



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

DECEMBER 2024

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 the provision of teaching, research, commercial facilities and supporting activities within Birmingham campus locations.
- Meet our net zero carbon targets. 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 single-use plastics, 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 Plan, promoting sustainable travel for commuting, business travel and other travel associated with the University.
- Embed sustainability within the procurement process and prioritise purchasing environmentally friendly and ethically sourced products and services. Engage 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 Ecological Surveys to conserve and, where feasible, enhance biodiversity across our sites.
- 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 publicly available via our website to all interested parties.
- Establish monitoring and reporting mechanisms to track progress towards our environmental goals, communicating achievements and areas for improvement to the University community.

All members of the University, including staff, students and every department, are responsible for contributing to the success of this Environmental Policy. The Sustainability Oversight Board will oversee the implementation, monitoring and review of the policy. This policy will be reviewed annually by the Sustainability Oversight Board, Vice-Chancellor and the Students' Union President.

Professor David Mba
Vice-Chancellor

Luke McCombe
Students' Union President

