

Sydenham Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club Ltd

Environmental Sustainability Action Plan

The climate crisis and changes to the environment are global issues that will impact everyone, and tennis is no different. Whether it be the impact of extreme temperatures on events and competitions, or the risk of flooding that rising sea levels and severe weather pose for all tennis venues around the country, it's vital that we act to secure a sustainable future for Sydenham Tennis Club.

To meet its environmental goals, Sydenham Tennis Club has developed an action plan. Divided into distinct topics, it details how the club pledges to implement and maintain its environmental policy, step by step.

Underpinning the action plan is the desire and commitment for us to thrive as a club and open up tennis, whilst considering the impact on people and the environment. We are striving to save energy, reduce waste and pollution, protect wildlife, act sustainably and make environmentally conscious choices in all we do.

Our action plan targets nine key areas:

- Wildlife and nature conservation
- Water use
- Energy and carbon
- Sustainable travel
- Waste management
- Food and beverages
- Purchasing and procurement
- Training and education
- Building our green network

The actions are based on advice from sustainability experts and tailored to tennis club operations and, more specifically, our own Club.

We believe the actions are realistic and achievable, but we can only do this together. Through simple behavioural changes, members, volunteers, coaches, staff and visitors can contribute positively to this plan.

Some actions can be implemented immediately, and some are longer term initiatives. We are keen to adopt a collaborative approach and welcome input and ideas from all. If you have knowledge, expertise or interest in helping, please let us know by contacting dez.lewington@sltcc.co.uk.

This action plan can be found online in the Members' area of the Club website or provided upon request from the Club Manager.

Wildlife and nature conservation

Actions already in place:

- Programme of grounds management to provide habitat for wildlife, including trees, flowers and wild areas

Opportunities to investigate:

- Identify invasive species at the Club to ensure they do not spread outside our borders
- Identify protected species, such as bats and birds, and try to work to avoid disruption
- Provide allotment space for members and local community to grow their own fruit and vegetables
- Consider creating features, such as bat and bird boxes, log piles, wild areas, etc that encourage wildlife
- Apply for Kent Tennis biodiversity grant to redevelop NW grounds area into habitat and seating space

Water use

Actions already in place:

- Water usage is on meter so can be evaluated
- Cisternmizer implemented in Clubhouse male toilets urinal to reduce consumption
- Cistern bags implemented in all toilets to reduce consumption

Opportunities to investigate:

- Investigate possibility of rainwater harvesting

Energy and carbon

Actions already in place:

- Smart meters now in place for electricity and gas supply to enable effective monitoring of usage
- Smart systems in place for all tennis courts floodlighting to prevent re-ignition if not turned off manually
- Light level sensor in place for all tennis court floodlighting to prevent use during periods where there is sufficient daylight
- Motion sensors sited in squash court corridor and male changing rooms to only activate when in use and cut off after specified period of inactivity
- Motion sensors for squash courts activate when player enters the court cut off after a period of inactivity
- Thermostatic controls for squash courts heating during opening hours maintains temperature at 18 degrees when in use, but drops to 14 degrees when no-one in the building
- Touch controls for additional heating and ventilation fans on timers to prevent excessive use

Opportunities to investigate:

- Investigate alternative energy sources, such as heat pumps and solar panels
- Investigate energy efficiency improvements to the clubhouse, such as better insulation, double glazing, etc.

Sustainable travel

Actions already in place:

- Bicycle racks sited to encourage sustainable travel to the Club

Opportunities to investigate:

- Improved and enhanced bicycle storage

Waste management

Actions already in place:

- Tennis ball recycling in place – two locations to drop off balls
- Tennis balls sent monthly to Recycaball for repurposing
- Tennis balls in good condition reused for club play sessions and other activities

Opportunities to investigate:

- Contractual arrangement with Bywaters to collect and recycle waste

Food and beverages

Actions already in place:

- No plastic cups, glasses or straws used in the bar

Opportunities to investigate:

- Consider water fountain and/or refillable bottles
- Investigate timers for bottle fridges

Purchasing and procurement

No actions at present

Training and education

Actions already in place:

- Signage in place as reminder to turn off lights, etc after use
- Eco/Sustainability working group set up from Club members

Building our green network

No actions at present