

Environmental Policy

Health, Safety and Environment Team

Version: 3.0

Summary:	This policy outlines the University’s commitment to being a socially responsible and environmentally conscientious organisation with specific targets to deliver its ambition to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2030		
Keywords / Tags:	Environment, Sustainability, Net-Zero, Emissions, Enabling		
Target Audience:	Staff, Students, Contractors, Visitors and Guests		
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Version Control

Date	Author	Version	Page	Reason for Change
09.11.22	Liz Harris	1.0	All	Reformatting existing policy document
31.01.03	Michelle Pearce	2.0	N/A	Minor text changes
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Reviewers/contributors

Name	Position	Version Reviewed & Date
Liz Harris	Environmental Manager	v1.0 - 09.11.22
Michelle Pearce	HSE Coordinator	v2.0 - 31.01.23
Michelle Pearce	HSE Coordinator	v3.0 - 18.02.25
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CONTENTS

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Southampton Solent University (SSU) is committed to being a socially responsible and environmentally conscientious organisation.
- 1.2 SSU recognises how its activities have direct and indirect impacts on the environment and how becoming an increasingly sustainable organisation, coupled with the growing need to adapt to climate change will shape its own future direction and that of its staff, students and the wider community.
- 1.3 SSU recognises the fundamental importance of integrating sustainable practices and knowledge into the taught curriculum, research and public engagement activities, and estate operations.
- 1.4 SSU aims to manage its activities and deliver continual improvements through its Environmental Management System, certified to ISO14001:2015 and EcoCampus Platinum standards.
- 1.5 This Policy provides a framework for detailed objectives set out in SSU's Environmental and Sustainability Enabling Plan.
- 1.6 This Policy is applicable to all SSU staff, students, contractors, and other relevant stakeholders, across all campus locations.

2.0 Objectives

- 2.1 This Policy commits the University to:
 - 2.1.1 Maintaining full compliance with environmental legislation, requirements, and compliance obligations.
 - 2.1.2 Protecting the environment by preventing pollution to air, land, and water.
 - 2.1.3 Measuring, monitoring, reporting and continually improving environmental sustainability performance.
 - 2.1.4 Delivering net carbon emissions in Scopes 1 and 2 by 2035/36 through the implementation of the Carbon Management plan (CMP).
 - 2.1.5 Embedding principles of sustainable development into our teaching and research.
 - 2.1.6 Continuing investment in university operations and services to reduce energy and water consumption and to ensure appropriate adaptation to the predicted impacts of climate change.
 - 2.1.7 Following the waste hierarchy, to limit total waste arisings, manage waste as a resource for re-use and recycling, and support the adoption of the circular economy.
 - 2.1.8 Implementing a sustainable and ethical procurement policy to maximise social value and reduce the impacts of the University's purchasing activities, adopting where possible, a life cycle analysis approach to support the circular economy.
 - 2.1.9 Implementing a sustainable design guide and adopting a whole of life costing approach to the delivery of estate refurbishment and new build projects.
 - 2.1.10 Implementing the University Travel Plan to improve options for active travel and ensure effective management of business and commuter travel.
 - 2.1.11 Protecting biodiversity, enhancing the value of green spaces and, where possible, creating new habitats for wildlife.
 - 2.1.12 Supporting students, staff, external partners, and the community to reduce their environmental footprint and develop sustainable habits.

3.0 **Review**

- 3.1 This Policy is reviewed every two years and is publicly available on the University's website.
- 3.2 This policy is supported by the Senior Management of the University, who ensure that the necessary resources are made available for implementation.

Signed: 

Cathy Barnes, PVC Research Academic Strategy Planning

Date: 28/02/2025