

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Environmental Sustainability

We are all custodians of the land we occupy. It is our responsibility to ensure the actions we take in every area of our business enhance, protect or preserve our environment and resources. At LA it is a responsibility we take seriously.

Green Lancaster

We are embedded in a culture of positive environmental change at LU and the 'Green Lancaster' policy encompasses all areas that are working towards LU's sustainability and environmental projects. This includes carbon and environmental management, estates development, catering (we are a Fairtrade University), along with waste management, procurement and tuition based around sustainability and the environment. LU even has its own Eco-hub and organic allotment, and is surrounded by the beautiful Lancashire countryside. So everyone who visits and works at LU can see the relationship we have with our environment through almost every aspect of campus life.

<http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/sustainability/sustainability-practice/policy/>

As a team, we are passionate about playing an active contribution and this is illustrated through our five key objectives:

Objective 1: To understand and quantify the environmental impact of our venue within the university's broader activity

Objective 2: To reduce the environmental impact of our operations

Objective 3: To reduce the environmental impact of our communications and marketing practices

Objective 4: To reduce the environmental impact of our procurement

Objective 5: To reduce the environmental impact of our team's business travel and transport choices

We will address these objectives through the following activity:

1. **Buildings:** We will work with the Carbon and Environment Management Team (LU) to understand the environmental impact our venue has in relation to the rest of campus. We will use the opportunity of our foyer refurbishment to increase the energy efficiency of the space and reduce the venue's carbon footprint. We will also revise user processes and visitor experiences in the venue to embed a range of energy-saving measures in the Great Hall Complex.
2. **Travel & Transport:** We will revise and implement a new travel process and promote travel to work policies with staff. We will increase the use of Skype meetings to reduce the number of journeys for face to face meetings.
3. **Production & Events:** We will revise organisational practices to embed a culture of environmental awareness in every area, from programming of relevant contemporary themes to changing working practices, such as:
 - a. Improving our culture of recycling
 - b. establishing paperless projects
 - c. continue to address the issues and impacts of climate change across our programme
 - d. exploring joint projects with LU's Ecohub
 - e. seeking relationships with the Faculty of Environmental Science and related Institutes
4. **Communications:** We will develop an Environmental Policy to increase the visibility of our environmental commitment.
5. **Procurement:** We will review all areas of procurement and measure our environmental impact through our marketing practices. A key target is to ensure all printed materials are sustainably sourced, are recyclable and recycled, and we will undertake a review to evaluate the necessity print and its impact in 2020. We also aim for our café bar to be plastic-free by 2020.

2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Develop Environmental Sustainability Policy (ESP) (Apr.2018)		Review & update ESP (Apr.2020)	
Assess energy efficiency for venue refurbishment (June 2019)	Venue refurbishment complete (Sept.2019) Café Bar Plastic FREE! (Dec.2019)	Evaluate venue carbon imprint (June 2020)	Develop venue improvements (June 2021)
Procurement & process review (Sept.19)	All print is recyclable/ recycled/ sustainably sourced (July 19)	Procurement & process review (Sept.2020)	Procurement & process review (Sept.2021)

Leading Key Performance Indicators over 4-year period:

- Venue is more energy efficient, post-refurbishment
- Team reduce their environmental impact through improved/ reduced travel practices
- Café Bar is plastic-free
- The majority of consumables purchased are recyclable or from sustainable sources
- Cost savings made through revision of use of print