



# Sustainability Policy

## Version 1

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**European Union**

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UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

**This policy has been adapted specifically for the delivery of the LCR Grad Scheme project which is delivered by a project team based at the University of Liverpool. This policy reflects the principles and governance of the University of Liverpool Sustainability Policy, as detailed below. This policy can be found [here](#).**

**The project is part funded by the European Social Fund.**

## **Version History**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author / Role</b>
1	December 2022	Greg Hunter – Project Manager, LCR Grad Scheme
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## INTRODUCTION

The University of Liverpool was founded with a mission for the advancement of learning and the ennoblement of life and this continues to guide our transformative research, our teaching and our institutional operations just as strongly today. For example, in response to the recent COVID-19 pandemic, colleagues working on issues across the full scope of our research activity have dedicated themselves to finding solutions to help the country, and communities across the globe, contain and control the outbreak. Meanwhile, our medical and nursing students have volunteered to work early on the NHS frontline, treating patients with the virus and operationally we have opened up our car parks and our halls of residence for NHS staff.

This pandemic has given each of us an opportunity to reflect on our daily activities, on the ways we live and on what might be possible in the future. From a sustainability perspective, the pandemic has been significant in highlighting the potential to move to greener ways of working and living and this gives us a real opportunity to seize the initiative – and we are committed to doing so. The University already aims to manage its operations in ways that are environmentally sustainable, economically feasible and socially responsible. Indeed, earlier this year, we formally signed the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals accord, committing us to playing our part in their bold and ambitious vision for a peaceful and prosperous world. This policy represents a further important component of the University's broader Sustainability Strategy and a commitment to its role as an anchor institution in the Liverpool City Region.

This Sustainability Policy sets out the University's commitment to ensuring that we build an institutional culture of sustainability that encompasses the interconnected economic, environmental and social factors. The Policy will be supported by a series of strategies focused on significant impact areas which set the management standards and provide action plans for delivery against set objectives.

The main responsibility for implementing this policy lies with the Senior Leadership Team. The Executive Pro-Vice-Chancellors, Pro-Vice-Chancellors, and Directors of Professional Services are responsible for ensuring compliance with the University Sustainability Policy within their areas of control. The University will actively monitor the performance of schools/institutes and departments in the implementation of the aims and objectives of this policy. Whilst senior colleagues accept the main responsibility for implementing this policy, individuals also have a very important role in safeguarding the environment and acting in a socially responsible and financially ethical manner. Each of us should comply with this policy and set a personal example of good practice.

**Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dame Janet Beer**

## CORE PRINCIPLES

Underpinning our policy is a set of core principles:

- To develop sustainability literacy so that staff and students are empowered, engaged and committed global citizens and are able to use this knowledge and experience to make informed and responsible decisions
- To ensure that sustainability considerations are embedded throughout the University and taken into account through decision making, in particular in relation to new initiatives and change programmes
  - To build a culture within which all staff and students understand that sustainability is a collective responsibility. From senior management to first year students everybody plays their part, and will be encouraged to challenge and act when standards are not being maintained
- To make a strong commitment to sustainability as part of our student actions and behaviours by ensuring students have the opportunity to develop an understanding of environmental issues and have integrated experience of theory and practice in their formal, informal and curriculum. This includes volunteering opportunities and the use of the estate as an educational resource
- To build on our academic excellence to enable positive change through our research, knowledge transfer, learning, education and professional service activities and assess contribution against the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) and the underlying targets and indicators
  - To maximise the wider positive impact of the University's sustainable development activity at local, national and international level through communication, collaboration and partnership. As an anchor institution we will seek to form collaborations and partnerships which will deliver projects for the benefit of both the University and wider community
- To demonstrate a strong sense of leadership, awareness and engagement with the University's commitment to sustainability amongst staff and students, and the wider community, through the use of appropriate internal and external communication channels
- To protect the environment and prevent pollution through our research and learning provision and through the management of our facilities and estate
- To demonstrate responsible investment in relation to the University of Liverpool Endowment funds and other investment activity.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT & RECYCLING

The University of Liverpool are committed to ensuring the waste and recycling management process is clear and easy to manage for all staff and departments. The University of Liverpool will collect various items free of charge and make them ready to be 100% recycled:

- paper
- cardboard
- refrigerators
- PCs
- electrical & electronic components (covered under the "WEEE" Regulations)
- collect and store, ready for transfer, Ricoh Toner Cartridges

Arrangements can be made for buildings with large amounts of recycling, to have a regular collection service.

## SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE

Sustainability Board (SB)

Membership

In accordance with the Environmental Management System the Sustainability Board is chaired by the Lead for Sustainability within the University Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The remaining group positions are as follows:

- Sustainability Officer (Secretary)
- Director of Estate Management
- Chair of Biodiversity Action Group (or nominee)
- Chair of Built Environment Working Group (or nominee)
- Chair of Climate Action Working Group (or nominee)
- Chair of Culture & Community Working Group (or nominee)
- Chair of Responsible Consumption & Production Working Group (or nominee)
- Chair of Travel & Transport Working Group (or nominee)
- Chair of Teaching & Learning Working Group (or nominee)
- Faculty Rep Health and Life Sciences
- Faculty Rep Science and Engineering
- Faculty Rep Humanities and Social Sciences
- Sustainable Development Project Officer
- Learning Technologist and Educational Developer
- Guild Officer
- Project Manager, Green Guild

The names of the current holders of these positions can be found on the [Sustainability web pages](#).

In attendance: Colleagues from Faculties and service areas will be invited to attend relevant meetings in accordance with the Board timetable.

The terms of reference for the SB can be found on the [Sustainability - Policy & Governance webpage](#).

### SB Sub-Committees

The SB is supported by seven sub-committees that focus on key impact areas for the University:

- Biodiversity Action Group
- Built Estate Working Group
- Climate Action Group
- Culture & Community Working Group
- Responsible Consumption & Production Working Group
- Teaching & Learning Working Group
- Travel & Transport Working Group

The terms of reference of each sub-committee can be found on the [Sustainability: Policy and Governance webpage](#).

The names of the current holders of these positions can be found on the [Sustainability web pages](#).

