



Community Justice Scotland (CJS) – Non Departmental Public Body reporting on the Scottish Biodiversity Duty – 2017-20

Community Justice Scotland (CJS) is an executive Non Departmental Public Body established on 1 April 2017. CJS currently has 32 members of staff and 9 Board members and an advisor to the Board. The organisation is based in Scottish Government (SG) premises (Saughton House, Edinburgh).

Biodiversity formed an important part in CJS' planning, decision making and activity.

In common with many public bodies, CJS sought to minimise waste and maximise the efficient use of resources. We promoted the use of efficient communication and stakeholder engagement through the use of public transport (as opposed to car journeys), flexible working (including home working) and diary management (to minimise duplication of meetings and engagement).

Additional impetus in these efforts has been provided by our response to the COVID -19 pandemic. This has necessitated a move to home working across the organisation. Although it is anticipated that CJS will reoccupy its business premises later in 2020, home working will remain a significant feature of its future operating model and this will significantly reduce our carbon footprint. In terms of core operational activity CJS has invested in conference calling software and digital platforms for meetings and providing training. Again, although a return to venue based, face to face training is anticipated, remote learning will be a much larger part of our training activity going forward and this will significantly reduce our carbon footprint.

We will make more progress in reducing the use of paper within the organisation, for example members of the CJS Board are not issued with physical board papers; using electronic copies instead. Similarly all internal management meetings will continue, where possible, to minimise the use of paper.

CJS is 'housed' within the SG estate and as such we comply with all the policies relating to recycling of waste and the use of energy and adopt the SG [environmental policy](#).

Moving forward CJS will:

- review further its suppliers and seek to use only recycled paper,
- raise the profile of recycling and conservation to the staff group,
- monitor the its use of photocopying,
- seek to increase use of walking, cycling and public transport to work, undertake a team session on conservation and explore the car sharing scheme in Saughton House,
- Devote a staff day to conservation and biodiversity.

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