

Environmental and Sustainability Policy

Purpose and Context

The University of Huddersfield is committed to the principles of environmental protection and sustainable development.

The University recognises that its activities have a significant impact on the local and global environment, and acknowledges its responsibility for the protection of the environment.

It is committed to maintaining, and wherever possible, enhancing the quality of this environment, both for people who study and work at the University and for the wider community.

The University will ensure that the management of its estates is in a manner which as a minimum meets legislative requirements and accords with environmental good practice. It will seek to continuously improve its environmental performance, wherever viable, whilst recognising the academic and wider operational needs of the University.

Scope

This policy covers all operations of the University, predominately the management, operation and development of the estate.

1 Policy Commitments

- 1.1 Implement the waste hierarchy; Prevent, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and responsibly dispose. We will prevent our waste reaching landfill at all feasible opportunities.
- 1.2 Engage with students, staff and visitors to raise awareness of their environmental impacts. We will promote good practice at all levels and encourage participation in environmental projects.
- 1.3 Incorporate education for sustainable development into relevant student curriculum.
- 1.4 Commit to using primary raw materials [including fossil fuels, energy and water] in an efficient manner and promote their conservation, thus helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserving University resources.
- 1.5 Continually improve its energy and water efficiency, by adopting high standards for new buildings and refurbishments and to reduce consumption through implementing new energy and water efficiency measures. New buildings shall achieve the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) 'A' rating
- 1.6 Adopt sustainable factors into all new buildings and refurbishments, and aim for the highest environmental standards possible whilst achieving its academic priorities. To meet this objective the University will achieve the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) 'Excellent' rating for all new buildings and will incorporate sustainable interventions into refurbishments.
- 1.7 Build partnerships with local community and national organisations to reduce its environmental impact and participate in activities to enhance sustainable development and social responsibility.
- 1.8 Continue to develop and implement its Travel Plan with the aim of helping to reduce pollution, climate change emissions and traffic congestion around the University's estate and beyond, and encourage staff and students to consider active and sustainable methods of travel.
- 1.9 Respect wildlife that resides on its estate and actively work to create, maintain and enhance habitats with a rich variety of native plant species and where possible provide cohesive links to habitats outside the estate to create biodiverse Green Corridors.
- 1.10 Seek to influence its suppliers and contractors through its Corporate, Social and Environmental Procurement Policy, requiring that sustainability and environmental issues are considered in the procurement of all goods and services supplied to the University.
- 1.11 Commit to prevention of pollution by ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation regarding emissions and discharges.
- 1.12 We will ethically source and conscientiously purchase food and materials related to its provision on campus. We will certify to welfare and sourcing standards and actively encourage local food production where possible.
- 1.13 Encourage research, foster innovation and where practical implement new technologies and practices in sustainable development and resource efficiency

2 Framework for delivery

	Policy	Method of delivery	University Strategy
1.1	Implement the waste hierarchy; Prevent, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and responsibly dispose. We will prevent our waste reaching landfill at all feasible opportunities.	Waste Management Strategy 2017-2023	<p>E7 To improve core processes and performance</p> <p>E9 To create a sustainable environment which enables the University to meet its strategic objectives</p>
1.2	Engage with students, staff and visitors to raise awareness of their environmental impacts. We will promote good practice at all levels and encourage participation in environmental projects.	Teaching and Learning Strategy 2013-2018 (Section TF Sustainability and Responsibility)	<p>A1 To inspire our students to attain the highest academic and professional standards</p> <p>A2 To inspire our students to enjoy an outstanding University experience</p>
1.3	Incorporate education for sustainable development into relevant student curriculum.	Teaching and Learning Strategy 2013-2018 (Section TF Sustainability and Responsibility)	<p>A1 To inspire our students to attain the highest academic and professional standards</p> <p>A2 To inspire our students to enjoy an outstanding University experience</p>
1.4	Commit to using primary raw materials [including fossil fuels, energy and water] in an efficient manner and promote their conservation, thus helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserving University resources.	Carbon Management Strategy 2017-2023	<p>E5 To maintain financial strength</p> <p>E7 To improve core processes and performance</p>
1.5	Continually improve its energy and water efficiency, by adopting high standards for new buildings and refurbishments and to reduce consumption through implementing new energy and water efficiency measures. New buildings shall achieve the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) 'A' rating	Carbon Management Strategy 2017-2023	<p>S3 High quality physical and supportive learning Environments</p> <p>S6 High quality and fit for purpose facilities</p> <p>E9 To create a sustainable environment which enables the University to meet its strategic objectives</p>
1.6	Adopt sustainable factors into all new buildings and refurbishments, and aim for the highest environmental standards possible whilst achieving its academic priorities. To meet this objective the University will achieve the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) 'Excellent' rating for all new buildings and will incorporate sustainable interventions into refurbishments.	Carbon Management Strategy 2017-2023	<p>S3 High quality physical and supportive learning Environments</p> <p>S6 High quality and fit for purpose facilities</p> <p>E9 To create a sustainable environment which enables the University to meet its strategic objectives</p>

1.7	Build partnerships with local community and national organisations to reduce its environmental impact and participate in activities to enhance sustainable development and social responsibility.	Engagement with Huddersfield Students Union, Kirklees Council, Kirklees College, Calderdale and Kirklees NHS Foundation Trust and other relevant bodies within the Kirklees area	
1.8	Continue to develop and implement its Travel Plan with the aim of helping to reduce pollution, climate change emissions and traffic congestion around the University's estate and beyond, and encourage staff and students to consider active and sustainable methods of travel.	Travel Strategy 2017-2023	
1.9	Respect wildlife that resides on its estate and actively work to create, maintain and enhance habitats with a rich variety of native plant species and where possible provide cohesive links to habitats outside the estate to create biodiverse Green Corridors.	Biodiversity Action Plan (To be developed)	S3 High quality physical and supportive learning Environments E9 To create a sustainable environment which enables the University to meet its strategic objectives
1.10	Seek to influence its suppliers and contractors through its Corporate, Social and Environmental Procurement Policy, requiring that sustainability and environmental issues are considered in the procurement of all goods and services supplied to the University.	Corporate, Social and Environmental Policy	E5 To maintain financial strength E7 To improve core processes and performance
1.11	Commit to prevention of pollution by ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation regarding emissions and discharges.	Waste Management Strategy 2017-2023	E7 To improve core processes and performance
1.12	We will ethically source and conscientiously purchase food and materials related to its provision on campus. We will certify to welfare and sourcing standards and actively encourage local food production where possible.	Sustainable Food Strategy (Under development)	A2 To inspire our students to enjoy an outstanding University experience E7 To improve core processes and performance
1.13	Encourage research, foster innovation and where practical implement new technologies and practices in sustainable development and resource efficiency		E7 To improve core processes and performance

POLICY SIGN-OFF AND OWNERSHIP DETAILS	
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REVISION HISTORY			
Version	Date	Revision description/Summary of changes	Author
V1.0	Oct 2017	Major redraft (approval required)	Patrick Flavin

Please note that this is the 5th major revision to the Environmental policy first adopted in June 2008. Due to a new university wide policy framework system in operation the version number is reset to v1.0 and will be controlled using this system going forward