

# Environmental Sustainability – Targets and Objectives Action Plan 2018/19

## Overview and Purpose

This document should be viewed in conjunction with the University of Lincoln’s Environmental Sustainability Strategy and the Environmental Policy. The strategy identifies three areas of focus for our environmental priorities between 2018 and 2021, entitled; sustainable campus, sustainable culture and collaboration for change. This document builds upon the themes and ambitions outlined in the strategy document, and outlines specific targets and objectives we are setting ourselves on an annual basis, to work towards our wider ambitions.

As our sustainability strategy is supported by a foundation of environmental and energy management systems, we will also identify targets and objectives to improve and maintain these systems.

## Energy and Environmental Management Systems

1. **Legal and regulatory compliance:** Comply with all relevant environmental legislation and appropriate code of compliance. A register of relevant legislation will be developed, maintained and made available within the University.

### 2018/19 Objectives

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Develop an accredited Environmental Management System that is compliant with the ISO14001 standard. Progress with EcoCampus EMS scheme, to achieve Silver Award by December 2018 and Platinum (ISO14001) accreditation by July 2019	The University joined EcoCampus in May 2018 and will use the scheme as a framework to progress with ISO14001 accreditation, using interim targets and audit stages as a guiding structure of progress.	We are aiming to achieve Silver level accreditation to Ecocampus by December 2018, and Platinum (ISO14001) accreditation by the end of July 2019.
Ongoing management of the Register of Environmental Legislation	The University has an existing Register of Environmental Legislation. This will be updated as and when required throughout the year. An annual check of the Register will be undertaken every six months.	Register completed in October 2018, then ongoing

2. **Environmental Protection and Prevention of Pollution:** The environmental aspects and impacts of the University will be reviewed annually, recorded and managed to ensure that any risks are minimised and the environment is protected. Emissions and discharges to air, land and water will be controlled and minimised in order to prevent pollution.

**2018/19 Objectives**

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Manage and store hazardous substances in line with all legal obligations	Develop and implement a central procedure for hazardous waste management and disposal	To be completed prior to the audit in July 2019.
Within the development of our Environmental Management System, develop operational control documents, which identify key risks with regard to emissions to air and discharges to water	Control procedures to be developed for key aspects, including waste management, hazardous waste storage and disposal and emergency spill response.	To be completed prior to the audit in July 2019.

## Sustainable Campus

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1. **Energy and Carbon:** We will continually assess and seek to reduce pollution from energy use. Energy use will be monitored and challenging targets for reducing consumption will be set. Emissions of carbon dioxide due to energy usage will be measured and recorded. Our Carbon Management Plan, containing carbon reduction targets, will be regularly reviewed and we will maintain accreditation to the ISO 50001 standard.

**2018/19 Objectives**

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Update of Carbon Management Plan	The University has identified emissions to air (greenhouse gas emissions) as having our most significant impact on the environment. Our Carbon Management Plan (CMP) therefore aims to control these emissions and reduce those arising from our energy use in particular. The CMP is due to be updated in 18/19 and will include a meaningful GHG emission reduction target, with interim	CMP to be updated by January 2019

	targets to steer priorities around energy efficiency and management.	
Reduce emissions from energy use	Reduce carbon emissions by 30% by 2020/21, against a 2009/10 baseline. Increase energy efficiency of buildings using funding from the Salix Recycled Green Fund, we will be delivering projects with a minimum spend of £27,000.	Salix-funded projects to be delivered by the end of March 2019. Emissions accounted annually for period 1 <sup>st</sup> August – 31 <sup>st</sup> July.

2. **Waste Management:** We will minimise waste through the efficient use of resources and materials and aim to increase recycling opportunities. Correct storage, collection and disposal of waste will be ensured. We will work with our waste management contractors to send zero waste to landfill where possible. A waste and recycling engagement programme will be used to encourage the correct separation of waste and minimise contamination in the recyclable waste stream.

#### 2018/19 Objectives

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Reduce amount of waste in general waste stream (resulting in incineration). Reduce amount of waste produced by site by 10% per student, from 2016/17.	The University is currently sending almost zero waste to landfill (excluding streams that cannot be disposed of via other means). We aim to reduce total waste generated.	End of 2018/19.
Increase volume of waste recycled from all buildings by 10%, for 2018/19 from 2016/17.	In 2016/17, 17% of our waste was recycled, with the vast majority of waste incinerated, due to the nature of local waste management facilities. By improving our recycling infrastructure and influencing individual behaviour around disposal of waste, we aim to increase this rate by 10% for 2018/19.	End of 2018/19.
Ensure compliance with WEEE waste directive	Produce a written procedure on WEEE waste, ensure storage and management of waste consignment notes	End of 2018/19.

3. **Water Management:** Water consumption will be monitored, measured and reported on. Targets to reduce water consumption will be set and actions to reduce usage will be implemented. The University has several water courses in the immediate vicinity of its estate and will take appropriate action to prevent contamination.

**2018/19 Objectives**

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Reduce annual water consumption per student by 5% from 2017/18 to 2018/19	Driving efficiencies in buildings and using communications to influence behaviours in student accommodation	End of 2018/19

4. **Biodiversity:** We will ensure that important habitat areas within its land holdings are protected. Ecological surveys will be used to identify projects that enhance biodiversity around the University estate. The ecological value of natural assets will be promoted and staff will be supported in using these assets as a learning resource for students.

**2018/19 Objectives**

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Develop a landscaping plan for Brayford Campus considering the enhancement of biodiversity	We will be working with our landscaping contractors and the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust to create pockets of biodiversity on campus and provide spaces for wildlife to thrive	End of 2018/19

## Sustainable Culture

1. **Sustainable Transport:** Working with external partners, we will encourage students, staff and visitors to use alternatives to single occupancy cars to travel to the University. Our Sustainable Travel Plan will be used to promote and support sustainable transport options and initiatives in Lincoln and the surrounding area. The carbon emissions resulting from staff and student travel will be measured and reported on annually.

### 2018/19 Objectives

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Reduce single-occupancy car use by staff and students by 10%, by 2019 travel survey (compared with 2017 results)	Travel survey is conducted bi-annually. The last survey was conducted in October 2017.	October 2019

2. **Education for Sustainable Development:** As part of our commitment to raising awareness of environmental sustainability, the University will seek to offer students opportunities to volunteer and enhance their skills with sustainability projects. Where appropriate, sustainability awareness will also be integrated into academic teaching.

### 2018/19 Objectives

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Embedding sustainability in teaching – support the integration of sustainability within course content	Record the number of students engaged with sustainability content	Monitor progress end of 2018/19
Providing opportunities for students to volunteer	Offer sustainability-related student volunteering and employment opportunities, via the SU volunteering pages	End of 2018/19

## Collaborations for change

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1. **Sustainable Procurement:** The environmental impact of our procurement will be accounted for using a proportionate approach. Suppliers bidding for major contracts will be asked to demonstrate that they have established environmental standards and where appropriate, suppliers will be evaluated on environmental issues relevant to the performance of the contract. The environmental impacts over the lifecycle of purchases will be considered.

### 2018/19 Objectives

Objective	Comments	Timescale
Sustainability considered as part of relevant procurement events	Record and aim to increase the number of tender events that include sustainability questions and weighting	Reviewed annually – end of 2018/19