce mileage and servicing all vehicles.
- Commence planning for Sawmill expansion to increase the efficiency of this side of the business, increasing carbon sequestration.
- Identify and commence planning of options for increasing renewable usage within business.
- Continue to reduce generation of general and hazardous wastes by reducing the amount of stock held in stores and ensuring all jobs are accurately scoped and priced to ensure material usage is minimised.
- Recycle as much paper, cardboard, plastic and metal waste generated in the office as possible.
- Reduce paper usage by increasing the use of e-mail and electronic documentation.

## 6. Monitoring

Progress against these objectives will be monitored through:

- Day-to-day operations
- Annual management review of this environmental policy

Signed.....

On Behalf of Epic Tree Care

Date: 09/09/2024