



# ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

## JANUARY 2021

Birmingham City University is a higher education institution engaged in teaching and research activities. We have a responsibility to safeguard our environment and community, and educate our students and staff on sustainable practices, which we have committed to do through our [Environmental Plan 2020-25](#).

We are committed to complying with all relevant environmental compliance obligations, preventing pollution, protecting the environment, and demonstrating continual improvement to enhance our environmental performance. We have made the following commitments to:

- Maintain an Environmental Management System (EMS) to the standard of ISO14001:2015. Our scope covers all University activities, products and services.
- Reduce our carbon emissions and develop an approach to achieve zero carbon. Improve the energy efficiency of our buildings, incorporating renewable onsite generation where possible.
- Incorporate the principles of sustainability and corporate responsibility into our business planning and decision making, wider curriculum and teaching activities.
- Use our resources sustainably, minimising waste production, and increasing reuse and recycling where waste prevention could not be avoided.
- Manage and reduce our water consumption and discharges.
- Implement the actions of the University Travel Plans, promoting sustainable travel for commuting and business travel.
- Embed sustainability when buying products and services, engaging contractors and suppliers to deliver good environmental performance, including through our Sustainable Catering Policy.
- Incorporate environmental best practice into the design of construction and refurbishment projects including designing for climate change adaptation.
- Implement appropriate recommendations from our Biodiversity Surveys and campus design plans to conserve and promote biodiversity on our estate.
- Deliver environmental training and communications to students and staff, and where appropriate, our suppliers and contractors, to ensure good environmental performance and awareness.
- Make the Environmental Policy, objectives and targets, and other relevant environmental information publically available via our website to all interested parties.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Environmental Committee, Vice-Chancellor and the Students' Union President.

**Professor Philip Plowden**  
Vice-Chancellor

*Victoria Aurora Bennett-Salvador*

**Victoria Bennett-Salvador**  
Students' Union President

