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**Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2017 - 2027**

**ESAG 17/01/04**

The purpose of this document is to introduce the development of an Environmental Sustainability Strategy at Edinburgh Napier. The Strategy will supersede the Carbon Management Plan and Environmental Sustainability Plan to become the central focus for all environmental sustainability development at the University. The Strategy will meet all requirements set within the Environmental Sustainability Policy; become a hub for all aspect specific plans and strategies such as the University Travel Strategy; encapsulate all requirements set within the Environmental Management System and ISO14001:2015 and will link directly to all references of environmental sustainability within existing University wide documents such as Strategy 2020.

The initial stages of Strategy development will be discussed at the Environmental Sustainability Group meeting to be held on Wednesday 7th June 2017. To succeed, the Environmental Sustainability Strategy must be embedded holistically throughout the University, not be seen as a Property & Facilities document and must be influenced and supported by all staff and students.

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy will be a high-level document, with core quantitative and qualitative (if appropriate and measurable) targets and priorities listed. Each appropriate aspect, such as waste, will be supported by a more in-depth Plan. Each Plan will provide an in-depth list of projects to be completed across the University and at a campus by campus basis if appropriate.

Estates Strategy 2015 - 2025

Values and Behaviours

Academic Strategy 2020

Corporate Plan 2016/17

Strategy 2020

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Biodiversity Plan

Energy & Water Plan

Carbon

Food Plan

Travel Plan

Procurement Plan

Waste Plan

1. **The University**

Edinburgh Napier is a multi-campus University predominantly based with the City of Edinburgh. Academic and professional services staff support an array of research and knowledge transfer, undergraduate and postgraduate courses to 19,500[A] students through six schools: School of Applied Sciences, School of Arts and Creative Industries, School of Computing, School of Engineering and Built Environment, School of Health and Social Care and The Business School.

1. **Context: Background Overview**

Edinburgh Napier University is committed to incorporating the principles of environmental sustainability into all aspects of institutional planning and operations throughout the institution. This commitment is publically stated within the Environmental Sustainability Policy (2012) and within the documents listed within section three of this Strategy.

The development of this Environmental Sustainability Strategy supersedes a number of successful Plans and Policies such as the Carbon Management Plan (2008) that have contributed to a measured reduction in the environmental impact across the institution between 2007 and 2017. The Strategy highlights historic achievement and looks ahead to ongoing and planned projects.

1. **Context: Policy and Strategy Integration**

Between 2007 and 2017 the principles of environmental sustainability have been integrated into the following core strategies and working documents at Edinburgh Napier strategically promoting embedment within the institution. The Environmental Sustainability Strategy must therefore reciprocate and provide focus and structure for each of the commitments set.

* 1. **Strategy 2020**

The Strategy underpins key commitments and provides overall direction for the University. Environmental sustainability is one of seven principles which inform the culture of the University and Strategy 2020: “we will be environmentally and financially sustainable and resilient”[B].

* 1. **Academic Strategy 2020**

In addition to Strategy 2020, the “academic strategy, together with our other thematic strategies and operational plans, further articulates our aims and the actions we will take to achieve them” (page 3). The document states that through taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision the University will develop “A curriculum that develops enterprise and employment skills within an international context, that encourages interdisciplinary learning and that fosters ethical understanding and environmental awareness”[C] (page 5).

* 1. **Estates Strategy 2015-2025**

“Responsible: Our estate will reflect our corporate social responsibility aspirations and we shall maintain our position as one of the ‘greenest’ universities in the UK”[D].

* 1. **Corporate Plan 2016/17**

“Maintain our position as one of the ‘greenest’ institutions in the UK through embedding environmental risk and assessment”[B].

* 1. **Values and Behaviours**

“We will be recognised as a University which is professional, ambitious, innovative and inclusive” (page 1). Within the professional framework the document states that staff will “use resources in ways that are efficient and minimise any impact on the environment”[E] (page 3).

1. **Context: Management**

The integration of environmental sustainability into the fabric of Edinburgh Napier relies upon developed and existing managerial and networking frameworks. The Environmental Management System (EMS) Implementation Team comprises of the Environmental Sustainability Team and Environmental Sustainability Advisory Group.



1. **Context: Community**

The University is represented on a number of networking bodies within Edinburgh and beyond. The University also has a number of voluntary and legislative commitments in terms of reporting. The groups within table 5.1 below are not exhaustive and should be added to and built upon.

* 1. **Networking**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Function** | **Representative** | **Frequency** |
| Edinburgh Sustainable Development Partnership (ESDP). |  | Jamie Pearson | Quarterly |
| Edinburgh Adapts. |  | Jamie Pearson | Quarterly |
| Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC). |  | Jamie PearsonDavid Fairhurst | Range of opportunities throughout the year. |
| Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN). |  | Jamie Pearson | Quarterly |
| Association of University Directors of Estates (AUDE). |  | Eric Munro |  |

1. **Context: Reporting**

The University must report to a number of external bodies throughout the academic year. The scope of each assessment and report varies but each auditor principally encapsulate

**6.1 Reporting**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Reporting Body** | **Frequency** |
| Green League/University League | Annual |
| Higher Education Statistics Agency Estates Management Record | Annual |
| Scottish Funding Council: Outcome Agreement | Quarterly |
| Scottish Government Public Sector Climate Change Duties | Annual |
| The City of Edinburgh Council Sustainable Energy Action Plan | Annual |
| Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland (UCCCfS), managed by the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) | Annual |

See Excel spreadsheet ‘6.2 Institutional Drivers’ for a breakdown of the list above, including all aspects and areas covered within each reporting framework.

Quarterly reports have historically been presented at the Finance and Property Committee.

1. **Priority Areas: Environmental Aspects**

Aspects are topics of interest or areas of potential risk to the University. The Aspects Register embedded within the Environmental Management System currently under development at Edinburgh Napier, following EcoCampus guidelines and aiming for ISO14001:2015 accreditation highlights 43 aspects embedded within eleven core activity areas. The Environmental Sustainability Strategy will consider objectives and targets for all aspects listed. Objectives and targets will be appropriately considered, either quantitative or qualitative.

The 43 aspects are listed and assessed within the document Aspects Register – Edinburgh Napier University 16.03.15 ENU-EMS-079 The eleven core activity areas in which the aspects sit are energy use; transport; waste; water use; use and storage of chemicals, oils, fuel and pesticides; emissions to air; biodiversity management; procurement; construction; contractors; noise and nuisance.

The structure of each aspect could be listed as below shown in table 7.1 below.

**7.1 Aspect: Transport**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aims (three or more core aims?) |  |
| Current Impact |  |
| Target(s) (SMART) |  |
| Data/reasoning/justification |  |
| Priority areas (community context, legislation, action). |  |
| Funding (internal and external). |  |

1. **Environmental Management System**

The development of an environmental management system has been referenced throughout this document. The audit clauses, as embedded within the EcoCampus structure, are listed below (further information is embedded within the document ‘Environmental Management System ISO14001:2015 EcoCampus Progress Review ENU-EMS-229’:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Clause** | **Evidence Requirement** |
| 1.1 Leadership and Commitment | * Top management shall demonstrate leadership and commitment for the EMS.
* Top management shall ensure that responsibilities and authorities for relevant roles are assigned within the institution.
 |
| 1.2 Context of the Institution | * The institution shall have a thorough understanding of its context and associated risks and opportunities
* The institution shall determine the needs and expectations of interested parties, relevant to the EMS.
* The institution shall determine the scope of its EMS.
 |
| 2.1 Compliance Obligations | * The institution shall develop a process to identify, access and review compliance obligations related to its environmental aspects.
* Identify and determine how relevant compliance obligations apply to the institution, and the associated risks and opportunities.
* The institution shall maintain documented information of its conformance to compliance obligations.
 |
| 2.2 Environmental Aspects | * The institution shall have a process for identifying environmental aspects and assessing their significance.
* The institution shall identify all aspects and associated impacts related to the institutions activities, products and services, considering a life cycle perspective.
* The institution shall determine significant environmental aspects using a defined criteria.
 |
| 2.3 Planning Action | * The institution shall plan to take actions to address its environmental aspects, compliance obligations and risks and opportunities.
 |
| 2.4 Environmental Objectives | * The institution shall have a process for setting and reviewing environmental objectives.
* Environmental objectives shall be set at relevant functions and levels, taking into account the institutions significant environmental aspects, compliance obligations and risk and opportunities.
* The institution shall plan actions to achieve its objectives.
 |
| 2.5 Environmental Policy | * The institution shall have a process for establishing and maintaining an environmental policy.
* Top management shall establish and document an environmental policy.
* The institution shall communicate the environmental policy internally and make it available to interested parties.
 |
| 3.1 Institutional Roles, Responsibilities and Authorities | * The institution shall develop and implement a process for identifying and communicating roles and responsibilities to those involved in the EMS.
* The institution shall identify the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the EMS.
 |
| 3.2 Competence Awareness | * The institution shall have a process for determining the necessary competence requirements and training needs and ensuring competence of those involved in the EMS.
* The institution shall determine the necessary competence of person(s) doing work related to the EMS.
* The institution shall ensure that person(s) doing the work under its control that can affect its environmental performance are trained and competent.
* The institution shall ensure that person(s) doing work under its control have an awareness of the EMS.
 |
| 3.3 Communication | * The institution shall establish, implement and maintain processes needed for communications relevant to the EMS.
* The institution shall communicate internally on the EMS.
* The institution shall communicate externally information relevant to EMS.
 |
| 3.4 Documented Information | * The institution shall develop a process for creating, updating and controlling documented information.
* The institution shall create and maintain documented information relevant to the EMS.
 |
| 3.5 Operational Planning and Control | * The institution shall determine the process needed to meet the EMS requirements.
* The institution shall establish, implement, control and maintain the processes needed to meet the EMS requirements.
* The institution shall ensure that outsourced processes are controlled or influenced.
 |
| 3.6 Emergency Preparedness and Response | * The institution shall establish, implement and maintain the processes needed to prepare for an respond to emergency situations.
* The institutions shall maintain documented information of emergency response.
 |
| 4.1 Monitoring, Measuring, Analysis and Evaluation | * The institution shall establish a process for monitoring, measuring, analysing and evaluating its environmental performance.
* The institution shall monitor, measure, analyse and evaluate its environmental performance.
 |
| 4.2 Evaluation of Compliance | * The institution shall establish, implement and maintain processes needed to evaluate fulfilment of its compliance obligations.
* The institution shall evaluate its fulfilment with its compliance obligations.
 |
| 4.3 Nonconformity and Corrective Action | * The institution shall develop a process for addressing nonconformities.
* The institution should review nonconformities and corrective actions taken.
 |
| 4.4 Internal Audit | * The institution should develop a process for conducting internal audits at planned intervals.
* The institution shall conduct internal audits following the internal audit programme.
 |
| 4.5 Management Review | * The institution shall develop and implement a process for undertaking management reviews.
* The institution shall maintain documented information to demonstrate evidence of management review outputs.
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**References**

[A][www.napier.ac.uk/about-us/facts-and-figures](http://www.napier.ac.uk/about-us/facts-and-figures)

[B][www.napier.ac.uk/Strategy2020](http://www.napier.ac.uk/Strategy2020)

[C]<http://staff.napier.ac.uk/services/principal/Documents/Academic%20Strategy%202020/academic-strategy-2020.pdf>

[D][http://staff.napier.ac.uk/services/principal/strategy2020/Pages/universitystrategies.aspx](http://staff.napier.ac.uk/services/principal/strategy/Pages/universitystrategies.aspx)

[E] <http://staff.napier.ac.uk/services/principal/Documents/Values-and-behaviours-leaflet.pdf>

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy 2010-2015, Point 10

<http://staff.napier.ac.uk/services/academicdevelopment/LTA/Documents/LTA%20STRATEGY%202010-2015%20WEB.pdf>