



## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: POLICY

<b>Process Area</b>	<b>Estates</b>
<b>Reference Number</b>	<b>EST/008</b>
<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Client Services</b>

<b>Issue No</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Approved</b>
001	Mar 2011	First Issue	JO'H	BD
002	Jan 2014	Review and update to Sections 1 & 4	JO'H	BD
003	Jan 2017	Review and update to Section 1	JO'H	Governing Body
004	Jan 2020	Following review at F&GP Committee in March. A recommendation to change policy title to 'Environmental Sustainability'	KF, RS	Finance Committee

If requested, the College will make the policy available by means of alternative formats including large print, Braille, audio cassette and computer disc. The policy can also be downloaded from the College intranet and made available in alternative languages as required.

## 1. POLICY STATEMENT

The Southern Regional College is committed to working in a way which minimises adverse effects on the environment and which promotes with learners, staff, stakeholders, partners and suppliers an awareness of sustainability.

SRC is intent on embedding sustainability into the curriculum and to creating an ethos of environmental responsibility within the entire College Community.

Sustainable Development is built on the three pillars of economic prosperity, environmental quality and social equity and to this end SRC will endeavor to make a real and lasting contribution to the lives of students, staff and the wider community.

### Principles

The Southern Regional College will:

- Encourage staff and students to engage in issues of practical sustainability and improve awareness and understanding of environmental issues and sustainable development within the College through engagement with the Students Union;
- Explore opportunities for integration of sustainable development education in programme areas and develop the curriculum in Environmental Technologies supported by appropriate staff development;
- Comply with relevant UK and EU environmental legislation;
- Minimise waste and pollution through the reduction of waste, reuse of resources, and effective recycling procedures throughout operational areas and contracts as far as practicable;
- Work with partners, such as cleaning and catering contractors to ensure their service is as sustainable as reasonably practicable;
- Promote a positive attitude and ethos towards sustainability across all campuses and college activities;
- Ensure that sustainability is a priority within College procurement procedures;
- Engage with other Universities and Colleges via the Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges (EAUC), Professional Bodies, NUS and USI, with a view to learning from best practice;
- Develop and implement a “Green IT” approach, addressing energy consumption, sourcing and disposal of IT equipment, reducing printing and photocopying demands and ensuring that equipment is sourced and managed with energy efficiency as a priority;
- Undertake improvements to the energy efficiency and environmental performance of existing estate by fitting LED lighting, PIRs (where practical), soft touch taps and energy efficient equipment as standard practice when carrying out a refurbishment of any area.;
- Ensure that the development of future estate has sustainability as a central issue within the design brief and use of an environmental assessment method such as BREEAM;

- Maintain campus grounds and buildings in an environmentally sensitive manner having due regard to local ecology and the enhancement of biodiversity. Implement water saving measures and explore the use of rainwater harvesting to reduce demand on mains water consumption; and
- Develop transport policies to promote environmentally sound approaches to staff and student transport within the context of a multi-campus College with initiatives such as the replacement of college vehicles, use of college hybrid vehicles, promotion of cycling, car sharing and use of technology such as video linking between campuses.

## **2. SCOPE**

Applies College wide

## **3. DEFINITIONS**

None

## **4. PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Implementing sustainability is not a standalone activity and the approach that will be taken will entail integrating the principles set out in this document into a wide range of college life, including students, staff, communities, stakeholders, partners, suppliers, curriculum and support functions. To this end sustainability will be incorporated into other policies, procedures, strategic and operational plans as these are developed, or updated, with resources and training being identified as appropriate.

The College will encourage the proactive promotion of sustainability through a Sustainability Working Group.

## **5. DISTRIBUTION**

SharePoint  
College Website  
All Clients

## **6. RELATED DOCUMENTS**

None

## **7. FLOWCHART**

N/A