



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

SVP Environmental Response

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Laudato – si'



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The cry of the earth and the cry
of the poor who suffer most
from it

Transform our way of living in
the world, our lifestyles our
relationship with the earth's
resources

Great responsibility especially
for future generations

Community commitment





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What are we currently doing?

What are our next steps?

Where are the opportunities?





Buildings and Transport

Currently have over 80 properties – majority leased.

Energy management, efficiency and monitoring

- EPC – areas of responsibility
- Lighting – electricity usage, LED lights
- Insulation – glazing, roof, wall cavity
- Heating – gas / electricity usage, boiler spec
- Energy suppliers

Waste – licensed contractors

Transport – more train / bus, less car

SVP Vehicles – vans



"Helping Locally,

Helping our Planet"



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There is no such a thing as 'away'. When we throw away, it must go somewhere" ~ Annie Leonard

As the core element of our shops and centres revolve around reuse, we market ourselves as making a difference.



ReLove PreLoved

- 92 million tons of textile waste are produced every year.
- The average person only wears 20% of their clothes 80% of the time.
- 60% of clothes are made with plastic-based materials (a huge source of micro-plastics).
- Over 1/3 of all primary micro-plastic pollution in our oceans comes from washing textiles.
- Textile dyeing is also the second largest polluter of water globally: it takes around 2,000 gallons of water to make a typical pair of jeans.

- All stock is reuse – redirecting from landfill or incineration and given a greater life span
- Reducing C02 by selling reuse items to save customers buying new and combatting fast fashion
- Shops on waste sites 'Revive'
- Reducing rag textiles by innovative selling or giving to CSP for upcycling





- No automatic till receipts
- No purchase of single use plastic bags
- Reusable sacks for storage
- SVP paper bags and SVP hessian shoppers
- Reduce vans
- Consumable procurement management
- Online selling

Support Centres & Social Enterprise projects



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Reuse donations

Upcycling – white goods, textiles, furniture, wood

Garden allotments – growing food for use in café, food waste composted or given to farms for pig feed

Community bookcase

Green awareness events

Fairtrade supplies



Membership, Marketing and Administrative depts

More online
communication

Less paper printed with
agendas, minutes

Microsoft forms



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New goods

Online selling

Boxes for Xmas cards not plastic

Sourcing fairtrade stock, using ethical
suppliers



Next Steps



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- Measure – utility usage, mileage, waste
- Set targets
- Implement changes
- Remeasure
- Consider policies for recycling waste procurement, suppliers
- Consider improvement opportunities from ESOS (Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme)
- Measure reuse – understand offset



**Call to action...what more
can you do?**

**Sociologists believe that it
takes 3.5% of a group to
achieve critical mass to
effect lasting change in a
group**

**The ripple effect –
Vincentians inspiring
positive change!**

