

THE UNIVERSITY OF HULL
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
STRATEGY 2016/17

Version 1.0

Executive Summary

The University of Hull is committed to delivering exceptional environmental management and resource sustainability in order to minimise the impact of its operations on the natural world.

This forms one of the key objectives highlighted in the University's 2016-2020 Strategic Plan:

"4.4.5 Environmental Sustainability

The University remains committed to promoting sustainable development in the natural environment. As an anchor institution, we will take a leading role in promoting the sustainability of our regions. Our commitment to a sustainable environment will be manifested in our academic endeavours, our approach to managing and developing our campus, estates, facilities, transport, and activities, as well as our public advocacy. 'Energy and Environment' is one of our institutional interdisciplinary themes, and will be a strong driver of our research, enterprise, and teaching.

We will:

- Implement green strategies to reduce our carbon footprint and waste, conserve energy and water, and promote clean and renewable sources.
- Continue to promote the inclusion of environmental and sustainability issues in our taught curricula and research agenda to provide our students with an understanding of these important challenges."

This also accords with the current Environmental Policy.

Scope of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Environmental sustainability refers to the long-term maintenance of valued environmental resources in an evolving human context. In order to improve sustainability we must reduce the size of our ecological footprint by reducing the amount of resources we use, and waste and emissions we produce. This definition encourages implementation of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies, improved soil and water management, sustainable travel, waste minimisation, and recycling. The scope of this strategy addresses each of these areas and covers all actions and responsibilities associated with the University.

Management and Reporting

The institution has a central role to play in supporting overall environmental sustainability in terms of environmental management, the use of natural resources, renewable energy technologies, and the development of sustainable communities. To fulfil this role the University will lead by example by striving to implement best practice and continually reviewing and improving its environmental performance via nationally recognised accreditation in carbon reduction and HE sector benchmarking schemes. Recently the University has achieved ISO 14001:2015 accreditation status for the Lawns residential campus along with improved annual rankings in both the People and Planet and HEFCE assessments.

Procurement

In line with the current Modern Slavery Act 2015 the University has published their annual commitment statement confirming compliance with ethical and environmentally friendly procurement.

Investment

The University follows the direction of its Ethical Investment Policy to ensure appropriate social compliance.

Sustainability Policy

Our Sustainability Policy recognises the objectives set out by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) in their 'Sustainable Development in Higher Education: 2008 update to Strategic Statement and Action Plan' (HEFCE 2009/03).

Specifically, the University will aim to:

- a) Raise the profile of sustainable development to become a mainstream part of University activities, building upon section 4 of the University of Hull Strategic Plan 2016.
- b) Introduce a carbon reduction culture to significantly reduce carbon emissions across our activities.
- c) Integrate sustainable development into our policy-making in relation to campus operations, curriculum, and research, being open about the reasons for policy choices.
- d) Demonstrate genuine efforts to promote sustainable development and extend good practice.
- e) Support innovative and novel projects engaging with staff, students and stakeholders.
- f) Include regional partners and business to build capacity to manage sustainable development and support good practice.

In order to deliver these objectives, the University of Hull is committed to preventing pollution and reducing its negative impacts on the environment and will contribute to the national commitment to sustainable development by:

- g) Meeting all relevant UK, European and international legislative and regulatory requirements and agreements.
- h) Reducing its carbon emissions by reducing energy consumption and by increasing the efficiency of consumption. We are aiming for a 5% annual reduction on 2015/16 figures. The University has recently obtained ISO 14001:2015 accreditation; within the resultant EMS process we will be detailing full F-Gas compliance, along with all with recording all other relevant emissions.
- i) Considering use of renewable energy; either at source, during future construction/refurbishment projects, or by complementing energy supplies via on-site self-generation and renewable initiatives. We currently seek 'Very Good' BREEAM (or SKA accreditation if more appropriate) for these type of works. .
- j) Installing water conservation devices and technology, carrying out leak identification and repairs. We are aiming for a 15% annual reduction on 2015/16 figures.
- k) Minimising waste by reduction, reuse, and by increasing recycling on campus and within residences. We are aiming for a 5% annual reduction on 2015/16 figures.
- l) Creating a culture of energy and water conservation through training, education, curriculum, and awareness campaigns.
- m) Encouraging and facilitating modes of transport by staff and students that minimise environmental impact, and to apply environmentally friendly principles to the operation of University owned vehicles. We are aiming for a 5% annual reduction for business travel mileage on 2015/16 figures.
- n) Influencing our suppliers and contractors to ensure that goods and services procured support the Sustainability Policy and, in turn, that all suppliers and contractors progressively improve

their own environmental performance. Please also see the University's Environmental and Sustainable Purchasing Policy.

- o) Maintaining the grounds and buildings of the University in an environmentally sensitive way, seeking to protect and enhance natural habitats and biodiversity. Please see the current University Biodiversity Action Plan.
- p) Developing amongst our community the values, skills, and knowledge that students and staff need to live and work sustainably. Currently for 2016/17 we are engaging with the Student 'Switch Off' campaign, implementing a web-based student community engagement campaign, and working with the Hull 'City of Culture 2017' campaign. Further engagement to be detailed following the start of the academic year.
- q) Ensuring Staff Development is a continual and ongoing process as demonstrated through the University Staff Development Team. Recent examples include ISO 14001:2015 accreditation for our Environmental Lead Auditor. This is complemented by access to a dedicated budget, appropriate tools and any relevant resources as required.

Please note specific SMART targets are also included within our Carbon Management Plan (see below):

Scope 1 & 2 Emissions – The CMP sets out a series of carbon reduction measures to meet the Universities Scope 1 and 2 interim 2020 target of a reduction of 5,279 tCO₂ from 2005 levels; this equates to a 16% reduction from 1990 levels. The final target contained in the plan is to reduce the scope 1 & 2 CO₂ emissions from the University Estate from 19,090 tCO₂/year in 1990 to 12,599 tCO₂/year in 2020; a 34% overall reduction.

Proposal	Target	Responsible Person	Detail	Resource Requirement	Timescale	Projected Savings
Building Optimisation (emissions reduction)	10 highest consuming buildings to achieve a 5% reduction	Stewart Hugill	Along with control optimisation buildings to be surveyed for potential reduction projects	Free surveys from suppliers. Resultant projects to be funded on merits	Dec-17	800 tonnes CO ₂ in total on completion of project
LED replacement / installation	All replacements to be LED	Stuart McKay	All light replacements will be LED if possible	Undertaken as part of general maintenance and budgeted accordingly	Jul-18	56 tonnes CO ₂
New Build / Refurbishment	BREEAM/SKA excellence or very good	Pat Chapman	All new projects to attain highest possible environmental score for works.	Included in Capital Works budgets.	On-Going	£200 million refurbishment / new build scheme. CO ₂ savings to be confirmed following commission.

CHP install/ boiler replacement	5 year return on investment	Dave Hill	Replacement of in-efficient HVAC boilers.	£120,000 per unit subject to individual proposals.	Jul-20	106 tonnes CO2
Education	All staff and students to be offered access to Sustainability training portal	Stewart Hugill	On-line sustainability training availability.	ITC and Marketing to assist with maintaining relevance.	On-Going	26 tonnes CO2
Space Management	5% reduction in consumption per m ² /person.	Rob Labrom	Optimisation of space within estate to reduce under occupancy rates.	Space Management team to manage.	On-Going	52 tonnes CO2

Scope 3 Emissions – Reduction targets for the Scope 3 emissions including those reported to HESA (<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/>) are targeted as follows:

Emission (Tonnes CO2 pa)	Target	Responsible Person	Proposal	Resource Requirement	Timescale	Projected Savings
Supplied Water – 75.6 tonnes/CO2. (Does not include existing grey water recovery at BJL).	15% reduction pa for three years	Stewart Hugill	Leak repairs/new main for main campus	£250,000pa for three years	Due for completion 2020	11 tonnes Co2
Waste water – 148 tonnes/CO2	5% reduction pa for three years	Stewart Hugill	Water Chillers to be installed in Chemistry	£160,000	Install scheduled for Aug 2017	22 tonnes CO2 pa.
Travel – 109 tonnes/CO2	5% reduction pa for three years	Phil White/John Findlay	Implementation of a Car Share scheme	£17,400	Initial soft launch scheduled for Aug 2017	5 tonnes CO2 pa
Waste - 164 tonnes/CO2	5% reduction pa for three years	Stewart Hugill	Education	NUS switch off campaign to be complimented by staff/student training	Throughout 2017	25 tonnes CO2 pa.
Biodiversity	To maintain current 'Yorkshire In Bloom' Gold award	Joe Garner	Maintain current excellent grounds-keeping and engagement processes	Current Grounds maintenance budget to be maintained	Throughout 2017	Reputational

Sustainable Procurement	To follow Procurement Department's Ethical and Sustainability processes	Chris Gratton	Procurement Department has implemented a Sustainability element to all supply contracts and tenders	Maintained by Procurement Department	Throughout 2017	All suppliers to be evaluated and included on preferred suppliers list
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We will monitor and regularly review our progress against the targets identified within relevant policies and our annual Carbon Management Report.

Implementation

The University of Hull has made significant progress to improve its environmental impact since the introduction of the institution's first Sustainability Strategy in 2008. The University has reduced per capita energy consumption through numerous energy efficiency measures, whilst renewable energy is generated by rooftop photovoltaic installations which are complemented by the addition of two CHP generation plants. Extensive waste recycling and collection is in operation and a site has been identified as a focus for waste recycling facilities with a full business case underway. Car share schemes with dedicated parking facilities are in place and being utilised. A bike hire scheme for students and a bike purchase scheme for staff are also in place. The Catering department has introduced a Fair Trade food sourcing policy, and where appropriate uses other locally sourced produce.

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016/17 functions not only to provide strategic direction to the environmental improvements implemented by the University, but also serves to communicate to staff, students, and external organisations the institution's commitment to reducing its impact on the environment. Through identification of Environmental Sustainability Indicators, the University's progress will be better monitored, quantified, and disseminated during the lifetime of this Strategy.

Stewart Hugill
Environmental & Energy Manager
July 2017