

Emissions, Discharges and EMS Strategy 2017-2023

INTRODUCTION

The University of Bristol operates under an Environmental Management System, ISO 14001. This is a systematic approach to environmental management, externally audited annually to provide assurance that the University is achieving best practice in environmental management. In 2015 a new international standard was released, aiming to broaden scope of the system to include wider sustainability aspects.

AIMS

The aims of the University's Emissions and Discharges / Environmental Management System strategy are to:

- a) Support delivery of the University's Sustainability Policy and Strategies
- b) Provide a systematic, auditable framework to ensure compliance with legislation, including controls to prevent pollution; working to reduce emissions and discharges to air, land and water
- c) Minimise environmental impact with a lifecycle perspective
- d) Allow the University to respond to changing environmental conditions, manage associated risk and enhance opportunities.
- e) Allow the University to balance socio economic needs with environmental impacts
- f) Achieving financial or operational efficiencies through implementing environmentally sound initiatives

SCOPE

The scope is defined as 'Whole Institution – covering all operations, learning, teaching and research' and extending through sustainable procurement initiatives to our supply chain.

OBJECTIVES

1. Use ISO 14001:2015 to manage environmental impact, identify risks and opportunities and achieve environmental compliance
2. Use ISO 14001:2015 to help manage social and ethical criteria
3. Manage internal compliance audits to ensure ongoing best practice is maintained
4. Implement and manage processes for prevention of pollution
5. Support the development of the Estate ensuring sustainable resource management is key to infrastructure, construction and post construction building use.
6. Raise the profile of ISO 14001 principles across the University
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8. Review business aspects of activities that have both positive and negative impacts on the environment, incorporating whole life and life cycle and identifying business risks and opportunities.
9. Identify aspects of its activities that can have a positive or negative impact on the environment, prioritising those deemed to be significant, based on factors relevant to the institution
10. Evaluating environmental performance to help establish operational controls which lead to enhanced environmental performance and continuous improvement

TARGETS

1. Implement ISO 14001:2015, under the current scope by March 2018
2. Sustainability reporting integrated into all sector annual reports by March 2020
3. Sustainability actions integrated into all department strategic business plans and annual work programmes by 2021
4. Sustainability training mandatory for all staff by March 2019

ACTIONS

Continued activity in this area includes:

- Maintain an aspects and impacts register, reviewing annually
- Maintain a risk and legislation register, reviewing at least annually
- Carry out compliance and performance audits
- Hold university wide management reviews
- We meet the requirements of all relevant legislation and other requirements and exceed these requirements where they best support the University's other objectives.
- We continue to manage our activities to prevent pollution
- Review risk assessments and control documents in light register reviews