

Document Title:	Sustainable Development Policy
Document Author:	Mat Jane – Energy and Environment Manager
Responsible Person and Department:	Mat Jane – Estates and Facilities Services
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Summary: In seeking to be sustainable, the University of Winchester aims to be ecologically sound, socially just and economically viable across generations. This Policy sets out the University’s specific intentions in regards to this.	

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Sustainability and Development

Sustainable development meets present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need.

In seeking to be sustainable, the University of Winchester aims to be ecologically sound, socially just and economically viable across generations¹. These concepts will inform curriculum and research, helping to prepare students to contribute as working citizens for an environmentally sound and socially just society. The University shall function as a sustainable community, embodying responsible consumption of food and energy, treating its diverse members with respect, and supporting these values in the community.

Sustainability is a process of ensuring the wise use of all resources within a framework in which environmental, social and economic factors are integrated. In adopting this approach, the University recognises the need to reflect the reality that humanity is affecting the environment in ways which are historically unprecedented and which are potentially devastating for both natural ecosystems and human beings. As universities are an integral part of the global economy and since they prepare most of the professionals who develop, manage and teach in society's public, private and non-governmental institutions, they are uniquely positioned to influence the direction we choose to take as a society. As major contributors to the values, health and wellbeing of society, higher education has a fundamental responsibility to teach, train and do research for sustainability. The University seeks to adopt a bold agenda with sustainability and the environment a cornerstone of its academic work.

The Sustainable Development Policy²

The University will:

1. Increase awareness of environmentally sustainable development within the University and externally, including through collaboration with the local and regional communities.
2. Create and maintain an institutional culture of sustainability.
3. Practice institutional environmental sustainability, operating in ways that maximise social and economic benefit while minimising adverse impacts on the local and wider communities.
4. Develop curriculum content for all students which develops environmentally responsible citizenship.
5. Ensure staff and students develop an understanding of ecologically sound, socially just and economically viable concepts of sustainable development.
6. Support and encourage interdisciplinary research on sustainability.
7. Invest in staff development, value stakeholder involvement and promote social inclusion and equity
8. Work with schools to help them practice, teach and promote sustainable development.
9. Work in co-operation with local, regional, national and international organisations to help promote a sustainable future.

This policy is supported by a range of related policies and action plans including an Environmental Strategy and related action plans.

1 Based on the policy espoused by the Association of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future

2 Based on the Association of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future: Talloires Declaration