Loughborough University Sustainability Strategy – Visioning for our future

1. Introduction

Sustainable development should be based on a set of principles informed by the University's mission and values according to BS8900. Principles can be used to guide the social, economic and environmental aspects of managing sustainable development and as a minimum and in line with this standard they should include inclusivity, integrity, stewardship and transparency.

The three core aspects of sustainability are:

1. Social
2. Economic
3. Environmental

The University takes its responsibility for the environment seriously and understands the need to respond to the challenges we face globally around issues such as climate change, human wellbeing, food, water and energy security. Loughborough seeks to respond to these opportunities by leading in environmental sustainability building on the work of our researchers and aspiring to make the campus a living laboratory demonstrating operationally our mission to provide a sustainable campus.

2. Mission Statements

2.1 University Mission

- To advance knowledge wisdom and understanding through our research, education, and scholarship
- To inspire, empower and enrich the lives of our staff and students
- To create regional, national and global impact by working in partnership with organisations across the private, public and voluntary sectors.

2.2 Sustainability Vision

- *Our commitment to social responsibility will be evident throughout our activities and be a common thread in the partnerships that we forge. This will be underpinned and inspired by our students' outstanding track record in charity fundraising and community action. We will continue to have an important role in enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of the town and the wider region, working closely with key stakeholders and organisations, including residents, local authorities and businesses.*
- *We will demonstrate a consistent and meaningful engagement with sustainability through our capital development programme, campus*

operations and academic activities and embed sustainability and social responsibility in our school and services management processes.[1]

Over the last 5 years the University has made significant progress in embedding environmental sustainability across its operations specifically looking for the synergies between teaching, research and operations. To support the overarching University vision and strategy the following sustainability strategy will set out the vision and key objectives until 2024. It will build on our progress to date and brings together the University's existing policies, strategies and action plans. [2]

2.3 Values

- Campus as a "living laboratory" where collaborative partnerships between teaching, research and operations exist
- A community that is about wellbeing, belonging and social responsibility
- All our staff will be trained in sustainability
- Sustainability is core to our teaching
- We will manage environmental impact in all our operational activity to protect and enhance the surrounding environment

3.0 Strategic Aims (we should have case study examples for each of these)

The University of Loughborough is committed to leading change in environmental sustainability. The following table sets out strategic aims and objectives for sustainability for the years 2014 – 2024.

Sustainability Strategy – Strategic Aims & Objectives			
Aims	**Objectives**	**Key Performance Indicators**	**Lead**
TEACHING			
1. To develop the curriculum to provide all students with access to education for sustainability enhancing graduate employability	To provide appropriate training to academic colleagues with professional development opportunities in educating for sustainable development (ESD) To embed elements of sustainability across the curriculum using the interdisciplinary approach already in place within the Research challenge areas To provide opportunities for students to develop skills to respond to global sustainability challenges as ***adaptable 21st century citizens that make a significant contribution to global society*** in an emerging green economy	Evidence of working towards the UNESCO framework for ESD Number of students on relevant environmental or sustainability modules and courses Number of courses/modules incorporating ESD Continue to promote internships and placements	PVC Teaching (lead) Associate Dean Teaching (Lead) Learning & Teaching Committee (Enablers) Centre for Academic Practice (Enablers)
2. To enhance the student experience through informal learning using the biodiverse and exceptionally green campus as a platform to foster sustainable and healthy lifestyles alongside learning	To create a "living laboratory" through our teaching, research and operational activity and programmes allowing students to live and study sustainably whilst learning through experience. To promote the Loughborough community where engagement and participation are encouraged supporting a sense of wellbeing and belonging. ***Working in partnership with Loughborough***	We will seek to empower students to become global citizens through their fields of study, our community action programmes and employability award scheme. We will encourage students to support the demonstrator campus and living laboratory themes either through their studies or day to day activities.	Academic (enabler) SU (lead) Employability/Careers (enabler) Enterprise (enabler) Sustainability Team (enabler)

	Students' Union, we will offer the best possible all-round experience, providing our students with a wide range of opportunities that enable them to achieve their full potential, professionally and personally as well as academically. To provide students with the tools to promote sustainable business practice, leadership and an awareness of environmental issues	We will continue to promote active social and cultural engagement with sustainable volunteering opportunities on campus	
RESEARCH			
3. We will encourage knowledge transfer amongst our staff, students and alumni that can contribute to a meaningful and positive approach to addressing some of the challenges of sustainable development.	To widen the community action programme to ensure staff and students can participate in environmental and sustainability projects To communicate and promote our environmental sustainability activities and achievements to the Loughborough community.	Expansion of our community action programme to include staff. Continue to improve our award winning behavioural change campaign to ensure engagement and positive behaviour change. We will consult with our community through our policies and strategies using meaningful and accessible examples of sustainability We will encourage our alumni team to promote our sustainability achievements	HR (lead) Sustainability Team (Lead) Marketing & Advancement (enabler)
4. To identify research related to environmental sustainability and identify where this can be linked to operational activity on campus.	To identify and publicise research activity in environmental sustainability To establish the synergies between teaching, research and operations ***The relevance of our research to real-life***	Research funding for environmental sustainability related research Ensure transparency through annual reporting of research led operational activities	**Research Challenges Academic Lead** - Neil Dixon - John Downey - Russ Harris - Kevin Lomas

To utilise our Research Challenge areas to facilitate knowledge exchange amongst the Loughborough community	***issues will place us at the forefront internationally, increasing significantly the global visibility and reputation of the University*** To ensure our students are involved with and introduced to world leading research in environmental sustainability	Promote and signpost key activity on the sustainability webpages Identify and publicise case studies	- David Williams - Mark Freeman **RCD Managers (enablers)** - Darren Cadman - Kate Clift - Catherine Allford - Kelly Manders - Lawrence Gardiner - Philip Amison Associate Dean Enterprise (Knowledge) Sustainability Team (enablers) FM (enablers)
ENTERPRISE			
5. To create a Demonstrator Campus	To establish tangible evidence of a "living laboratory" through teaching, research and operational projects. Foster collaborative projects within the Loughborough Community to deliver this objective moving from theory based work and research to actual practice ***providing our students with an exceptional learning environment.***	To identify the synergies between teaching, research and operations and to evidence this through active programmes of delivery on campus. This may include projects such as: Active Travel Greening the fleet Eat your Campus Developing research led projects into campus development	**Research Challenges Academic Lead** - Neil Dixon - John Downey - Russ Harris - Kevin Lomas - David Williams - Mark Freeman **RCD Managers (enablers)** - Darren Cadman - Kate Clift - Catherine Allford - Kelly Manders - Lawrence Gardiner - Philip Amison

			Sustainability Team (lead) FM(enablers)
6 To use enterprise and innovation to showcase our contribution to meeting the global challenges in sustainable development	To continue to foster enterprise and innovation by commercialising University research through licensing and the formation of companies that contribute to the global challenges of climate change, human wellbeing, food, water and energy security ***ensuring that the impact of our activities helps to support economic development and drive innovation and performance on local, national and international levels.*** To encourage the building of partnerships (particularly in developing countries) that creates successful sustainable projects that are mutually beneficial. ***Through the integration of influential research, vibrant enterprising culture and outstanding learning opportunities, we will enhance our ability to drive forward solutions to contemporary global challenges***	Evidence the number of spin out/businesses that are working in or have contributed technologies to developing countries Evidence of technology or innovation that has contributed to the global challenges of climate change, human wellbeing, food, water and energy security***.***	PVC Enterprise (lead) Associate Dean Enterprise (enabler)
OPERATIONAL			
7 To manage our estate in a positive way reducing our impact on the environment through ongoing monitoring of our operational processes, systems and outputs.	**Waste** - To ensure that, in accordance with legislation, waste will be managed in a sustainable manner following the waste hierarchy of Prevention, Reuse, Recycling, Energy Recovery and Disposal, to ensure the reduction in waste sent to landfill and in the carbon emissions of landfilling.	We will deliver operational objectives and targets in the following areas: Waste Management Carbon Management Water Management Construction and Refurbishment Sustainable Travel	Sustainability Team (lead) Local HSE Groups (enablers) Operational Managers (lead) FM (lead) Finance (lead)

	Carbon - To reduce the institution's carbon footprint, focusing in particular on the reduction in use of gas and electricity from the national grid. **Water** - To reduce water consumption from the University's operations. **Construction and Refurbishment -** To reduce the impact of construction, refurbishment and maintenance of the estate by assessment of the environmental impact and risk. **Sustainable Trave**l - To reduce the use of fossil fuels for personal and business travel in order to decrease the carbon impact of these as part of the transport management strategy. **Emissions to Air & Discharges to Water** - To ensure control measures are put into place to mitigate the risks associated with emissions to air and discharges to water **Sustainable Procurement -** To reduce the demand for non-sustainable goods and services by reducing purchasing, using resource-efficient products and considering end of life. **Noise Pollution -** To ensure control measures are put into place to mitigate the risks associated with emissions to air and discharges to water	Emissions to Air & Discharges to Water Sustainable Procurement Cohesion for these areas will be provided by the environmental management system ISO 14001. This will also give quality assurance and support LU to ***embed sustainability and social responsibility into all of its processes, operations and developments.***	Procurement (enabler) SU (enabler)

4.0 How Loughborough will embed sustainability into the University's 3 (4) core areas

Education (Teaching)

In 2005 the Higher Education Funding Council for England stated that "the biggest contribution a University can make to sustainability is through the education of their graduates"

Loughborough aims to "*deliver progressive, internationally relevant curricula, with students having opportunities to experience education overseas"*[4]

"Today's education is crucial to the ability of present and future leaders and citizens to create solutions and find new paths to a better future" [5]

Education is essential to sustainable development and Loughborough will aspire to rethink the way it educates across the curricula using a variety of pedagogical techniques that promote participatory and lifelong learning.

Research

Through our cutting-edge research we are helping the world to tackle global warming by developing new technologies that reduce carbon emissions, preserve the earth's environment and resources, and provide clean energy for all.

We enhance the sustainability of the campus by the adoption of appropriate techniques and technologies to make Loughborough one of the UK's leading exemplars of sustainability in the academic sector.

The University is internationally acclaimed for its research in the area of sustainability. It is home to the world leading CREST (Centre for Renewable Energy Systems Technology) and in 2006 launched a Sustainability Research School. The School brings together a multi-disciplinary team of experts in sustainability-related research from across the University, and promotes collaboration with other academic institutions and industry.

In recognition of its research expertise in this field Loughborough, in partnership with the Universities of Birmingham and Nottingham and with support from the East Midlands Development Agency (emda) and Advantage West Midlands, was chosen to host the Government's new £1 billion national Energy Technologies Institute (ETI) to help accelerate the UK's transition to a low-carbon economy. The headquarters of the ETI are now based at the University.

Enterprise

Loughborough has an exceptional track record of fostering enterprise and innovation, commercialising University research through licensing and the formation

of companies. We offer businesses of all sizes a wealth of professional and technical expertise and specialist services to improve competitiveness.

Over the years we have established strategic partnerships with global industry leaders, which enables Loughborough University research to have a real impact on the world around us.

The University is joining forces with the Royal Academy of Engineering to establish one of four new centres of Excellence in Sustainable Building Design in the UK.

According to the Stern Review *effective action on the scale required to tackle climate change requires a widespread shift to new or improved technology in key sectors such as power generation, transport and energy use.*

Loughborough has the potential to exploit new ideas through innovation to support this shift.

Operations

As an organisation we are committed to ensuring we operate in a sustainable way. We work with our own academics and others across the sector, to ensure that innovative ideas are considered for application in the management of our own campus.

We will implement an environmental management system (EMS) EcoCampus which will ultimately lead to ISO 14001. The EMS focuses on a clear structure for environmental management and a policy commitment from senior management. The environmental policy can be seen in A*ppendix 2*.

According to the AUDE Estate Strategy Good Practice Guide 2013

"Universities now generally assess the impact of their operations on local communities and the environment. Business supporters, existing students and prospective students are increasingly aware, not only of an institution's academic and research reputation, but also the character of the institution, how it interacts with others and how it deals with Corporate Social Responsibility"

Operationally we will strive to maintain, protect and enhance the campus to ensure a positive impact on the Loughborough Community and our surrounding environment. We would like to be known as a socially responsible organisation where our neighbours both locally and globally feel included in our shared community. This will be reflected in the way we educate our students to live responsibly, contribute to and become part of the Loughborough community.

5.0 Our sustainability strategy will link to the University Strategy which has 3 key themes

	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3
	Sport, health and wellbeing	**Climate change and net zero**	**Vibrant and inclusive communities**
Goal 1	Encourage and support staff to participate in and engage with socially responsible activities through our community action programme. Raising competitiveness through innovation that promotes development.	Strengthen our standards and improve our performance in environmental sustainability	Educate and inspire our students to become responsible business leaders of the future.
Goal 2	Continue to invest in Loughborough as a sustainable community through our partnership and engagement programmes fostering wellbeing amongst staff and students.	To embed sustainability as business as usual linking the 3 core aspects of sustainability social, environmental and economic through University policy and strategy.	Support academic colleagues and multi-disciplinary teaching to incorporate sustainable development into teaching and research.

References

1. *Professor Jacqueline Glass , School of Civil and Building Engineering*
2. *Carbon Management Plan & Delivery Plan, Sustainability Vision & Strategy V1,Environmental Policy*
3. *Community in this context includes staff, students, alumni, local residents and any other stakeholders of the University.*
4. *Professor Morag Bell, Strategic Priorities – Learning & Teaching, 2013*
5. *UNESCO ESD, www.unesco.org*

Association of University Directors of Estates Good Practise Guide 2013
Stern, N. (2007). *The Economics of Climate Change, The Stern Review.* Cambridge University Press
Willums, J & the world council for sustainable development (1998). *The Sustainable Business Challenge, A briefing for tomorrow's business leaders.* Greenleaf Publishing

University of Bristol Policy and Strategy for Sustainability 2009 - 2016
The University of Edinburgh Social Responsibility and Sustainability Strategy 2010 – 20
University of Exeter Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2010-2015
The University of Nottingham Environmental Strategy 2010

Appendix 1

Significant Environmental Aspects,

Objectives & Targets

Loughborough University is implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS) to provide structure for the management and mitigation of our environmental impact. Through the EMS we have conducted an environmental review to identify our environmental aspects, the impacts they may have, and the significance of those impacts. Our EMS provides the structure within which we can set objectives and targets to mitigate those impacts. The environmental review and objectives and targets inform the institution's environmental policy, as well as the strategies, standards and procedures which stem from it.

The institution's baseline review looked at the University's activities in the following key areas:

1. Environmental Management
2. Policy
3. Waste Management
4. Energy & Water
5. Construction and Refurbishment
6. Transport
7. Emissions to Air & Discharges to Water
8. Sustainable Procurement
9. Community
10. Health, Welfare & Safety

The baseline review identified 24 significant environmental aspects, of which, 10 were positive and the remaining 14 were negative. All aspects have been assigned a significance rating after analysis through a risk-based matrix. Each aspect has a significance rating for its potential impacts under normal, abnormal, and emergency circumstances. Negative aspects are then classed as high, medium, or low risk depending on their significance rating. Further detail on this process can be found in the EMS manual.

All significant aspects require objectives and targets to be set against them to manage and mitigate their negative environmental effects. To set objectives and targets, the institution's 24 significant aspects are sorted into the following 8 focus areas:

1. **A Use of Gas & Electricity**
2. **Waste**
3. **Transport**
4. **Construction, Refurbishment & Maintenance of the Estate**
5. **Purchase of Non-Sustainable Goods & Services**
6. **Emissions to air and discharges to water**
7. **Water Consumption**
8. **Noise Pollution**

Objectives & Targets

1. Use of Gas & Electricity

Responsible Group: Loughborough University Net Zero

Key Objective: To reduce the institution's carbon footprint, focusing in particular on the reduction in use of gas and electricity from the national grid.

Supporting Objectives:

1. To embed carbon management in all our activities and ensure that the challenge is shared and promoted at both a strategic and individual level across the University.
2. To implement an annual programme of carbon reduction projects in order to meet reduction targets for scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.

Targets:

1. To develop a business case to assist in securing funding to support the implementation of carbon reduction projects (ongoing)
2. To report the progress against carbon management objectives and targets on an annual basis to the relevant committee(s)
3. To reduce carbon emissions by 43% by 2022
4. Annually reduce emissions by 906 tonnes year on year (ongoing)

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative environmental aspects, they are:

1. Reducing the use of gas
2. Reducing the use of electricity
3. Environmental awareness raising
4. Environmental research and teaching

2. Waste

Responsible Group: Sustainability Sub Committee

Key Objective: To ensure that, in accordance with legislation, waste will be managed in a sustainable manner following the waste hierarchy of Prevention, Reuse, Recycling, Energy Recovery and Disposal, to ensure the reduction in waste sent to landfill and in the carbon emissions of landfilling.

Supporting Objectives:

1. To reduce the amount of waste.
2. To ensure waste is managed in accordance with current legislation.
3. To ensure all waste collected or stored on site adheres to best environmental practice and is clearly labeled.

Targets:

1. To reduce waste below 1500 tonnes per annum for three consecutive years by 2025

2. To measure reuse tonnage for 2021/2 reporting year
3. To maintain recycling at above 60% of overall waste
4. To reduce food waste sent for AD to at below 15% of overall waste
5. To maintain energy from waste at 15% of overall waste
6. To maintain waste to landfill at below 6%

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative environmental aspects, they are:

1. Managing waste
2. Increasing recycling
3. Environmental awareness raising
4. Environmental research and teaching

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative environmental aspects, they are:

5. Managing waste
6. Increasing recycling
7. Environmental awareness raising
8. Environmental research and teaching

3. Transport Parking

Responsible Group: Travel and Transport Group

Key Objective: To reduce the use of fossil fuels for personal and business travel in order to decrease the carbon impact of these as part of the transport management strategy.

Supporting Objectives:

1. To reduce the environmental impact of staff and student travel to/from/on behalf of the university.
2. To provide an alternative to single-occupancy vehicle use for as many staff and students as possible.
3. To ensure that any restrictions place on travelling onto the University campus by car are matched with action to support travel by other modes.
4. To promote active travel as a means of travelling to and across campus.
5. To minimise overspill parking and local traffic congestion related to staff and student travel.

Targets:

(All travel targets due by 2025)

1. Reduce the proportion of staff driving alone as their main mode of travel from 50% to 47%
2. Increase the proportion of staff walking or cycling as their main mode of travel from 31% to 37%
3. Increase the proportion of staff who are usual walkers from 17% to 20%
4. Increase the proportion of staff who are usual cyclists from 14% to 17%

5. Increase the number of secure cycle parking stands
6. Increase the number of showers available to staff
7. Increase the proportion of staff who are 'sometimes' public transport users from 16.5% to 20%
8. Increase the proportion of students who are 'usual' public transport users from 7.8% to 10%
9. Increase the proportion of staff car sharing as their main mode of travel from 10% to 12%
10. Raise awareness of Car Sharing to 75% staff awareness
11. Increase the number of staff registered on Liftshare to 500
12. Reduce the proportion of staff driving alone as their main mode of business travel from 39.4% to 35%
13. Develop a Home Working Policy to aid a reduction in staff travel onto campus
14. Increase the proportion of staff walking or cycling as their main mode of business travel from 2.9% to 4%
15. Increase the proportion of staff using public transport as their main mode of business travel from 37.9% to 40%
16. Work towards the Green Fleet Strategy target of moving 60% of the Facilities Management fleet over to low-carbon vehicles, whilst improving fuel efficiency for other vehicles
17. Introduce pool vehicles for staff use on campus and on business travel

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative environmental aspects, they are:

1. Travel reduction initiatives
2. Environmental awareness raising
3. Environmental research and teaching

4. Construction, Refurbishment & Maintenance of the Estate

Responsible Group: Landscape Management PMB / Biodiversity Working Group

Key Objective: To reduce the impact of construction, refurbishment and maintenance of the estate by assessment of the environmental impact and risk.

Supporting Objectives:

1. To work alongside and communicate with all stakeholders at design stage of any project.
2. To use best practice for sustainable design, construction and post occupancy, incorporating new technologies at the design stage and aiming for at least BREEAM good for refurbishment and Passivhaus for new builds.
3. Embed whole life costing and responsible sourcing practices in the procurement of all new build and refurbishment projects.
4. To protect and enhance the biodiversity of the campus in line with the recommendations of the BAP.

Targets:

Produce sustainable design briefs for all new buildings and refurbishments

1. Ensure that any future building specifications consider economic, social and environmental issues and set targets for KPIs such as energy, water, waste etc
2. To not lower the specification of environmental initiatives due to cost conflict

3. Continue to implement the Woodland Management Plan for Burleigh and Holywell Woods
4. Ensure the implementation of an on-going management program for the ponds on campus
5. Increase areas of Wildflower grassland and dead wood habitat to attract a range of invertebrates
6. Create new wildlife corridors between areas of semi-natural habitat on the site
7. Maintain the badger presence on campus by protecting setts and habitat, and ensuring all works in areas near to a potential badger sett are investigated by a licenced ecologist prior to commencement
8. Establish whether there is a Great Crested Newt presence on campus, and maintain the existence of habitats favourable to this species
9. Encourage a variety of bird species onto campus with the continued provision of a variety of habitats and the erection of 100 new bird boxes
10. Launch a 'Birds on your campus' event to encourage students to participate in RSPB campaigns
11. Carry out a bat survey to establish baseline data for bat use of the campus
12. Encourage the use of campus by bats through the maintenance of favourable habits and the erection of 100 new bat boxes
13. Carry out a biodiversity survey of campus and manage construction and gardens to ensure a net gain in biodiversity,

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative environmental aspects, they are:

1. Environmental Awareness Raising
2. Environmental Research and Teaching
3. Promotion and protection of biodiversity

5. Purchase of Non-Sustainable Goods & Services

Responsible Group: Sustainable Procurement Group

Key Objective: To reduce the demand for non-sustainable goods and services by reducing purchasing, using resource-efficient products and considering end of life.

Supporting Objectives:

1. To minimise any negative impacts of goods, works or services across their life-cycle and through the supply chain (e.g. impacts on health, air quality).
2. To seek to ensure that minimum ethical, equality, human rights and employment standards are met by suppliers and those with strong environmental performance are recognized.
3. To ensure that fair contract prices and terms are applied and respected.
4. To seek to provide opportunities for and encouragement to small and medium businesses and other relevant organizations to tender for business.

Targets:

1. Review the sustainability risks associated with areas of high spend and prioritise areas for action through supplier appraisals (on-going)
2. FM to incorporate whole life costing considerations into construction, refurbishment and maintenance contracts (no date)

3. To develop a sustainable procurement plan

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative Environmental Aspects, they are:

1. Purchase of sustainable goods and services
2. Environmental awareness raising
3. Environmental research and teaching

6. Emissions to air and discharges to water

Responsible Group: Waste Resource Management Group

Key Objective: To ensure control measures are put into place to mitigate the risks associated with emissions to air and discharges to water

Supporting Objectives:

1. To raise awareness of the environmental risks associated with uncontrolled emissions to air and discharges to water.
2. To monitor emissions to air and discharges to water.

Targets:

1. To put in place a procedure for on-going monitoring and management of emissions to air and discharges to drain or water
2. To review the locations and procedures for interceptors on campus
3. To implement a schedule for the marking of all drains as either surface or foul

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative environmental aspects, they are:

1. Environmental awareness raising
2. Environmental research and teaching

7. Water Consumption

Responsible Group: Carbon Management Group

Key Objective: To reduce water consumption from the University's operations.

Supporting Objectives:

1. To support the activity of the Carbon Management Plan by reducing emissions associated with water usage.
2. To improve sub metering of water consumption to enable better understanding of water consumption profiles.

3. To raise awareness of the impacts of water usage.

Targets:

1. To reduce water consumption per student by 5% per annum from a 2005-6 baseline
2. Install a minimum of ten new meters per annum
3. Identify and implement water reduction targets
4. Reduce water use on sport pitches
5. Create a self-generated annual investment fund to allow the implementation of annual water reduction initiatives

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative environmental aspects, they are:

1. The reduction of water use
2. Environmental awareness raising
3. Environmental research and teaching

8. Noise Pollution

Responsible Group: Environment and Sustainability Operations Group

Key Objective: To monitor and reduce complaints relating to noise within the scope of the University's responsibility.

Supporting Objectives:

1. To consider noise impacts when planning any changes in use of facilities.
2. To consider noise impacts when planning any refurbishments or construction.

Targets:

1. To work with the Students Union Executive Team to reduce noise complaints arising from students activities within the University's scope of responsibility with the aim of reducing complaints by 10% from 2011/12 figures.
2. To incorporate within space allocation procedures a section on noise impacts to ensure this is taken into consideration when change of use is planned.
3. To incorporate within project planning procedures a section on noise impacts to ensure this is taken into consideration when construction and refurbishments are planned.

Mitigation:

The University has identified positive environmental aspects in this area which are mitigating the negative environmental aspects, they are:

1. Environmental awareness raising
2. Environmental research and teaching

Appendix 2

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Loughborough University

Loughborough University has two inspiring campuses in the UK, educates in excess of 18,500 students, employs over 3,650 members of staff and has 1,700 tenant partners.

In providing high quality educational, research and workplace facilities we recognise that many of our activities have environmental impacts which are, or have the potential to be, significant. We therefore recognise the importance of protecting the environment and embedding sustainability in all we do and this was reflected in the University's Vision to 2020 and is a key part of our new strategy being launched soon. Accordingly we are committed to implementing environmentally responsible standards and practices as part of an Environmental Management System, to mitigate and manage our impacts in a program of continual environmental improvement.

This Environmental Policy sets out the principles by which we will embed sustainability and the Environmental Management System (EMS) across our campuses. They are:

- The development of the EMS in response to the identified environmental impacts and risks, in order to continually improve environmental performance.
- The integration of environmental management into our day-to-day operations, ensuring environmental issues are addressed whilst continuing to provide a high standard of education and training to all our students.
- The awareness of and compliance with all relevant legislation, regulations, codes of practice and local or special requirements.
- The promotion of awareness and understanding of environmental issues to staff and the provision of environmental training where appropriate.
- The promotion of awareness and understanding of environmental issues to students through our communications, and by encouraging the integration of sustainability into the curriculum.
- The promotion of improved environmental performance among key stakeholders and interested parties through communication of our environmental policies and procedures.
- The exchange of initiatives and best practice within the local community, local authority and other Further and Higher Education institutions.

By embedding sustainability we aim to mitigate and manage our environmental impacts by:

- Reducing carbon emissions in line with the carbon management plan, particularly through the efficient use of energy.
- Improving resource efficiency in accordance with the hierarchy of Prevention, Reuse, Recycling and Recovery to prevent Disposal. The prevention of food waste is a key requirement.
- Reducing water consumption and improving water efficiency.
- Preventing pollution through emissions to air and discharges to water.
- Implementing procedures for sustainable construction, refurbishment and maintenance of buildings.
- Purchasing sustainable goods and services where practicable in accordance with Purchasing Procedures and the Sustainable Procurement Policy.
- Encouraging the adoption of sustainable methods of transport for staff, students and visitors whilst on, visiting or commuting to the campus and when representing the University.
- Respecting and enhancing biodiversity as part of the Landscape Strategy.

By undertaking regular environmental reviews to assess current levels of performance, we are able to develop annual objectives and targets to mitigate and manage our significant environmental aspects. These form part of the Sustainability Action Plan which can be seen on the University website.

The Vice-Chancellor has responsibility for the running of the University and as such for Environmental performance. All staff and students share this responsibility and are therefore required to adopt and adhere to the principles of this Environmental Policy and the standards and procedures of the Environmental Management System. Tenants and partners of the University also share certain responsibilities and are expected to adopt and adhere to the same principles standards and procedures where appropriate.

Professor Nick Jennings CB FREng
Vice-Chancellor and President
Loughborough University

(October 2021)

7993JC:PS/Oct21

www.lboro.ac.uk/sustainability

This Policy is reviewed and re-signed annually, an annually signed and dated Policy can be found on the University's Sustainability website. This printed version will only be changed if the policy alters.