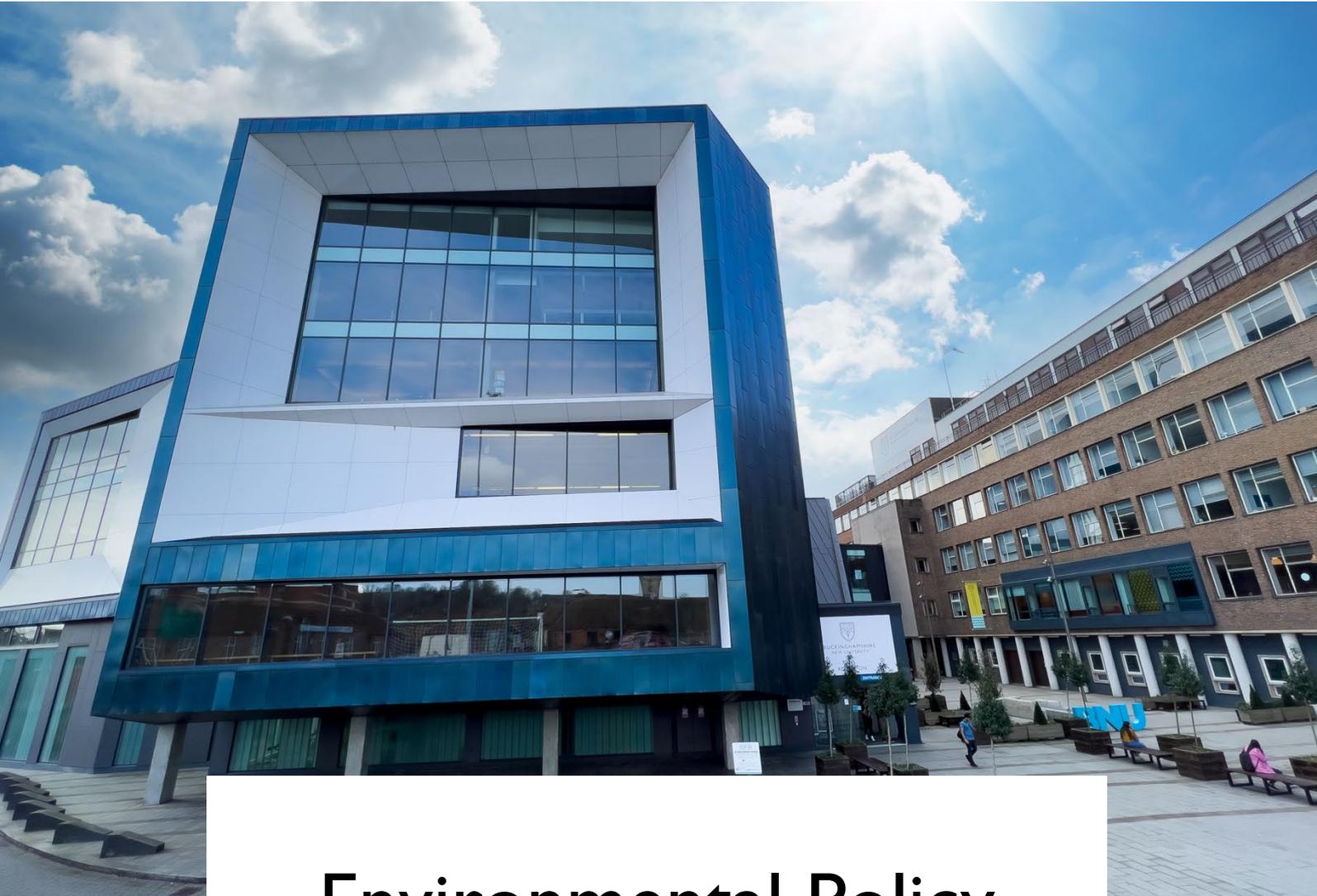




BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
NEW UNIVERSITY

EST. 1891



Environmental Policy

Contents

Purpose	2
Applicability and Scope	2
Policy	3
Responsibilities.....	3
Table of Definitions	4
Appendix: Equality Impact Assessment	5

Approved by: Sustainability Committee
Date first published: Feb-2016
Date updated: May-2024
Owner: Director of Estates
Review Date: May-2026

This document has been designed to be accessible for readers. However, should you require the document in an alternative format please contact the University Secretariat.

© Buckinghamshire New University

Purpose

- 1 Buckinghamshire New University (the University) strives to integrated sustainability into all its activities. Both through operational and strategic decision making, and from local to wider scales.
- 2 These activities include providing Higher Education for all apprenticeships, undergraduate and postgraduate students across all campuses, academic research, and the professional & academic support services required to provide educational & academic research activities at each location. A secondary activity of the University is the provision of hospitality services.
- 3 The purpose of this policy is to demonstrate that Buckinghamshire New University is committed to improving the natural and built environment, through improvements in resource usage, education for sustainable development, changes to operational procedures, incorporating sustainability into key activities, and championing sustainable development. This approach to Sustainability is summarised through the new Sustainability Vision and Mission.
- 4 Sustainability Vision

To provide high-quality education by building engaged, well-rounded future citizens and improving access to education. We will encourage our learners to be advocates for sustainability by leading through example to become a leader in sustainable education.
- 5 Sustainability Mission

We will have a positive impact on social, environmental, and economic sustainability and deliver benefits to our colleagues, learners and communities through our activities and partnerships.

Applicability and Scope

- 6 The Environmental Policy applies to all aspects of the University's activities and a range of internal and external stakeholders, including employees, learners, visitors, partners, suppliers, and relevant interested parties.
- 7 This policy applies to all University sites where the University has direct control of environmental performance. At the time of writing this excludes the land at Pinewood Studios. Due to an inability to alter the resources used by the site, construction of the buildings, or systems used to condition the site.

Policy

- 8 The University wishes to minimise the effect it has on the environment and in order to achieve this the University will:
- Embed sustainability across all teaching and research activities.
 - Reduce the impact the University has on the environment
 - Champion inclusive working, living, and well-being spaces across the Estates portfolio
 - Reduce the carbon footprint of the University
 - Improve biodiversity across all BNU controlled sites
 - Promote sustainable construction principals in new build and refurbishment projects, aspiring to a SKA Gold design
 - Take sustainability into consideration when making purchasing decisions for goods and services supplied to the University
 - Prevent pollution
 - Use natural resources efficiently
 - Develop, maintain, and continually improve an accredited environmental management system to enhance environmental performance
 - Consider the environmental sustainability implications of any major change to the estates portfolio
 - Fulfil all compliance obligations, including all relevant legislative requirements.

Compliance will be achieved through the establishment of environmental objectives in line with the Sustainability Strategy.

Responsibilities

- 9 To support the implementation Buckinghamshire New University's Environmental Sustainability commitments, the Sustainability Strategy includes time bound objectives and targets for environmental performance. The Sustainability Strategy will be reviewed by the University Executive Team and Sustainability Committee.
- 10 Staff and students are responsible for ensuring that their activities do not contradict the aspirations set out in this policy.
- 11 Leadership of this policy lies with the University Executive Team. The Head of Sustainability, and the Estates Manager will be responsible for monitoring and reviewing the policy, and the associated Environmental Management System to reflect changes to relevant legislation, guidance from regulatory bodies and to reflect good practice.
- 12 The University Executive Team are responsible for ensuring that the environmental management system conforms to ISO 14001:2015.
- 13 The University will provide the resources required to operate an Environmental Management System. This includes the training, financial support and expertise required to develop and operate the system.

Table of Definitions

Sustainable Development	Taken from the 1987 Brundtland report as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.
SKA Environmental Assessment	A methodology and assessment system for assessing the sustainability of fit out projects. The system is operated by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).

Appendix: Equality Impact Assessment

1. What is changing and why?				
<p>An update of our Environmental Policy which is intended to enforce and support our environmental commitments under our Sustainability Strategy. The policy has been updated to reflect our current sustainability ambitions and the goals set out in our Sustainability Strategy.</p> <p>We have changed the reference to our preferred building sustainability standard, as this would have tied us to a methodology that we no longer feel is appropriate to our needs.</p>				
2. What do you know?				
<p>Our existing Environmental Policy is outdated and expired. It includes commitments that the university has not followed in several years and few people are aware of its existence.</p> <p>Having an up-to-date Environmental Policy is a key element of ISO 14001 compliance and will help us to score points on the People and Planet league table.</p> <p>The wording and contents of the environmental policy are designed to comply with the requirements of both the Eco Campus and ISO 14001 Environmental Management System standards.</p> <p>External organisations may request to see our Environmental Policy as part of bids for funding, project proposals or simply making sure that the organisations they work with share similar ideals.</p> <p>The SU have surveyed our students and found that most want to see improvements to our sites, they are particularly keen to see improvements to biodiversity and green spaces.</p>				
3. Assessing the impact				
	Could benefit	May adversely impact	What does this mean? <i>Impacts identified from what you know (actual and potential)</i>	What can you do? <i>Actions (or why no action is possible) to advance equality of opportunity, eliminate discrimination, and foster good relations</i>
a) How could this affect different ethnicities? <i>Including Gypsy, Roma, Traveller, Showmen and Boaters, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No anticipated impact	The policy will result in an improvement of our sites which will improve conditions for staff/students and visitors. These environmental improvements won't impact any ethnicities differently.
b) How could this affect cisgender and transgender men and women (including	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No anticipated impact	The policy will result in an improvement of our sites which will improve conditions for staff/students and visitors. These environmental

maternity/pregnancy impact), as well as non-binary people?				improvements won't result in any gender specific impacts.
c) How could this affect disabled people or carers? <i>Including neurodiversity, invisible disabilities and mental health conditions.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Our Environmental Policy requires us to champion inclusive working, living and well-being spaces across our property portfolio. This includes consideration of inclusivity when designing or refurbishing spaces. Access to and use of buildings is considered as part of Building Regulations Part M, but neurodiversity and mental health are not considered as part of statutory building regulations compliance. Our ambition to improve biodiversity across our sites is expected to have a minor positive impact on mental health due to access to green space.	Enhanced communication and engagement in stakeholders to greater understand the needs of users and development of a general purpose 'inclusive design guide'. Further investigation is required. This would not be a component of the Env. Policy, but a separate project.
d) How could this affect people from different faith groups?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No anticipated impact	The policy will result in an improvement of our sites which will improve conditions for staff/students and visitors. These environmental improvements won't result in any faith specific impacts.
e) How could this affect people with different sexual orientations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No anticipated impact	The policy will result in an improvement of our sites which will improve conditions for staff/students and visitors. These environmental improvements won't result in any different impacts due to sexual orientation
f) How could this affect different age groups or generations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No anticipated impact	The policy will result in an improvement of our sites which will improve conditions for staff/students and visitors. These environmental improvements won't result in any different impacts due to age.

g) How could this affect those who are married or in a civil partnership?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No anticipated impact	The policy will result in an improvement of our sites which will improve conditions for staff/students and visitors. These environmental improvements won't result in any different impacts due to marital status.
h) How could this affect people from different backgrounds such as: socio-economic disadvantage, homeless, alcohol and/or substance misuse, people experiencing domestic and/or sexual violence, ex-armed forces, looked after children and care leavers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No anticipated impact	The policy will result in an improvement of our sites which will improve conditions for staff/students and visitors. These environmental improvements won't result in any different impacts due to socio-economic background.
i) How could this affect people with multiple intersectional experiences?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No anticipated impact	
4. Overall outcome				
No major change needed <input type="checkbox"/>	Adjust approach <input type="checkbox"/>	Adverse impact but continue <input type="checkbox"/>	Stop and remove <input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Details of further actions needed				
6. Arrangements for delivery and future monitoring				
7. Completed by:	Steve Edge	Head of Sustainability	Date	20/02/2024
8. Signed off by:	Paul Robinson	Director of Estates	Date	23/02/2024



High Wycombe Campus
Queen Alexandra Road
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP11 2JZ

Aylesbury Campus
59 Walton Street
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire
HP21 7QG

Uxbridge Campus
106 Oxford Road
Uxbridge
Middlesex
UB8 1NA

BNU based at
Pinewood Studios

Pinewood Studios
Pinewood Road
Iver Heath
Buckinghamshire
SL0 0NH

Missenden Abbey
London Road
Great Missenden
Buckinghamshire
HP16 0BD

Telephone: 01494 522 141

 BucksNewUni

 BucksNewUni

 BucksNewUni

 BucksNewUniversity