

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

BIODIVERSITY STATEMENT

As a feature of the University of Exeter's Strategic Plan 2007-2011, the University is committed to 'offering a high quality, campus based living and learning environment which is welcoming and inclusive'. As part of this it holds as one of its values 'to be responsible, sustainable and ethical, meeting the needs of the present and leaving a better environment for future generations'.

Biodiversity refers to the biological diversity of our planet. It includes all living Organisms and the diverse habitats they live and thrive in, often referred to as Ecosystems. The interactions of these components ensures the continuation of life. The most important elements for healthy biodiversity are air, water and light, in differing levels. In principle these determine the health and vitality of an Ecosystem.

The University is in a position to actively protect and enhance biodiversity in areas that are owned / managed by the organisation. Through this Biodiversity Policy, which applies to the Streatham and St Luke's campuses, the University of Exeter:

- recognises the importance of contact with nature for staff, students and visitors to their sites and will take positive action to conserve and enhance biodiversity on sites that the University manages or owns, where local conditions allow;
- will ensure that biodiversity is considered in all major redevelopments and is addressed through the master plan process;
- will comply with all applicable legal requirements and other requirements to which the University subscribes relating to biodiversity and habitat management
- will identify opportunities to raise the awareness of Biodiversity and sustainable practices outlined in the Guiding Operational Principles;
- recognises the value of Biodiversity and sustainable practices to both formal and informal learning about open spaces and their associated wild flora and fauna and will seek to identify opportunities to support curricular and extracurricular activities relating to it;
- will report annually on performance

Iain Park
Director of Grounds
18 June 2010