

Environmental Policy

The University of Bath is situated on the skyline of the City of Bath, a UNESCO world heritage site. The core of its Claverton Campus is surrounded by the long-established Bath Green Belt, with some outlying sports pitches and facilities falling within the Green Belt. The core campus is also within, or immediately adjacent to, the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and is bordered on one side by National Trust land. The campus also lies adjacent to a Conservation Area, which includes the three properties owned by the University on North Road. We appreciate our privileged location and accept our responsibility to act in an environmentally-sensitive manner.

1. Introduction

1. Purpose of the policy

The University of Bath contributes positively to sustainability through its world-class research and teaching. We recognise that there are negative environmental impacts associated with our activities and we **aim** to minimise these by incorporating consideration of the environment into our planning, decision-making and processes.

1.1. Objectives

The objectives of our Environmental Policy are to:

- make the most efficient and effective use of all resources, encouraging members of our community to develop a sustainable approach to the activities they undertake.
- encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport to and from the University and on University business.
- minimise our carbon emissions where viable, and develop and implement effective energy and water conservation measures.

- reduce overall waste production and increase the recycled component of the waste stream.
- apply and review our Sustainable Procurement Policy, support the principles of fair trade and maintain our Fairtrade status.
- manage our grounds in an environmentally and biodiversity-sensitive manner.
- foster environmental aspects of the University's teaching and research.

1.2. Roles and Responsibilities

The **Executive Committee** is responsible for the approval and review of the Environmental Policy and for referring environmental aspects of the University's activities, as appropriate, to Council.

Executive Committee is supported by the **Sustainability & Carbon Management Steering Group**, which recommends targets in specific areas of environmental performance and undertakes monitoring. The advisory group reports annually to the Executive Committee.

The University also has a number of departments and officers with special responsibility for implementing aspects of its Environmental Policy. These include the **Department of Estates**, the **Health, Safety and Environment Unit**, **Purchasing Services** and **Accommodation & Hospitality Services**.

The **Students' Union** is a key partner in improving the University's environmental performance.

2. Policy implementation and corporate commitment

2.1. In accordance with our commitment to '**best environmental practice**', as articulated in the University Strategy 2013-16, we will undertake the following activities in order to promote effective environmental management:

- 2.1.1 identify the environmental aspects of the University's operations and develop mechanisms to monitor and mediate the significant impacts of these.

2.1.2 use best practice:

to set targets on environmental performance;

in our implementation of activities;

in engagement with our community, neighbours and business partners to progress environmental initiatives and exchange ideas and activities that improve the performance of all; and,

to monitor and report on our progress towards our targets.

2.1.3 promote awareness across our community of the need to achieve sustainable use of resources for the benefit of the university and society as a whole.

2.1.4 ensure that we are compliant with legal requirements and can demonstrate our compliance through appropriate procedures and management information.

3 DOCUMENT CONTROL INFORMATION

Owner	Director of Policy and Planning
Version number	2
Approval Date	
Approved By	Executive Committee
Date of last review	February 2016
Due for review	February 2021

