



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The University recognises the challenge posed by climate change, and will identify and set targets to reduce its carbon emissions and the environmental impact of its activities.

The University will set challenging environmental targets to improve continuously its environmental performance. The University will allocate sufficient staff, finances and other resources to carry out its broad environmental aims and objectives. The University recognises that reducing its environmental impact requires joint effort and commitment by staff and students, and will work in partnership with the Union of Students to do so.

The University will develop an environmental management system and will comply with all relevant environmental legislation and regulations.

To improve its environmental performance the University will address the following key areas:

### **Academic Curriculum**

- We will ensure that the principles of sustainability are included in the academic curriculum wherever appropriate

### **Energy and Water**

- We will reduce by the annual target our consumption of energy and water
- We will set and publish targets against which performance can be measured

### **Waste**

- We will reduce by an annual target the amount of waste we produce and increase the percentage of waste that is reused and recycled
- We will reduce the volume of hazardous materials and chemicals that we use

### **Transport**

- We will encourage sustainable alternatives to single occupancy car travel for staff commuting to the University
- We will aim to reduce business travel but where it is necessary we will encourage sustainable methods of transport

### **Procurement**

- We will reduce the environmental impact of the products and services which the University buys by developing an environmentally responsible purchasing policy and by working in partnership with our key suppliers

## **Biodiversity and Landscape**

- We will produce and implement a Biodiversity Action Plan for the University estate and its development and maintenance, and, in so doing, we will protect and enhance the biodiversity of our grounds and land

## **Construction and the Built Environment**

- All major capital projects will have a set of challenging aims and targets for the project, one of which will be sustainability
- Our construction and refurbishment building projects will be completed according to best environmental practice and we will aim to achieve a BREEAM “Excellent” rating for all new builds, and “Excellent” for major refurbishment projects
- We will aim to meet current environmental best practice for the maintenance of our buildings, plant and equipment

## **Communications**

- We will work with the Union of Students to raise awareness of environmental issues amongst staff and students, and encourage participation in environmental projects and in reducing environmental impacts
- We will work in partnership with local community and national organisations to reduce our environmental impact on the regions in which we operate

## **Pollution**

- We will meet legislation and aim to reduce further all forms of pollution and noise generated from the activities of the University

**The University will embed the principles of sustainability into its corporate culture, aiming to become an exemplar of good practice and a leader in environmental management within the HE sector.**

**This environmental policy will be reviewed every three years and made publicly available.**



Vice Chancellor  
January 2013