Sustainability Statement

Trinity Workshops – Conversion of the former Holy Trinity Church, Denby Dale, into a Community Workshop with Mezzanine Floor and small outdoor Classroom.

Denby Dale and District Men's Shed Association

Holy Trinity Church, Denby Dale, HD8 8UZ

11th November 2025

1. Introduction

This statement explains how the Trinity Workshops project will promote sustainability throughout its design, construction, and use. The project makes use of an existing building, limiting the need for new materials and construction work. The workshop will provide long-term community benefits while reducing environmental impact and supporting Kirklees Council's sustainability aims.

2. Sustainable Design and Building Reuse

The project is based on the adaptive reuse of Holy Trinity Church, a sound and characterful local landmark. By converting rather than demolishing, we are preserving the embodied carbon within the existing structure and reducing waste. Alterations are kept to a minimum, focusing on improving the internal environment, accessibility, and functionality.

3. Energy and Resource Efficiency

Energy use will be minimised whilst preserving the church's historical aesthetic. We will upgrade lighting to LED, improve insulation, and install modern, efficient heating and control systems. Windows and doors will be draught-proofed, and secondary glazing will be added where appropriate. The small new classroom will meet current energy standards and will be built using natural or recycled materials.

4. Water and Waste Management

Water efficiency measures will be introduced where possible, such as low-flow taps and rainwater collection for garden use. During construction, waste will be sorted and recycled wherever possible, and local contractors will be used to minimise travel and emissions.

5. Sustainable Transport and Accessibility

The site is easily reached on foot, by bicycle, or by public transport. Cycle storage will be provided and car sharing encouraged. The project will improve accessibility for people with limited mobility, ensuring all community members can participate.

6. Local Materials and Economy

Where new materials are needed, the project will favour locally sourced and responsibly produced products. Engaging local tradespeople and suppliers will reduce transportation impacts and support the local economy.

7. Biodiversity and Green Space

The church garden will be improved as a small but valuable green space, encouraging native plants, pollinators, and birdlife. No trees will be removed, and any landscaping will be designed to enhance biodiversity and visual appeal.

8. Community and Wellbeing

The Trinity Workshops project directly supports social sustainability by providing a welcoming, inclusive space for local people—particularly older and retired residents—to connect, share skills, and support one another. By encouraging reuse, repair, and making, the project promotes sustainable lifestyles and mental wellbeing.

9. Summary

Trinity Workshops demonstrates a responsible and forward-looking approach to sustainability. It will conserve resources, minimise waste and emissions, and strengthen community connections. The project aligns with the Kirklees Local Plan, the National Planning Policy Framework, and the Council's vision for a sustainable and resilient borough.