

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

V2.0

Policies superseded by this version:

This document replaces the individual existing Sustainability policy from legacy City.

Summary of changes to previous version:

All references to ISO14001 have been removed as this standard is no longer adopted.

Table of contents

Section:	Heading: Sustainability	Page number:
1	Introduction	1
2	Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom	1
3	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion	2
4	Definitions	2
5	Policy	2
6	Procedure	3
7	Advice and guidance	3
8	Failure to comply	3
9	Review	3
	Appendices	

1 Introduction

City St George's, University of London is located in the heart of London and has six Schools. As a learning institution and SDG Accord signatory, we are committed to lead the way towards achieving sustainable development. This policy outlines how City St George's, including the students, staff and stakeholders can positively contribute towards responsible environmental and social stewardship.

2 Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom

- 2.1 City St George's, University of London, regards freedom of speech and academic freedom to be fundamental to delivering its mission as the University of business, practice and the professions. Its values in this respect are set out in a code of practice on freedom of speech and academic freedom, which explains how the University will uphold, secure, and promote freedom of speech within the law: <https://www.citystgeorges.ac.uk/about/governance/policies/code-of-practice-on-freedom-of-speech>.

- 2.2 Nothing in this policy should be interpreted in any way that would be inconsistent with the code of practice and – in the event of any inconsistency – the provisions of the code will prevail.

3 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

- 3.1 City St George's, University of London works to advance equity, diversity and inclusion in its activities, processes, and culture, for the whole University community, including staff, students and visitors.
- 3.2 The University will meet its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 in its policies and seek to eliminate discrimination on the basis of age, caring responsibilities, disability, gender identity, gender reassignment, marital status, neurodiversity, pregnancy, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, and socio-economic background.

4 Definitions

5 Policy

5.1 Purpose

This policy supports the sustainability objectives, our Environmental Management System and the University Vision and Strategy 2030. The scope of our Environmental Management System includes all UK buildings and operations.

5.2 Scope

The following underlying documents have been compiled to address key impact areas: -

- Biodiversity Statement
- Energy Management Statement
- Sustainable Food Statement
- Sustainable Investment Statement
- Travel plan and Sustainable Travel Statement
- Waste Management Strategy and Waste Management Statement

5.3 Principles

The University aims to: -

1. Promote the Sustainability Policy, works towards best practice at all times and endeavour to continually improve environmental and social sustainability performance.
2. Comply with all relevant UK and international environmental legislation and take measures to protect the environment and prevent pollution across all of our operations.
3. Promote an understanding of professional and personal responsibilities regarding sustainability amongst our students, staff and other stakeholders.
4. Identify and promote initiatives for including sustainability principles and practices in the curriculum relevant to the professional lives of our students.
5. Offer and encourage University-wide participation in sustainability training and extracurricular opportunities.
6. Work with the local community and other universities to progress sustainable development initiatives and exchange best practice.

7. Promote the efficient use of environmental resources (energy, water and raw materials) and set improvement targets.
8. Work towards achieving our target of net zero emissions by 2040, at the latest.
9. Reduce waste and associated impacts in line with the waste hierarchy, and maintain zero-waste-to-landfill operations.
10. Implement our sustainable purchasing statement and sustainable investment statement.
11. Consider the environmental cost benefit for all new construction projects, retrofits and refurbishments.
12. Manage a travel plan to minimise the impact on the environment by staff, students and visitors.
13. Reduce the environmental and social impact of our catering operations and offering.

5.4 Roles and responsibilities

The Estates, Environment and Facilities department will be responsible for planning, management, monitoring and reporting of the implementation of this policy.

6 Procedure

Continually monitor, review and publish environmental performance in relation to targets and objectives, and to take appropriate steps to meet them, including the maintenance, and continual improvement of our Environmental Management System.

7 Advice and guidance

The University recognises that there almost all its activities entail environmental impacts and that the evaluation of such potential impacts can involve technical and nuanced considerations.

The Sustainability Team will act as the central source of knowledge for all such matters and members of the University community are encouraged to seek advice accordingly.

8 Failure to comply

Compliance with this policy is essential to City St George's, University of London maintaining and improving its' reputation as an institution which prioritises sustainability and makes progress towards its Net Zero by 2040 goal. As sustainability is also measured and recognised by numerous sectoral ranking agencies, sustainability performance is of material importance to the institution in the attraction and retention of students and staff, as well as having direct impact on energy costs.

All members of the University community are requested to comply with the requirements of this policy, associated procedures and any reasonable requests issued by the Sustainability Team to support delivery of the University's Sustainability Strategy.

9 Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and published on the University's website.

Policy information

Should you require further information regarding this policy or access to the policy in an alternative format, then please contact Dermot Barnes, Sustainability Programme Director.

Policy Title:	Sustainability
Policy Version:	V1.0
Primary Author:	Eleanor Ramulu-Simes
Related Policies:	• Biodiversity Statement • Energy Management Statement • Sustainable Food Statement • Sustainable Investment Statement • Travel plan and Sustainable Travel Statement • Waste Management Strategy and Waste Management Statement
Accountable Authority:	Estates Environment and Facilities Department
Approving Authority:	Sustainability Programme Director
Date of Approval:	July 2027
Policy effective from:	July 2027
Date of Review:	July 2028

Appendix

- Annex A:
Annex B: