

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Policy Category:	General
Subject:	King's commitment to environmental sustainability
Approving Authority:	SMT
Responsible Officer:	Senior Vice-President (Operations)
Responsible Office:	Estates & Facilities
Related Procedures:	
Related College Policies:	Waste and Resources Management Policy Energy and Carbon Management Policy Sustainable Food Policy Service Strategy 2018-23 Socially Responsible Purchasing Policy Green Transport Policy
Effective Date:	5 December 2019
Supersedes:	14 June 2015
Next Review:	31 July 2023

I. Purpose & Scope

This policy states King's commitment to environmental sustainability. It applies to all College activities and all members of the College community as well as contractors and relevant external stakeholders.

King's recognises that its activities can have a significant impact on the local and global environments. The university aims to not only minimise the negative environmental impacts arising from activities, but to also maximise the positive impact through research, teaching and operations.

This policy forms part of delivering on King's Strategic Vision 2029 and the supporting Service Strategy 2018-23 to 'make the world a better place' through addressing global challenges such as environmental sustainability. King's recognises that living within our planetary boundaries is one of the key challenges that must be addressed to have a thriving and healthy global society in the future.

II. Policy

1. *Commitment*

The University is committed to:

- Protecting and enhancing the environment to prevent habitat and biodiversity loss, combat climate change and prevent the pollution of land, water and air.
- Complying with and, where appropriate exceeding relevant environmental legislation, regulatory requirements and other standards.
- Maintaining and continually improving the ISO14001 certified Environmental Management System (EMS) to enhance environmental performance. This includes implementing policies and procedures to identify and address significant environmental impacts and carrying out regular audits.
- Allocating responsibilities and adequate resources for the implementation of this policy.

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- Ensuring that the Environmental Sustainability Policy is available to all students, staff and interested parties.
- Incorporating relevant sustainability criteria into procurement documentation to ensure suppliers meet the College's objectives when delivering services, goods and construction works.
- Providing opportunities for staff and students to actively engage with the University's work on environmental sustainability
- Providing training and giving students the opportunity to embed sustainability and sustainable development into their formal or informal education
- Supporting the delivery of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The relevant SDGs to this policy are:
 - Goal 4: Quality Education
 - Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
 - Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
 - Goal 12: Responsible Consumption & Production
 - Goal 13: Climate Action
 - Goal 14: Life below Water
 - Goal 15: Life on Land
- Setting environmental sustainability targets against the following objectives, which will be reviewed, and progress reported on annually:
 - **Carbon and Energy:** Maximise energy efficiency and reduce absolute greenhouse gas emissions (in line with climate science for keeping global temperature increase to a 1.5°C scenario. Aim to achieve Net Zero Carbon by 2030 commitment.)
 - **Water:** Increase water efficiency across the estate through design and maintenance of estate.
 - **Waste and Resource Use:** Promote responsible consumption, minimise the amount of waste produced and maximise reuse and recycling where generation of waste cannot be prevented.
 - **Biodiversity:** Maintain and enhance the green spaces on our campuses to support biodiversity and health and wellbeing.
 - **Clean Air:** Contribute to reducing air pollution and mitigating the impact of poor air quality around our campuses.
 - **Construction and refurbishment:** Manage construction, refurbishment and post-completion occupancy of our buildings to reduce environmental impact and enhance wellbeing of building users.
 - **Partnership and community engagement:** Collaborate with other internal and external parties to promote knowledge sharing, community engagement, and to accelerate achievement of local, regional, national and global goals
 - **Training and Awareness:** Raise awareness of sustainability issues and provide opportunities to develop skills and knowledge.

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2. Roles and Responsibilities

While all senior leaders have responsibility for implementing this policy in their areas of control, the President and Principal has delegated responsibility at SMT level to the Director of Estates & Facilities for reporting on the Environmental Sustainability policy.

The Environmental Sustainability Policy is overseen by the Real Estate Operations Board (REOB) and the Sustainability team within Estates & Facilities.

Estates and Facilities are responsible for operating an accredited ISO14001 Environmental Management System and further roles and responsibilities within this detailed in the EMS documentation.

The Health & Safety Management Group provide oversight of the Environmental Management System via reports from the Sustainability Team at termly meetings.

3. Reporting

Annual progress against the policy and related strategic actions are reported to the university's Senior Management Team via the Director of Estates & Facilities. The university Council and other stakeholders are updated on progress via an annual Environmental Sustainability report.

4. Review

The policy is reviewed at least every three years.