BISHOP GROSSETESTE UNIVERSITY

Document Administration

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Owner	Director of Facilities and Estates
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Document control:	All printed versions of this document are classified as uncontrolled. A controlled version is available from the University Website.

Bishop Grosseteste University

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Purpose:

1. Bishop Grosseteste University (BGU) recognises that its activities have the potential for both positive and negative impacts upon the environment at local, national and global levels, and believes that environmental sustainability is the foundation to wider economic and social sustainability as well as being an integral part of good institutional practice. The University acknowledges its responsibility for environmental protection and aims to contribute to the national commitment to sustainable development. It will seek to achieve continual improvement in how it measures and responds to its environmental impacts and will formulate a strategy and action plan with targets to structure this response.

2. BGU's Environmental and Sustainability Policy is a framework for actions that include:

   (i)   Devise and implement strategies to reduce environmental impact and better management of resources which will include:

   a) Corporate Action
   b) Energy Management
   c) Waste Management
   d) Water Management
   e) Sustainable Purchasing
   f) Transport
   g) Biodiversity
   h) Community Involvement

   (ii)   Provide necessary training and awareness for staff and students.

3. The Environmental and Sustainability Policy will be communicated to all staff and students and to all contractors and suppliers working on behalf of the University. Hard copies are available on request but in line with environmental best practice this policy will be primarily distributed electronically on the Staff Intranet.

Objectives and Targets:

4. Energy Management

4.1 Objectives

4.1.1   To provide a framework for reducing the environmental impact and costs arising from energy use in buildings. This will be achieved through the better management of resources, as well as meeting and where possible exceeding the requirements of legislation.

4.2 Targets

4.2.1   Improve efficiency of meter reading systems to comply with regulations

and develop a more reliable monitoring of energy consumptions.

4.3 Actions

4.3.1 Actions will fall into a number of areas including awareness raising, good housekeeping, following good practice, monitoring and targeting.

4.3.2 Actions will include switch it off campaigns, ensuring heating and cooling of the building stock is operating efficiently, investment in energy saving techniques including lighting and heating controls, insulation. Reviewing the operation of heating and cooling to ensure we meet the needs of users.

5. **Waste Management**

5.1 Objectives

5.1.1 To reduce the amount of waste produced by the University, to manage waste according to best practice; to ensure that waste is considered a resource by staff and students and managed accordingly; to do this in the most cost – effective manner possible whilst providing a service consistent with good practice.

5.2 Targets

5.2.1 To cut waste to landfill by increasing re-use, recycling and resource recovery

5.3 Actions

5.3.1 Work will continue on diverting waste from the refuse stream to either reuse or recycling streams. The University now recycles paper and cardboard, confidential waste is shredded and recycled via collection. Furniture is reused.

5.3.2 Centralisation of waste collection helps to reduce disposal costs, reduce fire risk and release space on the campus. It will also provide closer control of waste streams and support awareness activities.

5.3.3 The University and its subcontractors will dispose of its waste using a registered waste collector and observe and comply with the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) regulations (and in particular, to ensure that WEEE is not mixed with general waste and is disposed of legally).

6. **Water Management**

6.1 Objectives

6.1.1 To reduce the environmental impact and costs arising from water use in buildings through the better management of resources, meeting the requirements of legislation.

6.2 Targets

      6.2.1   To reduce water consumption and to do this cost neutrally or better within period.

6.3 Actions

      6.3.1   Key actions will be focusing on water saving devices for domestic fittings like showers, toilets and taps. Increased campaigns to encourage users to save water.

7. Sustainable Purchasing

7.1 Objectives

      7.1.1   To carry out our purchasing activities in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. To ensure that sustainable purchasing activity is consistent with best purchasing practice.

7.2 Targets

      7.2.1   To promote sustainable procurement across the University

7.3 Actions

      7.3.1   The actions will include whole life cost assessments, risk analysis of products in terms of environmental management, engagement with suppliers on their environmental and social impacts relating to their products and services, opportunities to write in waste reduction to product supply contracts and working with departments to identify how they might have synergies that will save them money and reduce environmental impact e.g. Pooling of product resources. Promote the use of local purchasing whilst achieving value for money in order to reduce delivery miles of goods and services procured.

8. Transport

8.1 Objectives

      8.1.1   To maintain staff and student travel plans consistent with best practice and business needs.

8.2 Targets

      8.2.1   Develop a framework to support sustainable modes of transport to work and study at the University by staff and students (by walking, cycling, public transport and car sharing).

      8.2.2   To promote car sharing and therefore reduce the percentage of single occupancy car journeys made to the University by staff and students.

8.3 Actions

    8.3.1   Transport activity is key to the medium term development of the University. Continued activity in this area includes increased promotion of the facilities already present for cycling and walking, investigation of salary sacrifice schemes for cycle to work scheme, and an internet car sharing database through the VLE.

9. Biodiversity

9.1 Objectives

    9.1.1   To ensure maintenance of current levels of biodiversity. To provide for the conservation of native plants, animals, habitat and ecological processes within the University grounds.

    9.1.2   To ensure that future development and planning should, at an early stage, be aware of existing ecologies and habitats and recognise legally enforced limitations to construction.

    9.1.3   To support the development of buildings which introduce and increase existing levels of biodiversity and sit within a pleasantly landscaped natural environment.

9.2 Targets

    9.2.1   To monitor the flora and fauna inside and surrounding the University.

9.3 Actions

    9.3.1   The actions include surveys and monitoring and guidance if required.

10. Communications

10.1 Objectives

    10.1.1   Communicate both internally and externally about the University environmental performance

    10.1.2   Provide training and awareness for staff and students

10.2 Targets

    10.2.1   Develop and review an annual communication action plan for each academic year. Report on progress with each plan at the end of each academic year.

    10.2.2   Produce an annual sustainability report covering all aspects of the sustainability policy.

10.3 Actions

    10.3.1   Actions will include all awareness campaigns and specific training for particular groups, like hazardous waste training for technicians.

11. Curriculums

11.1 Objectives

    11.1.1   To seek opportunities to align curriculum activities with sustainability throughout the department areas of BGU.

11.2 Targets

    11.2.1   To annually monitor sustainability activity starting.

11.3 Actions

    11.3.1   These will focus on identifying what activities are currently being undertaken within the University on sustainability and identifying activities that the University want to take forward.

12. Involvement

12.1 Objectives

    12.1.1   Alongside raising awareness of the environmental activities that the University is involved in, it should be recognised that everybody has a responsibility for the environment, and the various stakeholders should be involved in and be made aware of the various initiatives across the University.

12.2 Targets

    12.2.1   Increase student involvement in environmental activities throughout BGU in enrichment or voluntary capacity as well as formal education delivered through curriculum areas.

12.3 Actions

    12.3.1   Action for this area includes student involvement. The possible establishment of an Environmental Officer for the Student Union to represent the learner voice and decision making processes on behalf of the students.

    12.3.2   The Head of Estates will raise awareness of environmental activities to other students through activities, projects, and the Student Portal.

13. Corporate Action

13.1 Objectives

13.1.1   To guarantee a solid framework of action to inform the decision making process, senior management commitment needs to be present. Embedding sustainability into management is of primary importance to give the strategy a start.

13.1.2   Implementation of mechanisms for managing the environmental impact of the University activities, its legislative compliance obligations and delivering continual environmental improvement.

13.2 Targets

13.2.1   Embed sustainability into policies and procedures in every department and curriculum area in compliance with the environment strategy.

13.2.2   Enhance institutions image in its commitment for sustainability.

13.2.3   Include sustainability policy in starter packs for new staff and students sourcing opportunities for funding to enhance the sustainability of BGU.

13.3 Actions:

13.3.1   The actions in this section are to maintain our continual improvement in alignment with sustainable development.

13.3.2   Reviewing environmental aspects and impacts, producing procedures and protocols to address these impacts, maintaining an environmental legislation registers and ensuring compliance with relevant legislation, ensuring staff are aware of their legislative responsibilities and joining up actions in other areas to assist with the ethos of continual improvement.

14   Monitoring and Review

14.1   Objectives

14.1.1   To ensure that a baseline measurement is developed to demonstrate that progress is made to reduce waste, minimize energy consumption and minimize use of travel/promote the use of green/public transport where travel is unavoidable.

14.2   Targets

14.2.1   Ensure baseline measurement is included in implementation plan.

14.3   Actions:

14.3.1   Embed baseline measuring and plans for monitoring this in the
            Implementation plan.

Annex 2: ESF Projects

This policy applies to ESF funded projects:
- Building Better Opportunities Programme-
Greater Lincolnshire MOVE Project
  - Improving Labour Market Relevance of Education and Training Systems
    - ESF 2235 Specialist Teaching
    - ESF 2233 Specialist Skills Advisor

The following sub-contractors are involved in the delivery of Improving Labour Market Relevance of Education and Training:
- Bishop Burton College
- Boston College
- Grantham College
- Grimsby Institute of Further & Higher Education
- LAGAT Limited
- New College Stamford
- North Lindsey College
- SkillsReach Ltd