

Royal Holloway, University of London

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Policy Statement

Royal Holloway is committed to meeting the challenges of sustainable development and will work towards improving the environment, preserving natural resources and making a positive, sustainable economic and social impact.

We will:

- provide a management framework for continual environmental improvement allowing for the adoption of new ideas and innovation.
- set and prioritise objectives, targets and key performance indicators that underpin the framework for continual improvement.
- annually report and communicate our environmental performance both internally and externally.
- establish environmental management plans, targets and objectives to prevent pollution and protect the environment. Monitor performance against these plans to promote organisational learning and continuous improvement.
- set responsibilities and accountabilities with respect to the environment and empower members of the university College community to manage environmental issues.

The College aims to achieve this through a process of continuous improvement by addressing the following environmental impacts:

Infrastructure and operations

- Reduce the carbon dioxide (and other greenhouse gas) intensity of its operations.
- Reduce the amount of waste produced by its operations and maximise opportunities for reducing, reusing and recycling.
- Encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport by staff and students and reduce single occupancy car journeys via the implementation of a Travel Plan.
- Monitor use of energy and water and implement energy and water efficiency action plans.
- Manage its estate to enhance wildlife habitats through an Ecological Management Plan.

Development and procurement

- Minimise the lifecycle environmental impact of new buildings and other developments.
- Promote sustainability in maintenance practices and establish guidelines for construction and refurbishment projects.
- Assess the lifecycle impact of products purchased by the College.
- Implement best value procurement processes to incorporate 'whole life' costings and green house gas emissions.
- Support and promote local and Fair Trade products.

Education, learning and outreach

- Identify and promote initiatives for inclusion of sustainability principles within curriculum development.
- Communicate sustainability issues to staff and students and involve them in the College's initiatives.
- Educate and encourage staff to help them implement the actions contained in this policy in their everyday work.
- Work with the local community to implement education and improvement initiatives in sustainability.

As a member of the College community you should seek to ensure that you;

- are familiar and comply with our environmental policies, standards, procedures and arrangements to manage environmental impacts.
- report any environmental hazard or incident which has or might cause damage and cooperate with any investigation.
- make sure that equipment and documents are stored and disposed of appropriately.
- minimise your use of resources. For example, avoid unnecessary printing and switch off electrical appliances and lights when they are not in use.

Where appropriate you should also ensure that you;

- identify cost effective solutions to manage environmental risks in line with our legal obligations and business requirements.
- work in partnership with our Procurement Manager to improve environmental performance throughout our supply chain.

Roles and responsibilities for environmental management at the College are defined in the Sustainability Strategy and the Environmental Management System Manual.

If you'd like more information [please visit our website](#) or contact the Energy and Sustainability Office on extension 4926.