



Environmental Sustainability Policy

UEL's Vice Chancellor's Group is responsible for promoting environmental sustainability at UEL. Our Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) provides leadership and coordination for the integration of environmental sustainability principles and practices throughout our university's teaching, learning and research. It also oversees the environmental management and performance of our buildings, grounds and operational activities. The ESC reports directly to UEL's Board of Governors.

UEL's commitment to social innovation pledges us to working with our communities to deliver applied and sustainable solutions to societal and environmental challenges. To achieve this we will:

- Support UEL's 'learning by doing' approach by uniting schools and services to offer students environmental sustainability curricular and extra-curricular learning opportunities on campus, through competency-based learning and 'earn and learn' internship programmes;
- Implement findings from our own research to improve UEL's environmental performance;
- Ensure environmental responsibilities are defined, communicated and understood at all levels within our university and embed values, skills and knowledge in sustainable development;

UEL is accredited to ISO 14001:2004 and is committed to providing the resource needed to renew this accreditation to ISO 14001:2015 in 2017/18. The ESC oversees our accreditation through Management Review Meetings. The overall aim of our environmental management system is to improve our environmental performance in 6 main areas:

Emissions to air • Energy use • Land use • Releases to water • Waste management • Water use

To coordinate environmental performance improvements we will:

- Comply with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and other requirements, and maintain an environmental legal register;
- Maintain our environmental aspects register to recognise the university's most significant environmental aspects within our 6 main areas;
- Set and review environmental key performance indicators (KPIs) for significant environmental aspects and track performance through the development and implementation of environmental management plans and coordinated programmes and projects;
- Provide adequate training for all staff whose role is linked to our significant environmental aspects and appoint a Management Representative who reports to ESC on our progress;
- Communicate with students, staff and local community on environmental performance;
- Publish an internal and external Annual Environmental Report;
- Control all documentation related to our environmental management system;
- Document all operations associated with our significant environmental aspects;
- Maintain an emergency preparedness and response procedure for environmental risks;
- Conduct internal audits of our environmental management system and maintain a corrective and preventative action procedure to identify and correct non-conformances with our environmental management system;
- Monitor and measure our environmental performance to ensure continual improvement;

This policy is approved by:

John Joughin, Vice Chancellor.....February 2017