

Our Mission

“ Working together to create a Sustainable University with a positive environmental impact ”

Our Call to Action

“ Let's make a sustainable planet ”

Purpose of the Policy

With **33,000 students** and **3,500 staff**, Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) is a significant contributor to the Greater Manchester economy. As such, we have a responsibility to ensure our activities do not create adverse environmental impacts and to maximise opportunities to enhance our positive impacts through our teaching and research.

This Policy outlines our key commitments, over and above legal compliance, to incorporate sustainability in all of our business operations and demonstrate that **Environmental Sustainability** is one of the University's key priorities. This Policy provides a framework for establishing environmental objectives and targets, and key performance indicators (KPIs), within an Environmental Sustainability Strategy. The University's Environmental Strategy Board will review this Policy regularly.

Our goal is to **manage our activities and estate to deliver continued improvements in environmental performance** through the adoption of key policy commitments. The University will deliver this Policy and support environmental protection and the prevention of pollution, through the introduction of an Environmental Management System (EMS), certified to ISO 14001.

In order to meet our environmental responsibilities, MMU needs to have staff, students and graduates who are informed about environmental sustainability and can articulate and apply their knowledge and skills in the transition towards a low carbon society.

Our Environmental Policy Commitments

The University will support this Policy and will:



Environmental Management Systems and Legislative Compliance

- Develop an integrated approach to environmental management and environmental issues in all University business operations, Faculties and Departments
- Ensure compliance with all relevant current and future environmental legislation and non-statutory regulatory requirements



Sustainability Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange

- Deliver sustainability themed research activities
- Support sustainability knowledge exchange between our research communities and external organisations
- Use the University's operational functions and estate as potential subjects for sustainability research and innovation



Learning for a Sustainable Future

- Embed sustainable development into formal curricula to offer our students opportunities to develop skills and knowledge to live and work sustainably



Sustainability Engagement

- Offer opportunities to staff and students to engage with the sustainability commitments of the University



Emissions and Discharges to the Environment

- Ensure University activities are geared towards reducing and minimising greenhouse gas emissions directly and indirectly (Scope 1, 2 and 3), derived from the University's estate and business activities
- Prevent pollution by minimising local discharges to air, land and water, avoiding or limiting, the use of environmentally damaging substances, materials and processes



Energy Management

- Reduce operational energy consumption from the built estate and aim to achieve carbon emission reduction targets and cost savings



Sustainable and Ethical Procurement

- Consider the whole-life costs of goods and services that give regard to economic, social and environmental impacts.



Sustainable Buildings

- Prioritise sustainable design during the development and refurbishment of the University Estate to have the lowest achievable environmental impact, both in construction and throughout occupation
- Provide a healthy working environment to support and promote the aims of the Health and Wellbeing Policy



Travel Plan Management

- Minimise the impact of staff and student travel and encourage the use of efficient modes of transport that minimise environmental impact, reduce congestion and air pollution



Waste Management

- Ensure a robust approach is taken through the waste hierarchy: Prevent, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Dispose



Water Management

- Reduce water consumption through practical water conservation measures and reduce cost through the increased use of alternative water sources
- Increase the deployment of sustainable drainage measures to reduce surface water run-off and flood risk



Biodiversity and Growing Systems

- Protect and enhance biodiversity across the University and promote its benefits for students, staff, visitors and local communities

The University's policy commitments apply through the organisation and are detailed as management responsibilities at the end of this Policy.

Signed: 

Date 24.2.2014

Professor John Brooks, Vice Chancellor, MMU

Management Roles and Responsibilities

Board of Governors

- Acknowledge their obligations to support the UK's wider sustainable development agenda, receive reports on University policy implementation, best practice and performance, and provide feedback and guidance

Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellors

- The Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellors are responsible for the overall ownership of this Policy and will:
- Ensure that Pro Vice Chancellors, Directors and Deans understand and execute their individual responsibilities for environmental management
- Advise the Board of Governors of the resources required to comply with statutory requirements and make adequate arrangements for doing so

Pro Vice Chancellors Deans Directors

- Ensure their senior leads understand and execute their individual responsibilities for environmental management
- Support the establishment of an environmental management system compliant with ISO 14001
- Support communication channels to disseminate information relating to environmental management
- Ensure all persons for whom they are responsible, understand and execute their responsibilities for environmental management and make provision for adequate training
- Conform to statutory duties and University procedures
- Ensure arrangements for environmental management are duly considered and discussed, with regard to working practices and processes
- Assist in reviewing the effectiveness of this Policy and advise the Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellors of any changes they consider necessary

Director of Services

- Assist in strategic energy, carbon, waste, travel management and planning
- Sponsor the Carbon Management Plan and associated Energy Investment Plans as part of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy
- Ensure all contractors engaged by the University conduct their work in accordance with current environmental legislative requirements and applicable University policies

Head of Environmental Strategy

- Monitor the progress and performance of the Environmental Policy, Environmental Sustainability Strategy and implementation of environmental management system (ISO14001)
- Review the Environmental Policy and Environmental Sustainability Strategy and integrate with relevant University strategies
- Review new policies, procedures and business cases in support of the Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy, before consultation and submission to Executive / Directorate for approval
- Advise Executive/Directorate on any risks and proposed mitigation as appropriate

Environmental Strategy Board

- Be responsible for Environmental Policy and reporting
- Lead the Environment Team to reduce environmental impact and promote a positive environmental management culture

Environmental Sustainability Management Group

- Lead and monitor progress towards meeting the commitments, objectives and targets of the Environmental Policy and Strategy, and report risks, opportunities and challenges to the appropriate boards
- Review the implications of relevant policies, strategy and legislation, and ensure the University is fully compliant
- Consider funding bid opportunities, and review investment business cases related to this Policy, before evaluation by the Environmental Strategy Board Review resource and training requirements
- Review and report the University's environmental sustainability performance on an annual basis producing a publically available annual Environmental Sustainability Statement.
- Undertake an internal management environmental review to recommend areas for improvement to the Environmental Strategy Board in conformance with the environmental management system.

Environmental Management sub Groups

- These groups have a nominated member of staff who lead the group to ensure:
- Environmental programmes/ action plans are developed to deliver the Environmental Policy commitments and associated objectives and targets
- A robust management system is maintained
- Progress is reported to the Environmental Management Group and Environmental Strategy Board

Heads of Department and Services

- Ensure appropriate environmental information is provided for staff, students and visitors
- Nominate appropriate staff to fulfil specific roles with relation to environmental management
- Ensure they, and all persons reporting to them, understand and execute their responsibilities under this Policy and all are adequately trained to enable successful implementation of the environmental management system
- Ensure all applicable statutory regulations, codes of best practice and University policies are adhered to
- Support the University's environmental audit programme within their department

All Supervisory Staff

- Be fully familiar with this Policy and apply it within all areas of their responsibility
- Ensure staff operate in accordance with this Policy, as relevant to their work
- Ensure that they and their staff are trained in the principles, operations and are knowledgeable of the emergency procedures

All Staff

- Familiarise themselves with this Policy and departmental procedures for the areas in which they are employed
- Acknowledge their individual responsibility to take all reasonable care for the protection of the environment, and co-operate with the University, so far as is necessary, to enable it to comply with its legislative duties with regards to environmental management

All Students

- Engage with the environmental sustainability commitments of the University by participating in extra-curricular opportunities such as MMU Futures, volunteering based in the Students' Union and student societies.
- Acknowledge their individual responsibility to take reasonable care for the protection of the environment and to use University resources responsibly to minimise environmental impact.

Suppliers/Contractors

- Work with the University in support of this policy and its commitments
- Not knowingly pollute or cause environmental damage whilst on the University premises and seek to reduce their environmental impact

This Policy is publicly available on the University's website and can be made available in other formats. To request this policy in an alternative format, please contact the Environment Team on **0161 247 6036**, or email at **environment@mmu.ac.uk**

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