ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE EMERGENCY POLICY STATEMENT

Environmental sustainability and climate change are probably the greatest issues facing humankind in the twenty-first century: they are a major focus of Exeter's research and teaching activities and a key responsibility for the staff, students and governors of the University.

The Environment and Climate Emergency Policy aims to integrate carbon and environmental management into all University processes and to maximise the influence of the University in reducing its footprint through education and research, its operations and ambitions; and as such is integral to each of the Sovereign Strategies. As part of the University mission to make the exceptional happen by challenging traditional thinking and defying conventional boundaries, the following Climate Emergency goals have been adopted which will be embedded in our Research and Impact, Education and Global Strategies (see Appendix).

CLIMATE EMERGENCY GOALS:
1. All Campus activities/operations shall have a carbon net zero impact and or result in environmental gain by 2030, and aims to be carbon net zero by 2050 (accounting for all associated activities and Scope 3 footprint).
2. The University aims to achieve be a leader within the University sector as set out in the Environment and Climate Emergency Working Group Report (Nov 2019).

RESPONSIBILITY:
The Environment and Climate Emergency Board (attendees from Research, Colleges, Professional Services and Students) is accountable for ensuring the Policy is implemented. Implementation of carbon net zero will be embedded in all new decisions/ operations and activities and incrementally embedded into existing processes, contracts and tenders on renewal. All employees have a responsibility to ensure that the aims and objectives of the policy are met.

POLICY AIMS: The University requires its staff, students, partners and suppliers to

1. Respect, embrace, and actively support the University agenda for carbon net zero and environmental net gain outcomes across all our operations and activities,
2. Proactively act in ways to support environmental net gain and the climate emergency, raising awareness and recognising positive action, whether it be teaching, researching or other University related activity,
3. Demonstrate commitment to managing, minimising and mitigating the impacts from operations, activities, research and education,
4. Seek to minimise the environmental impact through environment and climate emergency conscious decision making including choice of products, partners and suppliers,
5. Evaluate performance and transparently report on decisions, outcomes and actions; providing commentary and explanations holding ourselves to account,
6. Demonstrate compliance with all relevant legislation as a minimum, and where possible go beyond it
7. Demonstrate commitment to improve continually and monitor environmental performance, report openly and transparently to support greater recognition of the benefits of environmental change and ensure that outcomes do not create a detriment to any group with protected characteristics within our community.

The University will embrace the Environment and Climate Emergency Agenda both strategically and globally through its development of footprint reduction initiatives, Climate Action plans and staff, student and community engagement. We will strive to minimise negative impacts and optimising positive opportunities delivering our Climate emergency targets and goals through our Sovereign strategies; recognising our global and local reach, through the diverse operations, partnerships and programmes.

Signed -   L.O.Roberts
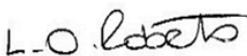
Position – Vice Chancellor University of Exeter

Date -   1st October 2020

Renewal – Annual (at the end of each Academic Year)

OUR EFFECT

Appendix to the E&CE Policy Statement

Summary of Policy Goals and timeline

- **Goal 1:** To be **carbon neutral (net zero) for scope 1 and 2 emissions** by 2040 via a front-loaded approach to reduce emissions by 75% by 2030 (2005/06 baseline).
- **Goal 2:** To ensure we have data analytics so that we can **reduce scope 3 emissions** by 50% by 2030 with a plan to reach net zero by 2050, whilst aiming to respond faster (by 2040).
- **Goal 3:** To pursue a **policy of 'environmental net gain'** on our estates, and to use our research and education to deliver environmental net gain within region, country and across the globe.
- **Goal 4:** To be recognised as an **Environment and Sustainability** leader across the **University sector, nationally and internationally** by 2025, and in the top three Russell Group Universities in the AUDE Sustainable Leadership Scorecard.

Summary of Policy Targets by 2025 (compared to 2018 footprint as outlined in the Environment and Climate Emergency Working Group Report (2019) delivered through the University Environment Management System.

	Targets	Owner/ Sponsor
	Ownership & Engagement	
1	All areas of activity across the University shall be responsible for the delivery of the Environment and Climate Emergency policy and targets through their day to day work; via governance and risk reporting, developing and delivering Climate Action Plans which will be tracked by quarterly carbon scorecard reporting	Vice Chancellor
2	Adoption of the policy to act as an enabler for transformational culture change across all areas of the University to accelerate and drive environmental and climate conscious business decisions and outcomes	Prof Janice Kay (Provost) / Assistant DVC E&CEB
3	*Implement* mandatory Carbon Literacy training for all staff and students	Mike Shore-Nye (Registrar)/ Prof Janice Kay (Provost)/ Linda Peka (Deputy Registrar and Chief College Operations Officer)
4	**Renew and promote flexible working policy**	Mike Shore-Nye (Registrar)/ Alan Hill (Chief Information Officer)/ Imelda Rogers (Director of Human Resources)
5	**E&CE requirement on VCEG / Procurement Activity / Spend papers (incorporating lifecycle thinking)**	Mike Shore-Nye (Registrar)
6	College Climate Action Plans developed, delivered and driven across teams and departments to meet /if not exceed in year targets and goals to reduce College level footprint	PVC's, Janice Kay (Provost), Dr. Emma Page (Head of Environment, and Climate Emergency).
7	Professional Service Climate Action Plans developed, delivered and driven across teams and departments to meet /if not exceed in year targets and goals to reduce Professional Service level footprint	Directors, Mike Shore-Nye (Registrar), Dr. Emma Page (Head of Environment, and Climate Emergency).
	Digital	
8	***Enable up to* 60% 'Off Campus' working.**	Alan Hill (Chief Information Officer)
9	Invest in technology to enable 50% reduction in business travel carbon, e.g. including 'Off Campus' working e.g. video conferencing, virtual field courses, on line conferencing etc.	
10	Implement a policy to deliver zero carbon footprint in IT equipment, data processing and services, including end of life waste recycling of equipment	
11	**95% reduction in paper / non-essential printing (giving consideration to reasonable adjustments)**	
	Procurement	
12	*Implement* a policy that all new travel, procurement and spend requests have environmental and carbon impact/benefit and all contracts & tender renewals include environmental and carbon impact/benefit specifications, including IT, digital and in-house production,	Andrew Connelly (Chief Financial Officer)
13	Establish a policy requiring local, sustainable sources and practices from all producers and suppliers e.g. best environmental/welfare practice animal products, sustainable palm oil.	
	Business Travel	
14	**Reduce non-essential business travel carbon footprint by 50% (stretch goal 75%), through adoption of low carbon travel alternatives and policy of 'essential travel only'.**	Andrew Connelly (Chief Financial Officer)
15	Incentivise sustainable travel e.g. low carbon / slow travel	
	Local Travel	
16	Improve and incentivise active travel e.g. improve pedestrian access points; more sheltered and secure cycle storage, preferential parking 'Off Campus, preferential routes for	Craig Nowell (Director of Campus Infrastructure and Operational Support

	walking/cycling, preferential rates for parking of EV vehicles, and improved access catering for all abilities.	Services) / Peter Scargill (Director of Commercial, Residential and Campus Services)
17	Provide 50% parking as E-charging points for cars and bikes (vans, fleet, other E vehicles)	
Research		
18	*Implement* a 'Sustainable Research Framework' to steer all research practice.	Prof Neil Gow (Deputy Vice Chancellor Research and Impact)
19	*Implement* Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF) accreditation	
20	*Reduce* minus 80 freezers set points by 10 degrees	
Global		
21	Develop 'climate-compatible global partnership activities' with aligned core values to help the university achieve carbon neutrality.	Prof Mark Goodwin (Deputy Vice Chancellor Global Engagement) / Peter Clack (Director of Global Engagement)
22	Embed Environment & Climate Emergency considerations into College Global Plans and International Student Recruitment operations, and establish a strategy to share this approach to international partner institutions, students and prospective students'	
Education		
23	Embed Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Emergency across all courses, including integration of carbon literacy training into the curriculum *and* **launch of Student Climate Emergency Companion Pack**	Prof Tim Quine (Deputy Vice Chancellor Education)
24	Continue blended learning opportunities; through the use of digital/ online teaching (i.e. 'Off campus' working)	
25	Require justification of all international field courses offering long-haul options, and look for alternative low carbon alternatives – 50% carbon footprint	
Buildings & Work Place		
26	Maximise onsite renewable sources and procure 100% renewable energy supplies	Craig Nowell (Director of Campus Infrastructure and Operational Support Services) / Hugh McCann (Director of Estates)
27	Adopt Sustainable Design guide for New build/Refurbishment maintenance of Buildings	
28	Improve environmental and energy performance of buildings through capital spend programmes to meet best practice standards	
Energy & Water		
29	Only purchase equipment with high energy efficiency ratings and low WLC embodied environmental impact e.g. A+++	Craig Nowell (Director of Campus Infrastructure and Operational Support Services) / Hugh McCann (Director of Estates)
30	*Implement* 50% water use reduction.	
Waste & Recycling		
31	95% reduction in single use plastic packaging	Craig Nowell (Director of Campus Infrastructure and Operational Support Services) / Peter Scargill (Director of Commercial, Residential and Campus Services)
32	85% recycling or all waste	
33	Campus wide waste recuse / recycling programme	
Hospitality, Catering & Retail		
34	**100% reduction in non-compostable single use plastic cups and containers**	Craig Nowell (Director of Campus Infrastructure and Operational Support Services) / Peter Scargill (Director of Commercial, Residential and Campus Services)
35	95% reduction in single use plastic packaging	
36	95% reduction in paper / printing (giving consideration to reasonable adjustments)	
37	85% recycling or all waste	
38	Environmental and carbon impact/benefit required for all contracts, specifications, tenders	
39	*Implement* a Meat second policy	
40	*Implement* local, sustainable sources and practices from all producers and suppliers e.g. best environmental/welfare practice animal products, sustainable palm oil, low carbon footprint	
Biodiversity		
41	Establish net positive plan for Woodland, Wetland and Campus wide biodiversity	Craig Nowell(Director of Campus Infrastructure and Operational Support Services) / Alison Davison (Director of Sport and Grounds)
Data Analytics & Reporting		
42	80% accuracy, 100% coverage	Dr. Emma Page (Head of Environment, and Climate Emergency).
43	Quarterly Carbon Scorecard Reporting / Target Performance tracking (to be made publically available)	
44	Adopt life cycle thinking and analysis in the evaluation of savings to achieve lowest environmental and carbon footprint from our actions and decisions	

Note : Green Recovery Initiatives highlighted in GREEN