

# Swansea University Sustainability Policy 2017



Swansea University is involved in innovative research activity with profound implications for the understanding and stewardship of the local, national, and global environment. This includes low carbon projects that will play a significant part in driving the UK towards more decarbonised energy systems, environmental and energy law, climate change and glaciology, biodiversity and conservation and sustainable aquaculture. This research is the major contribution which the University makes to addressing sustainability challenges.

With an annual turnover in excess of £230m, and a community of some 17000 students and over 3000 staff, we also recognise the need to manage our operations on a sustainable basis and that creating a more sustainable future is the responsibility of us all. It is with this in mind that this policy has been formulated. It will be reviewed annually, made available to the public and all interested parties and communicated to all students and staff of the University.

## **Swansea University commits to:**

1. *Minimise greenhouse gas emissions from University operations.*
2. *Reduce the consumption of primary raw materials (including fossil fuels, water and energy).*
3. *Encourage sustainable travel practices by staff, students and visitors.*
4. *Encourage and demonstrate sustainable approaches to the built environment in our construction, refurbishment and maintenance projects.*
5. *Promote biological diversity on sites that the University manages or owns.*
6. *Minimise waste production and divert waste from landfill through increasing re-use, recycling and recovery.*
7. *Protect the environment through prevention of pollution and other specific commitments relevant to the context of the organisation.*
8. *Consider sustainable and ethical procurement of goods and services.*
9. *Promote education for sustainable development and global citizenship (ESDGC) throughout University formal and informal curricula.*
10. *Fulfil compliance obligations.*
11. *Promote and support environmentally responsible behaviours throughout the University community.*
12. *Work with the Students Union and other partners to enhance the sustainability of the University.*
13. *Ensure that the University builds resilience to climate change risks.*
14. *Set, monitor, and review relevant objectives and demonstrate continual improvement in our environmental performance.*

*Vice-Chancellor Professor Richard Davies*

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