PRESCRIPTION PRICING AUTHORITY

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

1. Introduction

1.1 The Prescription Pricing Authority recognises that the management of the impact of its business processes on the environment is of fundamental importance to its stakeholders and members of the public. The Authority will endeavour to adopt measures that will reduce the impact that its business operations and activities have on the environment.

1.2 In order to achieve this the Authority will implement policies and strategies that will

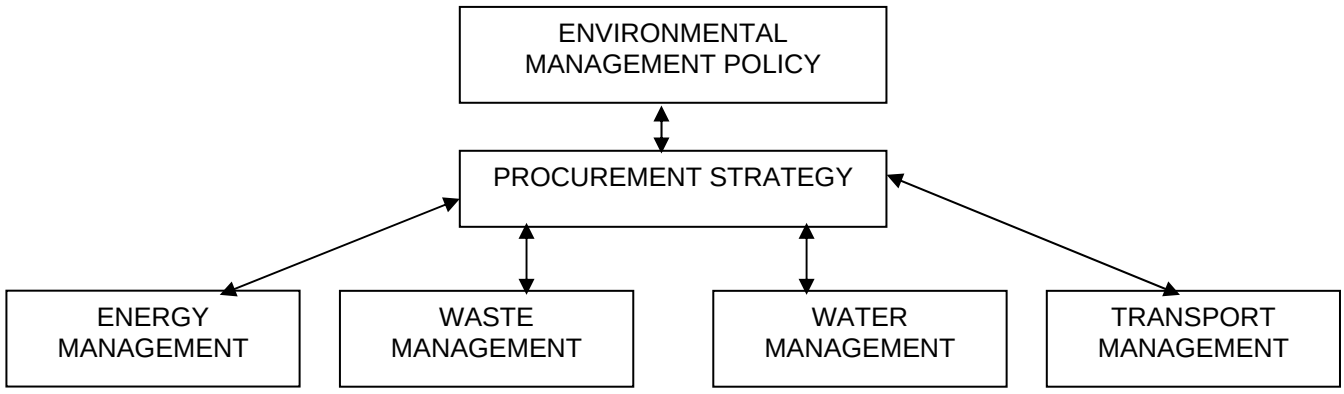
- Make sustainable development and continuous improvement a key part of all polices and procedures.
- Recognise and appraise the impact that our facilities, services and activities have on the environment.
- Introduce and develop environmental management systems.
- Include environmental consideration in investment decisions
- Ensure that the activities of the Authority comply with all statutory requirement of environmental legislation and aim at continual improvement in environmental performance over defined time scales

1.3 The Management Board are fully committed to improving the environmental performance of the Authority, and demonstrate that commitment by endorsing this policy and its subordinate strategies.

2. Environmental Policy Framework

2.1 Environmental Policy

In order to implement its environmental policy the Authority has developed an overarching environmental management framework. This links the local strategies for energy and water management; waste management; and transport management via the all embracing procurement strategy.



2.2 Procurement strategy

The procurement strategy will impact on all of its subordinate strategies. The strategy will be based on sustainability considerations and will include references to value for money; whole life costing; waste minimisation; supplier commitment and will be underpinned with

meaningful key performance indicators, and achievable targets in terms of performance and time.

2.3 Energy management strategy

The energy management policy will be reviewed and amended in line with recent DOH CO2 emission reduction targets, and government targets under the climate change programme. Commitment by all operational managers will be demonstrated by the introduction of operational policies that will include benchmarking between divisions, against agreed targets in reduction in consumption.

Wherever possible water conservation will be implemented supporting the sustainability objectives of implementing environmental management policy. Benchmarking consumption against targets will be utilised to measure success in implementing the strategy.

2.4 Waste management strategy

The Authority recognises its obligation to effective, efficient and careful management of its waste disposal, the majority of which is paper in the form of prescriptions. The Authority will development its waste management strategy, with maintaining confidentiality of the waste the core risk to the strategy. The strategy will also target waste at source, where innovation will be harnessed to eliminate wasteful use of resources as opposed to disposing of waste. Benchmarking against each other and other organisations will be used to reduce consumption.

2.5 Transport management strategy

The Authority views transport as not only that which enables staff to get to work, but the other transportation, such as couriers etc, that enables the Authority to conduct its business within its targets. The policy will therefore be two pronged, one affecting staff, and taking into consideration the IWL initiatives, the other being business transportation (including postal and courier services), and the effect that it has on the environment. Initiatives to reduce the use of transportation will be implemented, and effectiveness measured in terms of savings and improved working practices, and reduction in duplication of effort.