

# Equal Opportunities Statement

## Background

Econet is an independent conservation group whose aim is to conserve and promote awareness and enjoyment of the natural environment in public open spaces and other sites throughout the Reading area.

All members of Econet are volunteers whose time and effort is given freely. In accordance with its constitution, Econet is open to all and makes no charge for membership.

## Purpose

The purpose of this statement is to encourage membership of Econet and, in as far as is practically possible, participation in its activities, free from discrimination, prejudice, intolerance or harassment of any form.

## Membership

Econet recognises the diverse nature of the local community and believes in the need to involve all sections of that community if its aims are to be achieved.

Econet is open to all members of the community and actively encourages participation in its activities. However, Econet recognises its membership is not currently fully representative of the local community.

Econet will therefore seek to achieve a membership that is more representative of the community by:

- Promoting activities that attract people from all sections of the community.
- Endeavouring to ensure publicity relating to its activities reaches all sections of the community.
- Encouraging and assisting those wishing to participate in its activities to do so.
- Ensuring the benefit to the wider community can be demonstrated in all its activities.
- Ensuring any action or statement that may imply bias towards a section of the community is fully justified.

## Volunteers

Econet aims to provide a volunteering environment in which all participants feel equally valued.

Econet will endeavour to ensure its activities are undertaken free from discrimination, prejudice, intolerance or harassment of any form.

## Implementation

Econet will circulate this statement to its members and expects the actions of its members to be consistent with this statement.

**Review**

Econet will regularly review this statement and take whatever additional measures may be deemed necessary at that time.

**Related Documentation**

*Safeguarding Policy*

**Web Address**

*[www.econetreading.org.uk](http://www.econetreading.org.uk)*

Revised: October 2009.