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“A model for the future”

Taking responsibility for the future, Stockholm County Council pursues innovative environmental work that both improves and inspires.

THE VISION FOR THE COUNCIL’S ENVIRONMENTAL WORK

1 Purpose and background

THE PRIMARY UNDERTAKING of the County Council is to make sure that the county’s residents have access to good, effective health and medical care and public transport. The County Council is also responsible for regional planning and for contributing to a free and accessible cultural life in the county.

Stockholm County is a dynamic region that is growing rapidly. To be able to offer care that meets the expectations of residents and their healthcare needs in the future, the County Council is undertaking one of its biggest-ever initiatives in the field of health and medical care. The fact that Stockholm is growing rapidly creates an increased load on the transport system in the county, which is why major investments are being made in public transport. For the County Council to be able to contribute to sustainable development in the region, all of this has to be done with limited environmental impact.

Stockholm County Council is an important player in Sweden’s work to achieve these goals. The world’s heads of state and government have adopted global goals for sustainable development in order to protect the planet and its natural resources, to eradicate poverty and hunger, and to uphold human rights. The County Council’s environmental work contributes to national and international goals for sustainable development.

Sustainable development is about guaranteeing good living conditions for everyone, both now and in the future. People are at the centre, ecology forms the framework and a healthy economy is a prerequisite for and a means of sustainable development.

This is Stockholm County Council’s seventh environment programme, with goals that aim to reduce the environmental impact and drive developments forwards in the Stockholm region, in Sweden and globally. The goals in the programme contribute to sustainable social development, with sustainable transport systems, properties and healthcare. The Environment Programme also includes an ambition to be a leading player when it comes to sustainable procurement. In this way, the County Council assumes responsibility for the way in which the production of products and services it has procured affect people and the environment.
STOCKHOLM COUNTY COUNCIL works in a systematic, targeted way to reduce the negative environmental impact of its activities. This work is based on goals, guidelines and other requirements that apply to its environmental work. The Environment Programme has been adopted by the County Council Assembly, and is a controlling document for the County Council’s administrations and companies. The Environment Programme concerns all activities financed by the County Council, and is applied, where relevant, when the Council signs new agreements with healthcare providers, transport service providers and other suppliers.

The goals in the Environment Programme are within each administration and company broken down into local goals and action plans. All activities that the organisations plan in the environmental field must be analysed and balanced against all of the County Council’s overarching goals before any decision on their implementation. Special attention must be paid to cost-efficiency and a balanced economy.

Environmental work is a part of everyday life for managers and employees. Active communication about the decreased environmental impact contributes to the organisation being perceived as an attractive employer, and creates a positive image of the County Council. Environmental work is maintained and developed by means of certified environmental management systems, and environmental goals are followed up every year.
3 Strategic direction and goals of environmental work

IN 2017–2021 the County Council will carry out ambitious, systematic environmental work in order to reduce the climate impact, become more resource-efficient and reduce the environmental and health risks caused by direct and indirect emissions from its activities. By specifying environmental and social requirements for suppliers and developing new methods and work processes, the County Council’s driving its environmental work forward. This environmental work engages and inspires participation and encourages collaboration.

The Environment Programme is divided into five areas:

• Stockholm County Council’s plan for sustainable procurement
• Stockholm County Council’s climate commitment
• Environmental goals for health and medical care
• Environmental goals for public transport and other transport activities
• Environmental goals for the County Council’s properties and installations

The Environment Programme contains 15 environmental goals in all, which are measured through a total of 24 Indicators. The goals define the level that the County Council aims to achieve.

3.1 Stockholm County Council’s plan for sustainable procurement

The County Council shall contribute to sustainable consumption and production by means of procurement and the resource-efficient use of products. Stockholm County Council is a significant player that can and shall contribute to sustainable product development by making demands in public procurement processes. It is the County Council’s ambition to be a leading player in Europe when it comes to sustainability requirements in public procurement. Stockholm County Council shall, through the procurement process,

• contribute to meeting goals, guidelines and other requirements that apply to the County Council’s environmental work
• contribute to society’s transition to a circular, bio-based economy by striving to purchase products that are sustainable in the long term, with the ultimate aim of minimising the proportion of waste
• promote innovation in products that are free of substances hazardous to the environment and human health and have a low environmental impact from a life cycle perspective, and stimulate sustainable product development
• stimulate the resource-efficient use of products in the County Council’s activities
• reinforce social responsibility in the supply chain for goods and services in the County Council’s procurement processes
• make effective sustainability demands based on analyses of environmental impact and human rights.

In order to meet these requirements, the County Council shall draw up a County Council-wide plan for sustainable procurement. The plan should also contain proposals for how to phase out microplastics from the County Council’s activities. The County Council’s procuring administrations and companies shall develop competences and work methods in order to implement the plan. While the plan is being drawn up, the goals in the Environment Programme shall serve as guidelines for procurement by the organisations.
Stockholm County Council’s climate commitment

Climate change is one of the most difficult environmental issues facing humankind. It is, therefore, extremely important that emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases be reduced. Public transport is the part of the County Council’s activities that consumes most energy and accounts for a large part of the County Council’s greenhouse gas emissions. The electricity, heating and cooling used in properties and installations, as well as consumption and construction projects, also account for significant indirect greenhouse gas emissions. Climate change also represents new challenges when it comes to adapting the organisations in the event of, among other things, heatwaves and intense cloudbursts. The County Council has been working for a long time to reduce direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions from its activities. The County Council’s climate commitment involves further reducing climate impact, as well as climate adaptation measures.

In 2017–2021, the County Council will be taking action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by such means as increasing the use of renewable energy, rationalising energy consumption, reducing emissions of nitrous oxide and anaesthetic gases, and limiting the climate impact from construction and civil engineering projects. Through environmental requirements and the resource-efficient use of products, the County Council shall also reduce the climate impact from consumption and production. Stockholm County Council’s climate commitment means that the County Council’s greenhouse gas emissions shall be reduced by at least 50 per cent by the year 2021 compared with 2011, and by at least 75 per cent compared with 1990.1 The County Council’s long-term climate ambition is to contribute to achieving the goals in the climate roadmap for the Stockholm region. By 2050, Stockholm County shall have no net greenhouse gas emissions.2

The County Council is responsible for socially important activities in which it is important to temper the effect of climate change. The County Council is, therefore, developing a climate adaptation plan. Within the framework of regional development planning, the County Council is working on climate adaptation for the region as a whole.

1 Relates partly to Scope 1, 2 and 3 according to the definition in the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. These are climate emissions in the form of coolant, nitrous oxide and anaesthetic gases (goal 3), energy consumption for the County Council’s own properties (goal 11) and public transport and other significant travel and transport activities with the County Council’s own vehicles or carried out by suppliers procured (goals 7 and 10). Calculations are performed from a life cycle perspective of various fuels, including the production and distribution of fuels. The calculation is based on forecasts and assumptions of the County Council’s future energy and fuel consumption, and is thus associated with a degree of uncertainty. Consideration has been given to the increased property area for the Nya Karolinska Solna, but not for increased market shares or increased property area in public transport services.

2 According to the proposed goals in the new regional development plan for the Stockholm region. The goals are ultimately adopted by the County Council Assembly.
1 In 2021, the County Council’s greenhouse gas emissions will have been reduced by at least 50 per cent compared with 2011 and by at least 75 per cent compared with 1990.

1.1 Indicator
Climate impact from emissions of greenhouse gases, tonnes CO₂ equivalents.

Target
Emissions shall be reduced by at least 50 per cent by 2021 compared with 2011 and by at least 75 per cent compared with 1990.

Description
The reductions in emissions relate to the calculated total effect of goals in the Environment Programme (as described above). The County Council’s climate impact from consumption and production is also reduced, although this is not included in the calculation here.

2 In 2021, the County Council will be working systematically and efficiently on climate adaptation.

2.1 Indicator
The County Council has an organisation for climate adaptation and works in accordance with an adopted climate adaptation plan.

Description
Initially work takes place to identify critical factors and activities, as well as synergies in both the short and the long term, and to draw up proposed measures that are then revised annually during the programme period. This work forms the basis of a climate adaptation plan that will be adopted in 2018. The County Council’s organisations will then implement the plan and work systematically and effectively on climate adaptation.

3.3 Environmental goals for health and medical care
An increasing and ageing population is placing tough demands on healthcare in Stockholm County Council. The growing demand for healthcare also means that the environmental impact is increasing, both from healthcare organisations and indirectly through purchases of goods and services.

In 2017–2021, the County Council will be taking action to reduce the environmental impact from pharmaceuticals, textiles, food and other goods at all stages – from production to use and waste. Action is being taken to achieve more secure and cost-efficient management of pharmaceuticals as well as resource-efficient textile management, together with continuous work to reduce emissions of anaesthetic gases. The County Council is also continuing its work against antibiotic resistance by means of sensible prescription and requirements for reduced use in the field of food production.

Sustainability requirements are also being made in procurement processes in order to strengthen the environment and social consideration in the production of food and pharmaceuticals, and to stimulate the development of textiles with a low environmental impact in a life cycle perspective. All in all, this work contributes to positive environmental and health effects, both regionally and globally.

3 During the programme period, the County Council will be working to achieve a pharmaceutical chain that preserves patient value while contributing to reducing the environmental impact from pharmaceuticals during production, use and disposal.

3.1 Indicator
The County Council’s follow-up indicates reduced emissions of environmentally harmful pharmaceutical substances.

Description
Healthcare and dental care providers are implementing measures to reduce emissions of pharmaceutical substances in the County Council’s register of environmentally harmful pharmaceuticals. Follow-up using quantitative goals takes place in accordance with a plan for pharmaceuticals and the environment.

3.2 Indicator
Reduced scrapping of pharmaceuticals through the safer, more efficient management of pharmaceuticals.

Description
Healthcare providers take action during the programme period to achieve safer, more cost-efficient management of pharmaceuticals that also contributes to a reduction in pharmaceutical waste. Follow-up using quantitative goals takes place in accordance with a plan for pharmaceuticals and the environment.
In 2021, the County Council’s climate impact from emissions of anaesthetic gases will have been reduced by 40 per cent compared with 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Climate impact from emissions of anaesthetic gases, tonnes CO₂ equivalents.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Emissions shall by 2021 be reduced by 40 per cent compared with 2011.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>The volume of emissions is equal to the volume purchased minus any volume destroyed. The volume destroyed is calculated by using details of measures to limit emissions, for example the number of filters used to collect anaesthetic gases.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2021, the County Council will have rationalised textile management and reduced the environmental impact of the use of disposable and reusable textiles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.1 Indicator and target</th>
<th>Environmental consideration is included in the County Council’s clothing rules.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>In order to reduce the use of disposable textiles where these are not required for reasons of patient safety, environmental consideration is included in both County Council-wide and local clothing rules and clothing policies. The indicator includes healthcare and dental care providers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.2 Indicator</th>
<th>The proportion of clothing items that are in circulation in the organisations for more than 30 days.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>The proportion must be less than 25 per cent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>This indicator is intended to rationalise the management of reusable clothes, and thus reduce the need for new investment and the new production of textiles. “In circulation” refers to clothes that have been delivered by the supplier of laundry services. The indicator relates to the County Council’s own activities in the areas of healthcare and dental care. In addition to reducing the proportion of clothes in circulation, administrations and companies are striving to increase the turnover rate for reusable textiles.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3.1 Sustainable patient meals
The food served in the County Council contributes to the organisations’ environmental impact. The issue of food is a complex one, and affects areas such as climate, a toxin-free environment, biodiversity and the battle against global antibiotic resistance. Stockholm County Council shall be environmentally smart in its procurement. Food shall contribute to minimising the negative environmental impact as far as possible and contribute to positive environmental value where this is feasible. In order to reduce the environmental impact of patient meals, the County Council is focusing on, among other things, reducing food waste and increasing the proportion of locally produced and organic food. Certain food products have a greater impact on the environment than others in their production. Stockholm County Council shall, therefore, draw up a plan stating which organic food products shall be chosen in the first instance, with an aim to strive for 100 per cent organic for certain food groups. The purchasing of products that are produced using pesticides banned within the EU shall be avoided.

Buying locally produced food products can also have a positive impact on the environment. This is true in particular of dairy products, as well as lamb and beef, as sheep and cattle make a significant contribution to biodiversity and open countryside. There shall also be a focus on increasing purchases of locally produced fruit and vegetables.
In 2021, sustainable patient meals will be served in the County Council.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.1 Indicator and target</th>
<th>Sustainability requirements shall always be specified when procuring meal services and food.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>The requirements are defined in a plan for sustainable patient meals. There shall be a special focus on animal welfare requirements and the low use of antibiotics in livestock production. Follow-up on defined requirements shall take place during the programme period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.2 Indicator</th>
<th>The proportion of organic food products, as a percentage.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>50 per cent in 2021.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>The proportion is calculated of the total cost of food purchased. The focus is on food products with a high environmental impact and goods produced using pesticides that are banned in the EU. A plan for sustainable patient meals describes which organic food products shall be chosen in the first instance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.3 Indicator</th>
<th>Climate impact from patient meals, tonnes CO₂ equivalents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Shall have been reduced by 20 per cent in 2021 compared with 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>The calculations are based on climate data and statistics from a meal planning tool.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.4 Indicator</th>
<th>The proportion of food thrown away, as a percentage.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Maximum 15 per cent of portion weight thrown away in 2021.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Refers to the amount of food served to patients. One important factor in this task is that patients are allowed to a greater extent to choose which food they eat, and that portion sizes can be adapted according to needs and preferences.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.5 Indicator</th>
<th>Volume of food waste, tonnes.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>The volume of food waste shall in 2021 have been reduced by 40 per cent compared with 2017.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Refers to the total volume of food waste.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.6 Indicator</th>
<th>The proportion of locally produced food products, as a percentage.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>20 per cent in 2021.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>The proportion is calculated of the total cost of food purchased. The focus is on dairy products, lamb and beef, and fruit and vegetables. A definition of “locally produced” is set out in a plan for sustainable patient meals, with “produced in Sweden” as a minimum level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4 Environmental goals for public transport and other transport activities

Stockholm’s rapid growth is increasing the load on all parts of the county’s transport system. The County Council is making major investments in public transport in order to lead the way in sustainable travel and to promote sustainable development in the Stockholm region.

In the period 2017–2021, various measures will be taken to ensure that travel by public transport increases and that transport activities become more energy-efficient and make greater use of renewable fuels. Offering attractive public transport services is one of the County Council’s greatest opportunities to reduce the environmental impact. Through the regional plan, the County Council can also encourage travel by bike and on foot, and the County Council shall also make use of digital technology for travel-free meetings and e-health services. The County Council is also taking action in connection with the operation and maintenance of public transport to reduce emissions of substances hazardous to the environment and human health. These measures will result in reduced emissions of particles, oxides of nitrogen and gases with an impact on climate. The initiatives will also reduce the chemical impact. All in all, the County Council’s investments in public transport combine with general environmental work to improve the environment and public health.

The County Council will strive to ensure that public transport, walking, cycling and digital meetings increase, causing a reduction in other motorised forms of transport. Public transport’s share of motorised transport will in 2021 have increased compared with 2011.

7.1 Indicator
Surveys of travel habits about travel by bicycle and on foot as well as digital meetings.
Target
Increase in cycling, walking and digital meetings.
Description
Surveys of travel habits of the county’s residents follow up on the proportion of journeys made by bike or on foot as well as digital meetings. Digital meetings are, for example, telephone or video meetings that replace travel by rail, air or car, and also include telemedicine.

7.2 Indicator
Public transport’s market share, as a percentage
Target
Public transport shares shall increase in accordance with the current transport provision programme for Stockholm County.
Description
See current transport provision plan for definition.
In 2021, 95 per cent of the County Council’s transport services will be using renewable fuels.

8.1 Indicator
Proportion of renewable energy for transport services, as a percentage.
Target
95 per cent in 2021.
Description
Includes public transport on land, i.e. bus services, rail services and mobility service, as well as public transport at sea. The goal also includes the organisation’s own vehicles as well as other significant transport activities that the County Council procures. The target refers to energy content (kilowatt hours) of the fuel used.

Energy consumption for public transport services will in 2021 have been reduced by 10 per cent and in 2030 by 15 per cent compared with 2011.

9.1 Indicator
Energy consumption for public transport services per passenger kilometre.
Target
Shall have been reduced by 10 per cent in 2021 and by 15 per cent in 2030 compared with 2011.
Description
Public transport services by bus, at sea and rail transport are included and contribute to achieving the goal to varying degrees. The Traffic Administration defines specific guideline values for each kind of transport.

In 2021, the volume of chemicals hazardous to the environment and human health used for the operation and maintenance of public transport services will have been reduced by 30 per cent compared with 2017.

10.1 Indicator
Volume of phase-out chemicals, in kilogrammes or litres.
Target
Shall in 2021 be 30 per cent less than in 2017.
Description
In 2017 there will be an inventory of the volume of phase-out chemicals used for the operation and maintenance of vehicles as well as properties and depots of the transport service providers engaged by the Traffic Administration, and the volume measured will be used as a basis for this goal. There will then be an annual inventory and report. The phase-out chemicals in question are defined in Stockholm County Council’s phase-out list of chemicals hazardous to the environment and human health.

In 2021, the County Council’s climate impact from work-related travel will have been reduced by 25 per cent compared with 2016.

11.1 Indicator
Climate impact from rail and air travel, tonnes CO₂ equivalents
Target
Shall have been reduced by 25 per cent compared with 2016.
Description
Refers to work-related rail and air travel booked by employees via a travel agency. Travel by car is included in 8.1 above.
3.5 Environmental goals for the County Council’s properties and installations

Stockholm County Council is in a period of major investments in public transport services and healthcare properties. Construction and civil engineering projects account for a significant proportion of the County Council’s environmental impact in 2017–2021. It is expected that the climate impact of construction and civil engineering projects adopted will exceed the rest of the County Council’s climate impact. There is an additional climate impact through the chemicals contained in construction materials, and also through the generation of large volumes of waste in the County Council’s construction and projects.

In the period 2017–2021, the County Council will be taking various measures to limit the climate impact of construction and civil engineering projects. Work to rationalise energy consumption continues, an important element of which is to plan to ensure that technical equipment and hospital premises are used as efficiently as possible. Other measures involve preventing waste and increasing material recycling in construction and civil engineering projects. The County Council is also striving to reduce the environmental impact of chemicals hazardous to the environment and human health. All in all, this work contributes to increased climate- and resource-efficiency, as well as reduced chemical risks to the environment and human health.

The high number of major investments in new construction and renovations of the County Council’s properties, buildings and premises will also in due course increase the proportion of energy-efficient buildings. These investments in the County Council’s properties will result in environmentally efficient solutions.

Business and property energy in properties owned by the County Council will have been reduced in 2021 by 10 per cent and in 2030 by 30 per cent compared with 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12.1 Indicator</th>
<th>Energy consumption, kilowatt hours per square metre (Atemp).</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target</strong></td>
<td>10 per cent lower energy consumption in 2021 and 30 per cent lower in 2030 compared with 2011.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>This goal refers to the amount of energy and includes all electricity, heating and cooling, property energy and business energy combined. Both business and property energy shall be rationalised.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During the programme period, the climate impact from the construction process in the County Council’s construction and civil engineering projects will have been considered and limited.

13.1 Indicator and target
Description
The County Council has a County Council-wide plan to limit the environmental impact in construction and civil engineering projects.
In 2017 a County Council-wide plan will be drawn up to limit the climate impact of the construction process in the County Council’s new construction, civil engineering and major renovation projects.

In 2021, the County Council will have increased material recycling in construction and civil engineering projects, and will have taken action to prevent waste.

14.1 Indicator and target
Description
The County Council is striving to prevent waste and increase material recycling in construction and civil engineering projects.
This goal intends to encourage reduced waste volumes and a higher quality of material recycling in the final processing of construction and demolition waste. In 2017, administrations and companies concerned will identify waste streams with a high environmental impact and development potential, and make decisions on local goals and measures. The goals will include increased material recycling for prioritised fractions, as well as waste prevention initiatives, in connection with new construction, renovation and civil engineering projects.

The County Council will assess materials and products used in new construction and renovation in accordance with the Building Material Assessment (BVB) Product Assessment criteria, and in 2021 at least 90 per cent will at least be accepted or recommended.

15.1 Indicator
Target
Description
The proportion of materials and products that have been assessed in accordance with the BVB Product Assessment, as a percentage.
50 per cent of materials and products for public transport properties and installations shall have been assessed in 2021, and 90 per cent of other properties owned by the County Council shall have been assessed in 2021.
The materials and products used in new construction and renovation are registered, and in the first instance each product and material is reported separately, although, if this is not relevant, they are registered in product and material groups. Every year the proportion of materials and products that have been assessed in accordance with the BVB Product Assessment (or equivalent criteria) is reported.

15.2 Indicator
Target
Description
The proportion of materials and products accepted or recommended of those that have been assessed in accordance with the BVB Product Assessment, as a percentage.
90 per cent of materials and products are accepted or recommended in 2021.
Every year the proportion of recommended and/or accepted materials and products is reported for completed projects. This includes both public transport properties and other properties owned by the County Council.
4 How environmental work is governed

THE ADMINISTRATIONS AND COMPANIES govern environmental work by planning for measures and managing costs via the budget process, within the framework of each budget year. Investments made for environmental work are handled through the County Council’s general investment process.

4.1 Organisation and responsibility
The County Council Assembly has ultimate responsibility and makes decisions on strategic and important matters, such as general guidelines and programmes for environmental work. The County Council Executive Board leads and coordinates the County Council’s committees and their operations, and follows up on the realisation of the County Council Assembly’s decisions. The County Council Executive Board is also responsible for the overall development of the County Council as a whole, and is responsible for creating an organisation for environmental work. The County Council Executive Board follows up on the Environment Programme and checks that governance of environmental work is functioning satisfactorily.

Committees and company executive boards are responsible for environmental issues within their operations, with due reference to the Environment Programme. Heads of administration and managing directors are responsible for setting local goals and drawing up local instructions, and also for budgets within the framework of their own organisation in order to contribute to achieving the objective of the County Council’s Environment Programme. These local goals and instructions must be adopted by the committee or executive board.

The head of administration or managing director must report on an ongoing basis on how work is proceeding to the committee, executive board and, where relevant, the owner committee.

Employees contribute to environmental work and put forward ideas for improvements. Suppliers to the County Council in the fields of health and medical care, public transport and properties must monitor and report their environmental work in accordance with the requirements in each agreement.

4.2 Process-based environmental work in the County Council
Environmental work is governed through the County Council’s management process. Environmental work is secured, followed up and checked at County Council level through the County Council’s budget and reporting process and through audits. Financial, social and environmental consequences are considered before decisions are taken.

The environmental work of administrations and companies must be planned in each annual budget and operational and business plan respectively. Follow-up and improvement work must be secured at company and administration level through active governance and certification in accordance with ISO 14001.

4.2.1 Communication and training
The County Council’s environmental communication shall enhance the County Council’s brand and employer brand. All communication and training in the environmental area must be planned on the basis of target group analyses and designed to be both resource-efficient and to achieve the desired effects.

Communication and training initiatives must be designed in such a way that information and knowledge are conveyed in a clear, easily accessible way. These initiatives shall result in the County Council’s environmental work being known and inspiring, and in environmental work being integrated into day-to-day operations.
Guiding principles
The guiding principles of the County Council’s environmental work mean that the County Council’s administrations and companies, with regard to the County Council’s core activities and other goals, and with no loss of quality in these activities,
• prioritise travel-free work methods, and travel by rail ahead of by air
• in the first instance choose energy from a renewable origin when concluding new agreements on supplies of electricity, district heating and district cooling for their own properties, as well as electricity for public transport
• specify requirements for energy performance in connection with new construction and major renovations
• specify requirements in agreements that there must be effective equipment for the destruction of nitrous oxide in all County Council-funded obstetric care and some dental care, and monitor the trend in the use of nitrous oxide in other areas of care in order to guarantee continued low emission levels
• make sure that operations work in a resource-efficient way by
  – rationalising material consumption
  – promoting the recycling of furniture and IT equipment
  – recycling patient food, packaging, newspapers, electrical waste, hazardous waste and other significant fractions
• make sure that logistics and areas for recycling solutions are appropriate by specifying requirements for effective recycling systems in connection with the procurement of waste contractors
• promote the recycling of construction materials and apply the Swedish Construction Federation’s guidelines for the sorting of waste in construction and civil engineering projects
• do not use chemical products that pose a risk to health and the environment, in accordance with Stockholm County Council’s phase-out list
• in the first instance choose organic coffee and tea, as well as organic or locally produced fruit for employees in connection with purchasing and entertainment.

Follow-up
The guidelines are followed up in accordance with the County Council’s management process and coordinated with follow-up by other governing documents used throughout the County Council. Results are reported in the County Council’s annual environmental report. Ongoing follow-up takes place locally, within the framework of each environmental management system.

1 The energy consumption requirements shall correspond to the Sweden Green Building Council’s Gold grade (see www.sgbc.se).
2 The material recycling rate in the County Council’s hospital properties shall be at least 25 per cent, according to the County Council’s Environment Programme 2012–2016.
3 The sorting rate for construction and civil engineering projects shall be at least 90 per cent, according to the County Council’s Environment Programme 2012–2016.