

Environmental Sustainability Policy

1. PURPOSE

To outline the University's commitment to environmental sustainability.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

The University is committed to supporting the principles of environmental sustainability by:

- Minimising its ecological footprint in a practical and sustainable way; and
- Motivating staff, students and contractors to promote an environmentally responsible culture.

The University will:

- Promote and foster the development of an environmental ethos and sustainable practices through participation by, and training and education of, staff, students and contractors;
- Establish, implement, maintain and regularly review an environmental management plan informed by the requirements of ISO14001;
- Minimise its ecological footprint, by reducing pollution, environmental harm, greenhouse gas emissions, use of natural and manufactured resources, waste generation, and energy and water consumption and improving efficient use of resources in a practical and sustainable way;
- Promote the waste hierarchy which seeks primarily to avoid and reduce the use of resources, followed by their re-use, recycling and responsible disposal;
- Implement travel smart initiatives to reduce the impact of student and staff commuting to the University campuses, and business travel on behalf of the University;
- Implement sustainable building design for new and existing buildings;
- Communicate the University's sustainability performance to staff, students and the wider community;
- Incorporate sustainability principles into the University's strategic and operational processes, including grounds, transport, maintenance, construction, contracts and procurement; and
- Protect and enhance biodiversity, and natural and cultural heritage, where present.

3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING

Director, Properties, Facilities and Development is responsible for implementation and compliance monitoring of the policy.

4. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all staff, students, visitors, and contractors at all campuses.

5. DEFINITIONS

(Note: Commonly defined terms are located in the [Curtin Common Definitions](#). Any defined terms below are specific to this document)

Ecological Footprint

The land (and water) area of the planet or particular area required for the support either of humankind's current lifestyle or the consumption pattern of a particular population.¹

Environment

Living things, their physical, biological and social surroundings, and interactions between all of these.²

Environmental harm

Direct or indirect harm to the environment involving removal, destruction of, or damage to native vegetation; or to the habitat of native vegetation or indigenous aquatic or terrestrial animals; an alteration of the environment to its detriment or degradation or potential detriment or degradation.³

¹ From OECD (date) Title etc.

² From *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA).

³ From *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA).

Sustainability

Meeting the needs of current and future generations through integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity.⁴

Waste

Solid, gaseous and liquid waste, hazardous wastes, stormwater and wastewater, but excludes greenhouse gases.

6. SUPPORTING PROCEDURES

None

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS/LINKS

The Environmental Sustainability Plan

The Environmental Management Plan

Policy Compliance Officer	Rocio Bona , Strategic Asset Planning Principal Properties, Facilities and Development
Policy Manager	Chief Operating Officer
Approval Authority	Planning and Management Committee
Review Date	1 st April 2019

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved/ Amended/ Rescinded	Date	Committee / Board / Executive Manager	Approval / Resolution Number	Key Changes and Notes
	Approved	23/02/2010	Planning and Management Committee	PMC 14/10	Attachment 1 to Document No 00160/10, as amended
	Amended	26/06/2012	Planning and Management Committee	PMC 69/12	Attachment 3 to Document No 00628/12, to be operational one week from date of approval (includes retitling from Environmental Sustainability Policy and Procedures to Environmental and Sustainability Policy)
	Administratively Amended	27/07/2012	Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Retitle to Environmental Sustainability Policy
	Administratively Amended	06/10/2015	Director, Legal and Compliance Services	EC 76/15	Executive Manager Title Changes
	Amended	24/11/2015	Planning and Management Committee	PMC 98/15	Attachment B to Item 10 - Formally reviewed no changes required

⁴ From Department of Environment and Conservation (WA) (2003) *State Sustainability Strategy* etc.