**Norwich BID (Business Improvement District)**

**Environmental Promise 2022-27**

**Given the environmental challenges on the global scale, what can we do as Norwich BID and how can we work towards a greener city?**

**This promise sets our environmental strategy, policy, and action plan.**

**Understanding**

1. We understand that one of the greatest challenges to our city is how we look after our natural environment. The natural environment has two great strengths: its people and its place. The challenge of looking after our city (place) provides a fantastic opportunity to bring together the businesses and community (people) to take collaborative.
2. We understand that our businesses need to become more engaged with this challenge, and we need to move from speeches to sustainable action to have a positive impact for our city.
3. We understand that we are limited individually to only making small differences. However, collectively as a group of businesses we can make a significant difference and it is important to try.

**Norwich BID promise** **to deliver impact by:**

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| Embed an environmental challenge into all the activity, projects, and meetings that we will undertake in delivering our Norwich BID business plan 2022-27 (along with Social and Governance agendas - ESG) through:* Implement positive environmental projects, such as Upcycle Your Waste, Net Zero Waste Market.
* Leading the city business community in environmental best practice, support, and education.
* Review all projects for their environmental impact and sustainability.
* Establish our principles of environmental social governance (ESG) within the BID itself and its supply chain.
* Work with partners to develop and implement urban greening and healthy spaces in the city.
* Encourage environmental topics to be considered and implemented among the BID business community.
* Encourage climate reducing multi-modal transport; such as effective public transport, electric vehicle uses and sustainable travel (such as carlift sharing).
* Actively seeking out environmental charities and business and encouraging them to join and support the BID activities.
* Encourage and promote the adoption of environmental best practice and avoid doing business with negatively impactful businesses.
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 **In addition, we will focus on:**

1. Operations. One staff member will be appointed our environmental green lead. We will review our carbon footprint, waste processes, and develop a plan to reduce to net zero. Aspire to be the first Net Zero BID.
2. Support our local supply chains, switching where practicable to local suppliers. Reduce, re-use, recycle and upcycle where we can. Move all our office functions to paperless.
3. Increase the giving of support and training to SMEs on environmental and conservation projects. Use these case studies and innovations in our meetings to inspire us and others.
4. ESG principles to focus on:
	1. environmental performance - reducing pollution, improving biodiversity, reduced impact on climate change
	2. social impact - inclusive work practices, employee and director diversity, ethical procurement, community support
	3. governance - fair and equal pay, executive compensation, employee relations
5. Support local best practice, such as the Good Economy Commission and Norfolk Climate Champions
6. Encourage all Norwich BID businesses to join us and make an Environmental promise or ESG. We will review, assess, and upgrade our promise every year within our 5-year BID term.