

Aberystwyth University Sustainability Policy Statement

Aberystwyth University recognises its responsibility to protect the environment from the impact of its operations and activities and to influence its staff, students and the wider community to minimise their impacts through its actions, teaching and research. We are committed to:

1. Conduct our activities in an environmentally responsible manner to ensure that wherever possible there is minimal impact on the environment.
2. Comply with all relevant legal requirements, sector targets and other sustainability related guidance to which the University subscribes.
3. Set and review on a regular basis specific, time bound targets covering key areas of sustainability in particular the ambition to be a Net Zero University by 2030
4. Continually monitor and improve our environmental performance so that environmental releases to air and water, and production of waste are minimised, and that natural resources are used efficiently.
5. Report on sustainability performance, energy use and costs to senior management
6. Decrease carbon and other emissions from staff and student travel.
7. Manage and reduce waste according to the waste hierarchy
8. Use our research where appropriate in developing environmentally beneficial projects and products and improve the sustainability of our research activities
9. Include sustainability topics in our taught courses of study where appropriate
10. Reduce energy consumption through a targeted programme of works designed to minimise energy usage and improve efficiency
11. Achieve BREEAM ratings of "Excellent" for new builds and at least "Very Good" for all major refurbishments, or equivalent level in alternative certification schemes.
12. Consider environmental and energy usage implications of procurement and campus development activities at an early stage and fully integrate lifecycle information into purchasing decisions in order to achieve the highest possible standards
13. Generate electricity and heat using the most efficient method, selecting and testing renewable sources where possible
14. Enhance biological diversity on sites that the University manages or owns
15. Require all our employees and students, commercial partners and contractors to work with due consideration for the environment, and provide training and supervision where necessary
16. Provide and develop a programme of education and guidance for staff and students related to sustainability matters as necessary
17. Ensure that the University increases its resilience to climate change risks

Aberystwyth University has and will continue to make available, appropriate resources to implement the policy. Improvements to our policy statement will be continuous with an annual review sent to the University Executive Group and Council and made public.

The policy statement will be made available to the public and all interested parties and communicated to all students and staff of the University. It should be viewed alongside the accompanying Action Plan.



Signed:

Date 7th March 2023

Professor Elizabeth Treasure
Vice-Chancellor