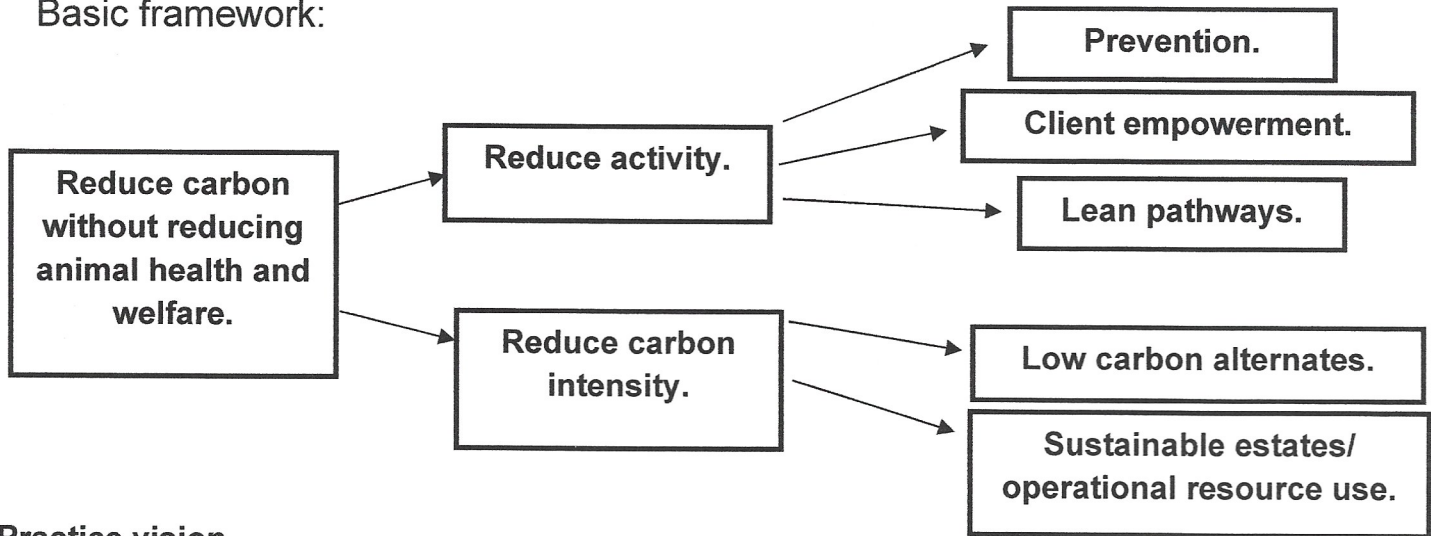


# Equus Vets environmental sustainability policy

Basic framework:



## Practice vision

Equus Vets aims to increase the sustainability of the practice wherever possible. We aim to reduce carbon but with no decreased impact on the animal health and welfare of our patients.

Any sustainability ideas or suggestions must be emailed directly to the sustainability champion – Charlie Hewlett on [charlie@equusvets.co.uk](mailto:charlie@equusvets.co.uk)

## What we are doing as a Practice

We comply with all applicable environmental regulations and societal expectations.

Cornwall area days – Cornwall is our furthest part of our area. In 2022, area days (one day every two weeks) have been trialled and are proving beneficial to our clients and improving our carbon footprint by driving fewer miles.

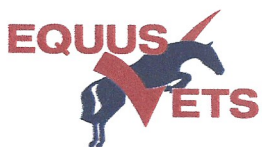
Clients – Clients have the opportunity to collect any prescription medication from the surgery closet to them providing medication has been ordered in a timely manner. The option to post some medications is also available.

Disposal of unused medication – Clients are advised to return any unused medication so that we can dispose of it in the correct manner. This minimises any harmful medication contamination going into the environment.

Anaesthetic gasses – As of 2019 Equus Vets no longer use any anaesthetic gasses.

Preventative treatment – To decrease the use of emergency treatments/ antibiotics, Equus Vets advises its clients to take preventative action. For example – Vaccinations, weight management etc.

Waste survey – This is completed by a member of our team with our waste collector – Summerleaze annually. We also implement a waste management policy.



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Practice environment – Plenty of recycling bins are available and ready to be used. Minimal paper is used by:

- Emailing invoices where possible.
- Training staff to have adequate IT skills to not need to print unnecessary documents off.
- Medication dispenses to be dispensed in our Equus paper bags provided.

### **Our plans for the next 5 years –**

- To continue to develop area days where there is scope to do so. With the success of the Cornwall area days, this time frame may allow for them to be weekly instead or fortnightly if the demand is there.

Investigation into potential other area days? Our area has expanded into the Holsworthy area. In this time frame there may be a demand for an area day in this area. Another area day to be considered would be an Exeter area day.

- We will continue to make aware and encourage that clients return any unused medication to one of our branches for correct disposal. Publishing on social media may help educate our clients.
- We will continue to educate clients on preventative care to try and avoid unnecessary emergency treatment.

This environmental sustainability protocol and plan was created by Charlie Hewlett on the 21/04/2023

Signed.....



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