



SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY POLICY

- 1 The University is committed to sustainability and social responsibility. The adoption and promotion of a sustainability and social responsibility agenda will ensure that decisions are taken, and resources are used within a framework in which environmental, social and economic factors are integrated.
- 2 Sustainable development, defined as “meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”, is integral to this. The University will seek to promote sustainable development throughout its activities and will look to the globally recognised Sustainable Development Goals framework as a mechanism for gauging its impact in doing so.
- 3 The University will take a ‘whole-institution’ approach to its sustainability and social responsibility commitments. To support that approach four-cross cutting implementation themes have been adopted:
 - Leadership and Communication
 - Estate and Infrastructure
 - Partnership and Engagement
 - Learning, Teaching & Research

Leadership and Communication

- 4 The University will ensure that consideration of these issues becomes part of institutional culture, informs decision-making and is reflected in strategy and policy.
- 5 Appropriate mechanisms for the communication of sustainability and social responsibility issues will be introduced to engage staff and raise awareness of institutional commitments.

Estate and Infrastructure

- 6 The University will constantly review its business operations with a view to achieving significant improvements in sustainability and social responsibility in all aspects of estate and infrastructure planning.
- 7 This process will establish and monitor appropriate environmental and social policies and set clearly defined objectives and targets, with responsibility for the delivery of improved performance in areas that include utilities, waste management, carbon management, travel and transportation, information technology, biodiversity and the capital programme.

Partnership & Engagement

- 8 The University will seek to be a socially responsible partner and promote shared values in all that it does and will work with its stakeholders to identify opportunities for promoting sustainability and social responsibility in a mutually beneficial way.

Learning, Teaching and Research

- 9 The University will encourage scholarship and research into sustainable development and will ensure that students can acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to contribute to the development of a sustainable and socially responsible society.

Targets and Monitoring

- 10 The University's Advisory Group on Sustainability and Social Responsibility will oversee and ensure the implementation of this and related policies and set objectives and targets.
- 11 This Group will establish effective reporting procedures, commit to a process of continual improvement, and set best practice standards which meet or surpass the requirements of legislation. The Group will also aim to promote awareness of all legislative, economic, technical and market developments that assist progress towards sustainability and social responsibility.
- 12 The Group will communicate the outcomes of this process to internal and external stakeholders through the production of formal sustainability and environmental reports as well as through regular informal channels and external benchmarking exercises.
- 13 The Group will report to University senior management through the University Secretary. Each policy area will be assigned to an appropriate member of staff who will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of strategy in conjunction with relevant stakeholders

Metadata			
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Related documents	<p>The SSR Strategy.</p> <p>See also the Environmental Sustainability Policy and related policies and procedures on Sustainable Food, Sustainability in the Curriculum, Sustainable Investment, Fairtrade and Sustainable Procurement.</p>		
Subject / Description	A statement detailing the University's commitment to sustainability and social responsibility, including a definition of the scope of what that means in an HE context.		
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