

## Environmental Sustainability Policy

Northumbria University employs over 3,000 staff and provides higher education to approximately 33,000 students. It comprises of two main campuses: its City Centre campus located in the centre of Newcastle upon Tyne, and its nearby Coach Lane campus.

The University recognises that its activities and wider influence impact upon the environment, but through our policies we wish to minimise these impacts and to grow and develop in a sustainable manner.

### Commitments

We are committed to:

- the protection of the environment, including the prevention of pollution;
- meeting, and where possible exceeding, all relevant legislation, industry standards and other environmental requirements to which the organisation subscribes;
- demonstrating continual improvement and enhancing environmental performance.

The development of our Environmental Management System (EMS) covers all operations at the University and provides a framework for achieving our commitments.

In order to help inform and measure environmental performance, we have developed performance indicators and supporting plans relating to our sustainability objectives:

- Reduce our energy consumption and associated carbon emissions, as supported by the **Carbon Management Plan**.
- Minimise our use of water as detailed in the **Water Management Plan**.
- Reduce the volume of waste we produce, achieve a high recycling rate, and ensure all waste is disposed of responsibly, as detailed in our **Waste Management Plan**.
- Promote and support sustainable travel options for commuting and business travel as supported by the **Green Travel Plan** and the **Sustainable Business Travel Management Plan**.
- Establish procedures to ensure sustainable procurement, as outlined in the **Commercial Procurement Policy**.
- Preserve and enhance the biodiversity of the estate, in accordance with the **Biodiversity Management Plan**.
- Engage and motivate staff, students and stakeholders to engage with sustainability through initiatives outlined in the **Sustainability Engagement Plan**.
- Minimise any significant adverse environmental impacts of new development in accordance with the **Sustainable Construction and Refurbishment Management Plan**.

Our Environmental Sustainability Policy is overseen by the University Sustainability Management Group and will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Approved on behalf of the University Executive:



Signed: 19 July 2016

Area	Target	Deadline	Responsibility	Update
<b>Energy and Carbon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>32.5% reduction in scope 1 and scope 2 emissions against the 2005/6 baseline.</li> <li>Improve the efficiency of the campus buildings by at least 3% each year (based on energy use per m<sup>2</sup>)</li> </ul>	2020	Carbon Manager	2014-15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No reduction in scope 1 &amp; 2.</li> <li>4% improvement in efficiency from 2013-14, 17% improvement from 2005-06.</li> </ul>
<b>Waste</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase on-site recycling segregation to 60%.</li> <li>Reduce total waste per student by 2% annually.</li> </ul>	2020	Sustainability Adviser	2014-15: Onsite recycling: 27.9% Waste per student: 52.63 tonnes
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce mains-fed water usage by 2% per year (litres per student).</li> <li>To increase the proportion of water used that is grey water.</li> </ul>	2020	Carbon Manager	Target set for 2015-16 onwards.
<b>Business Travel</b>	To develop an accurate baseline for Business Travel and set targets accordingly.	2020	Carbon Manager	N/A
<b>Commuter Travel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modal commute by car (alone):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Campus Staff: 24%</li> <li>City Campus Students: 10%</li> <li>Coach Lane Campus Staff: 60%</li> <li>Coach Lane Campus Students: 40%</li> </ul> </li> <li>To determine a carbon baseline for staff commuter travel and review targets accordingly.</li> </ul>	2016	Sustainability Adviser	2014 Travel Survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Campus Staff: 24%</li> <li>City Campus Students: 10%</li> <li>Coach Lane Campus Staff: 63%</li> <li>Coach Lane Campus Students: 45%</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	To create targets and further develop the plan following a full audit of the estate.	September 2016	Sustainability Adviser	N/A
<b>Procurement</b>	To achieve Flexible Framework Level 4.	2020	Procurement	Work in progress – currently Level 2.
<b>Construction</b>	All new buildings to achieve a DEC rating of B or better and to aim for a BREEAM rating of 'Excellent' with a minimum requirement of 'Very Good'.	2020	Head of Campus Planning & Development	No relevant builds in 2014-15.