We are a great modern university, in a great global city, here to make an impact on Manchester, our nation and beyond. We have a driving ambition to discover and disseminate knowledge, and make higher education accessible and beneficial to as many people as possible.

Manchester Metropolitan University (Manchester Met) is one of the largest campus-based Higher Education providers in the UK with over 38,000 students and 4,500 staff, based in Manchester.

As a Higher Education provider, we have a major role to play in supporting students and staff to develop skills and attributes to respond to global challenges. Our students are our future leaders and decision makers, and will be integral in the global response to the threat of climate change.

We offer over 1,000 Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses and professional qualifications to a diverse student body, attracting students from across the UK, Europe and international communities. We pride ourselves on training the future talent of the region, with nearly 70% of our graduates staying and working in the North West.

*Chuck Hopkins, UNESCO Chair
About the Policy

We are a leading award winning University for Sustainability and have a responsibility to ensure our business activities do not create adverse environmental and social impacts.

We will protect the environment, prevent and minimise pollution, fulfill our compliance obligations and ensure that the University is able to mitigate against, and adapt to Climate Change.

This policy outlines our key commitments, beyond legal compliance, to build sustainable development into our Estates and Operations, and our learning, teaching, research and professional development activities.

It is imperative that our staff, students and graduates are equipped with the 'knowledge and understanding, skills and attributes needed to work and live in a way that safeguards environmental, social and economic wellbeing, both in the present and for future generations'.

Our Framework

The Policy provides a framework for establishing environmental objectives and targets, and key performance indicators (KPIs), within an Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

The University will deliver this Policy through the continued implementation and improvement of an Environmental Management System (EMS), certified to ISO14001:2015 standard.

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE WORK OF THE WORLD NOT JUST THE WORLD OF WORK

ENGAGEMENT

It is vital that our staff, students and trade union representatives have the opportunity to engage in the development and on-going review of the Environmental Sustainability Policy. If you would like to comment or give feedback, or be involved in the development of our policies and plans, please contact the Environment Team. Email: environment@mmu.ac.uk

†QAA & HEA, 2014

*Sir Jonathon Porritt, Environmentalist
Leadership and Governance

Leadership and Governance for sustainable development is critical if the University is to integrate a wide range of related issues into its values, culture, learning, teaching, research and other business activities.

A range of University boards and committees are responsible for strategic direction, oversight and implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy.

Find out more about University board and committee responsibilities as related to sustainable development on page 10, ‘Roles and Responsibilities’.

Sustainable Development at Manchester Met

As a Higher Education provider, we have a major role to play in supporting students and staff to develop skills and attributes to respond to global challenges. Our students are our future leaders and decision makers, and will be integral in the global response to the threat of climate change.

In 2015, with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the world’s leaders set out on an ambitious path to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect the planet. The Member States of the United Nations unanimously agreed upon the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), making them the world’s agenda for sustainable development.

The success of the SDGs is dependent upon contributions and collaborative efforts by all parties in society across the world, including the Higher Education (HE) sector.

It is imperative that universities understand their current and potential contributions towards the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. Universities are in a unique position; we can influence societal changes by empowering, equipping and engaging our students – with
the knowledge and skills that will progress towards achieving the SDGs, and global sustainable development beyond 2030.

Each of the policy areas are mapped against the SDGs- indicating which of the 17 goals they contribute towards.

Our Policy Commitments

LEARNING FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
Support staff and students in gaining the knowledge, skills and attributes needed for sustainable development.
Potential impact or contribution towards all 17 goals.

BIODIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
Protect and enhance biodiversity across the University and promote its benefits for students, staff, visitors and local communities.
SDGs: 11,15

CARBON AND ENERGY MANAGEMENT
Reduce operational energy consumption in line with our energy targets and carbon emissions in line with our carbon targets.
SDGs: 7,9,11,13

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
Maintain and continually improve our environmental management system.
SDGs: 4,6,7,8,11,12,13,14,15,16,17

ETHICAL INVESTMENT
Invest the University’s funds with due consideration for ethical, environmental, corporate governance and social issues in line with our Ethical Investment Policy.
SDGs: 7,8,9,14,15,16

POLLUTION PREVENTION AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE
Prevent pollution by minimising discharges to air, land and water. Ensure compliance with all relevant environmental legislation and other mandatory obligations.
SDGs: 14,15

www.sustainabledevelopment.un.org

SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals
## Roles and Responsibilities

**Board of Governors**

The University Board of Governors (BoG) is responsible for determining the educational character and mission of the University. The BoG will receive reports and information relating to the implementation of the University Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy and decisions or commitments in relation to sustainable development.

**Finance and Resources Committee**

The Finance and Resources Committee considers, advises or determines, as appropriate, the University's strategies and policies relating to finance, human resources, health and safety, estates, facilities, IT systems and environmental sustainability, ensuring alignment with the University's Strategy. The Committee will approve the Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy and will provide relevant updates to the Board of Governors.

**Academic Board**

Amongst a wide-range of issues, relating to research, learning and teaching and courses at the institution, the Academic Board is responsible for issues relating to curriculum content and for considering the development of the academic and related activities of the University and the resources needed to support them. The Academic Board will take account of the Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy in its consideration of matters that fall within its remit.

**Education Committee**

Responsible to the Academic Board, the Education Committee is responsible for the operation of the education oversight of all taught provision, wherever delivered; its focus on priority issues of an institutional nature. The Education Committee will report and raise related issues, opportunities and decisions to the Academic Board.

**University Executive Group**

The University Executive Group (UEG), led by the Vice-Chancellor, is responsible for managing the University, developing and delivering strategic and operational plans, agreeing policies and ensuring implementation. The UEG will agree a range of policies and business cases relating to sustainable development, demonstrate leadership in support of the sustainable development agenda, and ensure effective leadership and communication to ensure the implementation of the policy.

### SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

Embed principles that will minimise the environmental impact of the University estate from design to occupation.

SDGs: 7,8,9,12,13,15,16,17

### TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

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

SDGs: 7,9,11,17

### WATER MANAGEMENT

Effectively manage and reduce our mains water consumption across our estate and increase the deployment of sustainable drainage and flood prevention measures.

SDGs: 6,15

### RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Ensure the University builds resilience to weather and climate change risks.

SDGs: 11,13

### SUSTAINABLE AND ETHICAL PROCUREMENT

Consider the economic, social and environmental impacts and whole-life costs of purchasing decisions and take appropriate action.

SDGs: 1,5,8,10,12,16

### WASTE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Embed the principles of the waste hierarchy to prevent, reduce, reuse, recycle and dispose of our waste.

SDGs: 9,12
### Estates Strategy Group

The University Estate Strategy Group (ESG) advises the University Executive Group (UEG), and where relevant the Academic Board and Education Committee on the Estate Strategy and on the strategic direction for the Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy and its implementation. The ESG also ensures the University remains compliant with environmental legislation.

### Environmental Management Group

The Environmental Management Group (EMG) leads, delivers, monitors and reports progress towards the implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy, and advises the Estates Strategy Group as required.

### Directors and Heads of Department

Senior leadership teams will disseminate relevant information and ensure procedures and policies support the implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy across their division or department.

### Management teams

Management and supervisory teams will disseminate relevant information, ensure staff understand their responsibilities and operate in accordance with the Environmental Sustainability Policy, as relevant to their work.

### Staff

Awareness and understanding of the University Environmental Sustainability Policy, Strategy, related procedures, and other issues relating to sustainable development and environmental compliance, as relevant to their role. Actively contribute towards the attainment of the policy and strategy commitments, and to improved environmental sustainability performance.

### Students

Awareness and understanding of the University’s environmental sustainability commitments, and to contribute towards improved environmental sustainability performance through engagement and action.

### Suppliers

Awareness and understanding, and working in ways that support, and do not contravene the commitments set out in the University’s Environmental Sustainability Policy.

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### Review and Reporting

The University will review the Environmental Sustainability Policy annually as part of a ‘Management Review' process.

The University publishes an annual report which reports performance against this Policy and the targets set out in the Environmental Sustainability Strategy. These reports can be found on the University’s website.

Progress towards the implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy, and proposed amendments will then be reported to the relevant groups, before being approved by the University’s Finance and Resources Committee.

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![Version Table]

<table>
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<th>Version</th>
<th>6 revision 1 (reviewed and updated in 2020 by the Environmental Strategy Group - updated governance, roles and responsibilities)</th>
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<td>July 2018</td>
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<td>Approved Date</td>
<td>May 2018</td>
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<td>Approved by: (Board/Committee)</td>
<td>Finance and Resources Committee</td>
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To request this policy in an alternative format please contact the Environment Team.

Email: environment@mmu.ac.uk
ENCOURAGE THE USE OF **SUSTAINABLE MODES OF TRANSPORT** THAT MINIMISE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**EMBED SUSTAINABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

INVEST IN GOODS AND SERVICES THAT **CONSIDER WHOLE LIFE COSTS**

**50% REDUCTION** IN CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2020

PREVENT, REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE

REUSE AND **RECYCLE 60% OF WASTE** BY 2020

**PROTECT AND ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY** ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY

**SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND ATTRIBUTES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**BUILDING RESILIENCE** TO WEATHER AND CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS

**EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT** WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

**25% REDUCTION** IN WATER CONSUMPTION BY 2020

**MAINTAIN AND CONTINUALLY IMPROVE** OUR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

**DRIVING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS** TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

**SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT PRACTICES** ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND

**CLIMATE LEADERSHIP** BY INVESTING RESPONSIBLY

**RENEWABLE AND LOW-CARBON** ON-SITE ELECTRICITY GENERATION
Let’s make a sustainable planet

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