



Cardiff
Metropolitan
University

Prifysgol
Metropolitan
Caerdydd

Environment and Sustainability Policy

POLICY COVERSHEET

Key Details

POLICY TITLE	<i>Environment and Sustainability Policy</i>
DATE APPROVED	<i>7th May 2025</i>
APPROVING BODY	<i>Academic Board</i>
VERSION	<i>1.1</i>
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NEXT REVIEW DATE	<i>24 months from approval date</i>
OUTCOME OF EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	<i>* No major change</i>
RELATED POLICIES / PROCEDURES / GUIDANCE	<i>Strategy 2030 Sustainability Strategy Sustainability Engagement Strategy Carbon Management Plan 2024 – 2030 Business Travel and Expenses Policy Ethical Investment & Banking Policy Ethical Supply Chains Policy Fairtrade Policy Sustainable Food Policy Sustainable Procurement Policy Sustainable Seafood Policy Thermal Comfort Policy Waste Management Policy Sustainable Construction and Refurbishment Policy Water Management Policy Biodiversity Policy Travel Policy Sustainability targets and Carbon Management focus</i>
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	<i>May 2025</i>
POLICY OWNER (JOB TITLE)	<i>Sustainability Engagement Manager</i>
UNIT / SERVICE	<i>Environment, Estates and Sustainability</i>
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Version Control

VERSION	DATE	REASON FOR CHANGE
1.0	September 2020	First version
1.1	May 2025	Review and inclusion of SDG's

Policy Hub

For further information on policies:

- 1 You can go to the Secretariat pages on InSite at <https://outlookuwicac.sharepoint.com/sites/Secretariat>;
- 2 You can go to the Policy Hub at cardiffmet.ac.uk/about/policyhub; or
- 3 Contact policies@cardiffmet.ac.uk.

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Environmental and Sustainability Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

Cardiff Metropolitan University recognises the importance of the role it has to play in the protection of our natural environment, locally, regionally and globally in the promotion principles of sustainability across all its activities, including teaching and research.

1.2 Scope

The University is based on two Campus' - Llandaff for teaching and Cyncoed for teaching and residential: Plas Gwyn residential halls and staff offices - Alexander House and WJEC.

This Policy supports Sustainable Development Goal numbers 3; 4; 6; 7; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15 and 17.



1.3 Definitions

- 1.3.1 **The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** is a law that aims to improve the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. The act's purpose is to ensure that actions meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 1.3.2 **ISO 14001** The University activities have an impact on the environment, and we are committed to continual improvement of our Environmental Management System (EMS) and to exceed the requirements of ISO 14001. This is supported by the publication and reporting of smart objectives and priorities to deliver the EMS, Sustainability Strategy and Carbon Management Plan with sustainability themed policies.
- 1.3.3 **Carbon Net Zero** refers to the balance between the amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) that the University produces and the amount that's removed from

the atmosphere. It can be achieved through a combination of emission reduction and emission removal.

- 1.3.4 **Sustainable Development Goals SDG's** - The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 goals that were established in 2015 by the United Nations (UN). The goals are intended to create a more sustainable and equitable world by addressing global challenges.
- 1.3.5 **Sustainable Targets and Carbon Management Focus** – a university document defining Strategy 2030, ISO 14001 EMS targets and Carbon Management targets and focus.

2 Purpose

- 2.1 In line with the Well-being of the Future Generations Act (2015), Cardiff Metropolitan recognises a wide definition of sustainability, based on engaging in development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 2.2 We are committed to embedding the relevant goals into our business and academic process, as indicated Sustainable Development Goal numbers 3; 4; 6; 7; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15 and 17 are particularly relevant to this Policy.
- 2.3 We aim to develop a culture of environmental stewardship amongst our staff and students.
- 2.4 We understand that our activities have an impact on the environment, and we are committed to continual improvement of our Environmental Management System and to exceed the requirements of ISO 14001.
- 2.5 The University will achieve its goal of becoming Net Zero Carbon for Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions by 2030; and in parallel will progress the reduction of its Scope 3 emissions by 30% by 2030 with the aim of achieving Net Zero Carbon for Scope 3 emissions by 2040.

3 Policy Section

- 3.1 The University is totally committed to delivering sustainability policies and strategies in order to:
 - 3.1.1 Maintain an Environmental Management System certified to ISO 14001.
 - 3.1.2 Hold regular Climate Action Working Group meetings reporting progress against Sustainable Targets and Carbon Management Focus
 - 3.1.3 Reduce carbon emissions through investment in low carbon technologies.
 - 3.1.4 Increase the environmental awareness of students, staff and visitors to the University.
 - 3.1.5 Protect the environment, including prevention of pollution and continual improvement of environmental performance and the Environmental Management System.
 - 3.1.6 Use water more efficiently and reduce the volumes of water used on campus.

- 3.1.7 Maintain Fairtrade University accreditation.
- 3.1.8 Fulfil compliance obligations.
- 3.1.9 Continue to divert waste from landfill.
- 3.1.10 Educate staff, students and visitors on waste streams on Campus.
- 3.1.11 Maintain Sustainable Restaurant Association Award
- 3.1.12 Encourage the use of sustainable forms of transport by students, staff, contractors, deliveries and visitors to and from Campus and Residences.
- 3.1.13 Increase the Biodiversity of the University's campuses and surrounding areas.
- 3.1.14 Minimise nuisance to local communities and neighbours.
- 3.1.15 Use natural resources efficiently and responsibly.
- 3.1.16 Promote education for Sustainable Development through the curriculum, via Real World projects and core modules.
- 3.1.17 Develop a programme to train staff with core competencies in Carbon Literacy, to support the carbon net zero goals of the University.
- 3.1.18 Provide work placement and Student internships within the Sustainability Team.
- 3.1.19 Reduce the impact of travel to Campus, raising awareness and alternatives to single car occupancy.
- 3.1.20 Raise awareness of the impact of travel choices.

4 Engagement

- 4.1 In the development of our sustainability and environmental themed policies and strategies with their associated actions, we have consulted with students, staff, trade unions and our local communities to ensure that our activities in this area, reflect the ambitions our stakeholders have for Cardiff Metropolitan's approach. We will continue to consult with these key groups to ensure our actions remain relevant and so that we are transparent in accounting for our actions.
- 4.2 We will deliver the University Sustainability Engagement Strategy.

5 Measuring Data and Reporting

- 5.1 Performance will be measured by retention of ISO 14001 through internal audits and annual external audits.
- 5.2 Reporting of Sustainability targets and Carbon Management focus at the Climate Action Working Group meeting and then the Environment, Estates and Sustainability Committee.

6 Roles and Responsibilities

- 6.1.1 The Vice Chancellor or a nominee of the Vice Chancellor will have responsibility for ensuring that the strategies, policies and all associated actions are implemented.

- 6.1.2 Performance will be communicated to staff, students through InSite, MetCentral, Staff & Student Induction and to our wider communities through social media and the University website.

7 Related Policies and Procedures

7.1 Strategies

- 7.1.1 Strategy 2030
- 7.1.2 Sustainability Strategy
- 7.1.3 Sustainability Engagement Strategy
- 7.1.4 Carbon Management Plan 2024 – 2030

7.2 Policies

- 7.2.1 Business Travel and Expenses Policy
- 7.2.2 Ethical Investment & Banking Policy
- 7.2.3 Ethical Supply Chains Policy
- 7.2.4 Fairtrade Policy
- 7.2.5 Sustainable Food Policy
- 7.2.6 Sustainable Procurement Policy
- 7.2.7 Sustainable Seafood Policy
- 7.2.8 Thermal Comfort Policy
- 7.2.9 Waste Management Policy
- 7.2.10 Sustainable Construction and Refurbishment Policy
- 7.2.11 Water Management Policy
- 7.2.12 Biodiversity Policy
- 7.2.13 Travel Policy

8 Review and Approval

- 7.1 This policy is reviewed and approved bi-annually by the Vice Chancellor and communicated via InSite and MetCentral, it is also publicly available via the University's website and at Reception notice boards.