## **Sustainability Service**

**Environmental Management System** 



## **Environmental Policy**

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Title: Environmental Policy

Document ID: 2396

Version: 6

Issue date 12 Jan 2022

Next review date: 12 Jan 2024

Current date and time: 13 Jan 2022 09:38

Current user: John Moore

## Environmental Policy

The University of Leeds is responsible for the provision of higher education to over 38,000 students. The University's Universal Values and Global Challenges Strategy sets a blueprint for how we will help shape a better future for humanity, working through collaboration to tackle inequalities, benefit society and drive change. A key part of this is the reduction of our environmental impacts, which is supported by this Environmental Policy and the University's Environmental Management System (EMS). Our EMS applies to all activities within the University of Leeds campus, residential portfolio and sports and conferencing facilities, except for any areas where strategic control is held by another organisation.

We are committed to conducting our activities and operations in ways that protect the environment and prevent pollution. In support of this we commit to:

- meet and, where appropriate exceed all relevant UK, European and international legislation, regulatory requirements and other compliance obligations
- review all our activities and operations in order to identify and evaluate all related direct and indirect environmental impacts, and prioritise action to address them
- become a net zero organisation by 2030
- influence our suppliers and contractors to ensure that goods and services procured support the environmental policy and, in turn, that all suppliers and contractors progressively improve their own environmental performance
- reduce our environmental impacts, through such means as minimising waste generation and use of the waste hierarchy, and by enhancing the biodiversity of University owned grounds and gardens
- raise awareness and ensure that all employees and students know their overall environmental responsibilities
- regularly audit our management practices, to verify their effectiveness and validity in achieving environmental objectives
- achieve continual improvement across our environmental management system to enhance environmental performance and protect the environment.

Progress against this Environmental Policy and related strategic actions are reported to the University Executive Group. The University Council and other stakeholders are updated on progress through an annual report.

Signed

THUCKUN

Dennis Hopper, Interim Chief Operating Officer, 12 January 2022

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