

# Environmental Sustainability Policy


Lancaster University understands its responsibility to protect the environment from the impact of our operations and to influence our staff, students and the wider community to minimise their impact through our actions, teaching and research.

The University is committed to fulfilling its compliance obligations including the requirements of all relevant environmental legislation and other requirements to which it subscribes and to continually improving its environmental performance through the establishment of environmental objectives, targets and Key Performance Indicators.

## The University will:

- Reduce Scope 1, 2 and 3 carbon emissions in line with the net zero targets in our Declaration of Climate Emergency and Climate Emergency Carbon Reduction Plan.
- Use our research in developing environmentally beneficial projects, initiatives and products and improve the sustainability of our research activities.
- Integrate sustainability into our teaching and learning activities and ensure sustainability outcomes are met for all students.
- Decarbonise our energy and utility consumption and implement projects to maximise energy efficiency across our estate in line with our Energy & Utility Plan.
- Continue to implement our Travel Plan providing enhanced sustainable travel options, decreasing carbon and other emissions from staff and student commuting and University fleet vehicles.
- Reduce emissions from business, academic and international student travel, through the implementation of a sustainable business travel policy and establishment of systems to offset unavoidable travel related emissions.
- Implement sustainable procurement policies and plans, which reduce the carbon emissions and environmental impacts of our procurement activities and minimise resource consumption in line with the Circular Economy commitments.
- Maximise Reuse and Recycling through implementation of our Waste Plan, applying the waste hierarchy to minimise residual waste generation.
- Prevent pollution and manage emissions and discharges through appropriate management systems and procedures.
- Set and achieve high environmental and energy standards in construction for new and redeveloped buildings. Carefully managing our capital projects to minimise their potential impact on local residents and neighbours
- Enhance campus and estate biodiversity through the implementation of the Ecology Plan as a key mechanism in our response to the climate and ecological emergency.
- Monitor, measure and report on the environmental and sustainability performance of University's activities, operations, research and teaching.
- Provide students with the opportunity for involvement in sustainability related curricular and extra-curricular opportunities and activities.
- Improve the environmental awareness of staff, students and visitors and support them in reducing their environmental impact both at the University and beyond, through the implementation of sustainable environmental practices.

In order to support the implementation of Lancaster University's Environmental Sustainability Policy, time bound objectives, targets and Key Performance Indicators have been set. Through delegation by the Vice Chancellor, the implementation of the strategy will be led by the PVC (Global), drawing on advisory groups as appropriate and progress will be directed, monitored and reviewed by University Executive Board (UEB), Estates Committee and University Council.

Signed: 

Professor Andy Schofield, Vice Chancellor

Date: 19th May 2022