

University of Bristol Sustainability Policy

The University of Bristol has over 22,300 students, over 5,500 staff members and a functional estate of 500,000 m² across more than 300 buildings. Through its activities and actions, the University recognises its impacts on the environment and community, locally, nationally and globally and the role it plays within the sector and nationally in addressing sustainability issues.

The University of Bristol has made a commitment within its Vision and Strategy 2016 – 2023 to continue to deliver its sustainable targets. The University has identified 15 key areas through which sustainability shall be approached. These are;

Education for Sustainable Development – by providing opportunities for students to learn about sustainability via the formal and informal curriculum, including extensive volunteering programme, as well as subliminally from the University's estate and working practices. Bristol Futures will deliver this policy aim.

Research and Knowledge Transfer- research on the environment, social justice and development, consistent with addressing the sustainable development goals, will continue to be a strategic priority of the University (exemplified by the URIs and SRIs); and we will similarly prioritise sharing of our research findings with the public and decision makers.

Staff and Student Engagement and Behaviour Change – working with staff and students to help promote sustainable processes and behaviours and delivering a communications plan.

Engaging with our Communities - working with our students and staff as well as local organisations, schools and businesses to develop resilient partnerships which enhance community and the local economy.

Space Utilisation – Finding ways that best utilise our built environment to reduce environmental impact whilst improving staff and student welfare.

Sustainable Buildings – by making full use of available space and designing and refurbishing buildings in line with the University's Sustainable Building Philosophy.

The Living Estate, Biodiversity and the Natural Environment – by conserving and enhancing wildlife habitat on University-owned land and supporting wider initiatives.

Energy, Carbon and Water Management- by encouraging energy and water efficient practices and investing in its estate to reduce carbon emissions and water consumption, the University aims to achieve its ambition for it to be a net carbon neutral campus by 2030.

Sustainable Travel –by reducing our transport and emissions footprint from all forms of transport including commuting, fleet management and business travel.

Emissions, Discharges and an Environmental Management System (EMS)- by putting in place appropriate controls delivered via our Environmental Management System, to prevent pollution and work to reduce where practicable emissions and discharges to air, land and water.

Circular Economy – by considering waste as a resource, recognising its value, encouraging prevention and reduction, reuse of resources prior to recycling or disposal and joining with procurement activities to ensure assets are used to their fullest extent, the University aims to deliver a Circular Economy University.

Sustainable Procurement – by encouraging and embedding sustainable and life-cycle considerations into purchasing decisions supporting a Circular Economy approach.

Responsible Investment – Developing approaches to using the principles of responsible investment where practical.

Ethical and Sustainable food – by offering staff and students food options that are welfare driven, sustainable and ethical.

Governance and Reporting - Each area of the policy has an implementation strategy or be embedded in an existing strategy setting out objectives and KPI's for delivery of the area's aims. Each strategy will have a designated responsible lead. The policy, strategies and performance will be reviewed annually via a sustainability report and be reviewed by UMT. Primary KPI's will be included within the IPP. This policy, strategies, performance will be communicated to stakeholders publically. The policy will be delivered using an environmental management system ISO14001, 'net positive principles' and will help deliver the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

This policy, approved by University Management Team (UMT) on (DATE) and Senate on (DATE), covers all University activity. The policy has been endorsed by the Bristol Students' Union on (DATE).