



## **AUSTRALIAN RESPIRATORY COUNCIL POLICY STATEMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY**

This Policy Statement outlines the Australian Respiratory Council's (ARC's) position in relation to environmental sustainability.

The ARC acknowledges that its activities have an impact on the global environment and that operations can be modified to reduce negative environmental impacts and increase positive environmental impacts. ARC is committed to improving its environmental performance and reducing the organisation's contribution to climate change and environmental degradation.

This policy is applicable to all ARC's stakeholders (staff, directors, volunteers, members, partners and beneficiaries of ARC's services) in the course of carrying out their duties. It applies to ARC's Australian operations and office, specifically office-based activities within Australia and travel within Australia and to international destinations.

The ARC will act on its commitment by:

- Complying with all applicable legal and other environmental regulations reducing or offsetting greenhouse gas emissions
- Implementing waste minimisation initiatives. Which could include but not limited to paper recycling, switching off idle equipment and lights, switching thermostats to more season appropriate lower energy setting and minimising water usage
- Promoting efficient transport solutions for commuting staff and implementing initiatives that reduce air and other transport impacts
- Engaging all stakeholders (staff, volunteers, supporters, suppliers, contractors, interested third parties and the public), to encourage participation in environmental sustainability
- Including an overview of ARC's commitment at a strategic and organisational level related to evaluating and minimising environmental impact in the domestic operations and development activities as part of the induction of new staff
- Providing formal training to relevant staff on environmental sustainability where applicable
- Conduct where applicable screening of potential partner organisations or incorporate environmental screening questions into procedures to support the selection of partners to ascertain if they are committed to minimising any environmental negative impact their core business may have

- Including where relevant to development activities explicit reference in partner agreements to expectations regarding the assessment of environment risk and impact, and ongoing monitoring of impact and mitigation strategies
- Encouraging a positive attitude towards reducing our carbon footprint within ARC and its partnerships
- Developing sustainable procurement practices that recognise sustainability objectives
- Publicising this commitment and actions on ARC's website, newsletters, reports and similar communications
- Monitoring and evaluating the environmental impact of ARC's activities.

ARC's activities will be based on the principle of continuous improvement and where environmental impacts cannot be avoided, they will be mitigated.

Endorsed by the Board of Directors on: 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

To be reviewed annually commencing May 2020