



Environmental Policy

University of the Built Environment

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Environmental Policy

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Document history

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Environmental Policy

1. Purpose

This environmental policy aims to support the University of the Built Environment commitment to proactively manage, enhance and improve environmental performance.

The University is committed to operating in a manner that protects the environment, including carbon reduction, the prevention of pollution and waste management. Further information on the University's wider commitment can be seen in the institution's Sustainability Strategy.

The University will conform to its environmental compliance obligations, legal requirements, and government regulations applicable to the UK buildings and sites in which it operates.

An Environmental Management System (EMS¹) has been implemented at the University that acts as the mechanism used to reduce the environmental impact of the Horizons building, increase operational efficiency and ultimately the support route to Net Zero as defined in the University's Sustainability Strategy.

1.1 Scope

The Environmental Policy applies to all employees of the University in the UK buildings and sites it operates and Subcontractors working on its behalf on site.

2. Requirements of the Policy

2.1 Environmental Protection

The University's Environmental Policy commits to reducing the institution's impact on the environment by reducing Greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions, preventing pollution, reducing water use and waste, increasing recycling rates and working with suppliers to minimise their harmful environmental impacts throughout its site.

¹ A set of guidelines which integrate processes, training methods, monitoring, measuring, and reporting of environmental data to stakeholders.

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2.2 Compliance

As part of the University's commitment to sustainability, where possible the University will endeavour to reduce the institution's environmental impact beyond the minimum legal or regulatory requirements and obligations.

2.3 Objectives and targets

To achieve the objectives of this policy, the University will integrate Environmental objectives and targets into its planning, decision making, performance tracking and governance processes.

2.4 Management Commitment

The University Senior Leadership will promote a culture in the organisation that supports the Environmental Management System and provide the appropriate resources and support initiatives through implementation of this policy in line with the institution's business objectives and compliance obligations.

2.5 Certification

To support regulatory and business requirements the University will align its Environmental Management System to ISO 14001 (2015) standards and seek to maintain certification.

2.6 Internal and External Issues

Relevant internal and external factors define the context in which the business operates. The University will determine key issues that could have an impact on Environmental performance, including:

- Environmental conditions.
- External (economic, political, legal, natural).
- Internal (financial, processes, employees)

2.7 Training

The University will regularly provide appropriate training, awareness, and supervision, to staff to support the achievement of objectives, enhanced environmental performance and the Environmental Management System.

2.8 Audit/Assessments

The University will conduct third-party audits and organise self-assessments in support of its Environmental Management System as defined in the environment manual.

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2.9 Supplier assessment

The University will conduct third-party audits and organise self-assessments on the institution's key suppliers with respect to their Environmental performance in support of the University policies and procedures. The University will consider these assessments when procuring goods and services.

3. Communication to Stakeholders and Interested Parties

The Environmental Policy will be communicated and made publicly available to all interested parties via the University's website and on request.

The Environmental Policy is accessible to all staff and information on how this policy is implemented operationally can be found within the environmental manual and via the staff intranet site.

4. Policy Management

(Governance and Continual Improvement).

The University is committed to the continual improvement of its Environmental Management System to enhance environmental performance.

The policy is approved by the Executive and the Senior Leadership Team is responsible for effectively implementing this policy. The Chair of the ISO Management Review meeting is accountable for reviewing this policy based on stakeholder involvement and requirements.

The policy is reviewed annually at the Management Review Meeting held in August each year. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated via the internal communication streams and updates made public.

5. Linked Policies

The following are policies of relevance to the Environmental Policy:

- Sustainability Strategy.
- Procurement Policy.