## Environmental Policy Statement (2022, V.8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version number</th>
<th>Update</th>
<th>Sign off</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Version 1</td>
<td>Original</td>
<td>Nigel Carrington, Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>2011/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Version 2</td>
<td>More detail added to each environmental aspect. Inclusion of implementing an Environmental Management System (the LiFE system).</td>
<td>Nigel Carrington, Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>2013/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Version 3</td>
<td>Updated to include - References to the new Sustainability Advisory Panel - References to the Modern Slavery Act - Replace the EMS to and ISO EMS - Updates with 2020 targets</td>
<td>Nigel Carrington, Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>2016/17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Version 4</td>
<td>Reviewed. No updates made.</td>
<td>Nigel Carrington, Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>2017/18</td>
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<td>Version 5</td>
<td>Reviewed. No updates made.</td>
<td>Nigel Carrington, Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>2018/19</td>
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<td>Version 6</td>
<td>Minor updates to delete old references.</td>
<td>Nigel Carrington, Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>2019/20</td>
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<td>Version 7</td>
<td>Minor updates to delete old references.</td>
<td>Nigel Carrington, Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>2020/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Version 8</td>
<td>Minor updates and the addition of a message from the Vice-Chancellor.</td>
<td>James Purnell, Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>2021/22</td>
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The University's mission is to be at the forefront of learning, creativity and practice in creative arts. Comprising more than 18,000 students from over 100 countries, the University offers a range of academic programmes from further education through to undergraduate, postgraduate and research degrees.

The University aims to promote talent, creativity and intellectual excellence in an organisational culture assisting staff and students to develop and commercially advance their abilities and ideas. It works to provide a bridge between higher education and professional practice, serving the creative economy.

The University wishes to:

- Minimise the adverse environmental impact of the delivery of its services;
- Better manage its resources taking into account environmental impact;
- Implement environmental best practice procedures throughout the University;
- Continually improve its environmental impact performance; and
- Contribute generally to the improvement of the local, national and global environment.

The University shall endeavor so far as it deems reasonably practicable to:

- Comply with UK environmental legislation and guidelines and other compliance obligations, as set out in the university’s ISO certifications;
- Take note and account of EU environmental guidelines;
- Promote sound environmental management policies and practices throughout the University;
- Strive towards continual improvement in reducing the adverse environmental impact caused through the provision of its educational operations.
- Ensure efficient, environmentally responsible use of resources, particularly energy and water.
- Promote the responsible procurement of goods and services for its use;
- Apply proper principles of good waste management with a view to reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and/or dispose of waste products;
- Prevent pollution and encourage the reduction of pollution;
- Minimise the impact of travel on the environment, for example by promoting the use of public transport, cycling and walking;
Giving preference to products and services that cause less harm to the environment in maintaining the University's estate;

Minimise adverse environmental impact in decommissioning and disposing of University assets;

Examine opportunities to enhance curricula throughout the University with a view to bring into account the importance of environmental considerations within art, design, communication and performance.

Raise the awareness of staff and students of the University's environmental impact, activities and performance as well as to promote individual good practice in the use of the University premises;

Be open in the communication, both internally and externally, about the University's environmental performance; and review this Policy Statement annually.

Aims and Objectives

Environmental Management, via our Environmental Management System

- To promote sound environmental management policies and practices throughout the University
- To maintain our certifications of ISO 50001 Energy Management System, ISO 14001 Environmental Management System (covering Business Operations) and ISO 14001 Environmental Management System (covering Learning, Teaching and Research)
- As a minimum, to comply with the requirements of relevant legislation.
- To reduce and, where practicable, prevent pollution.
- To adopt targets for improving environmental performance.
- To ensure a sound understanding of current environmental performance.

Carbon Reduction

- To implement a carbon reduction strategy, including the efficient use of energy.
- To reduce carbon emissions (scope 1, 2 & 3) in line with the targets set out in the Carbon Management Plan and carry out the reduction activities laid out in the Carbon Management Plan.
- To ensure the uptake of low carbon technologies in buildings and equipment.
- Consumption to be captured via the UAL Carbon Dashboard and communicated on the UAL website.

Water

- To make efficient and environmentally responsible use of water, including identifying opportunities for water reuse.
- Consumption to be captured via the UAL Carbon Dashboard and communicated on the UAL website.
- To reduce consumption by 54% by 2040 (based on 18/19 baseline)
Sustainable Procurement

- To promote life cycle thinking in the procurement of goods and services.
- To work with suppliers to promote sustainable resource management practices.
- To appraise our supply chain for their individual sustainability credentials via the Charted Institute of Procurement Specialists Sustainability Index. Our current suppliers were appraised no later than September 2014 and are to comply with the Modern Slavery Act thereafter.
- Produce a feasibility study regarding how UAL would use a consolidated delivery service at each building.
- Develop a carbon calculator that allows a budget holder of physical goods to assess the carbon emissions of their procurement decision.

Waste Reduction and Recycling

- To continue to send zero waste to landfill and refresh general waste and mixed recycling internal bins.
- To minimise the adverse environmental impacts of the decommissioning and disposal of University assets.
- To increase the rate of recycling of all appropriate materials based on life-cycle principles.
- To implement sustainable resource management practices, based on reduce, reuse and recycle principles.
- Waste generated to be captured via the UAL Carbon Dashboard and on the UAL website.

Transport

- To implement sustainable transport practices across all activities with the aim of achieving the University’s carbon reduction targets.
- Being an urban based University which is split across London, most staff and students use public transport, cycle or walk. We will therefore focus on reducing emissions from business transport by 54% by 2040.

University Estate

- To develop and implement a University Estate Strategy based on sound environmental and sustainability principles. This will be captured and distributed via the UAL ‘Design Brief for Sustainability’. This includes all buildings over £1M securing BREEAM ‘outstanding’ and all refurbishments over £0.5M to achieve SKA ‘gold’.
- To manage the University Estate with a view to enhance biodiversity wherever possible.
- To require a sustainable construction plan for any new University development and refurbishment project.

Awareness and Training

- To communicate internally and externally the University’s environmental objectives and performance. This will be led by the Chair of the Sustainability Advisory Panel.
- To raise awareness of staff and students of the University’s environmental
impact, activities and performance and good practice.

- To provide appropriate environmental educational programmes for staff and students.
- To encourage and facilitate feedback and suggestions on ensuring good practice.
- All Facilities Assistants will be trained to Low Energy Company level 1, as defined by the Energy Managers Association.
- To roll out the online carbon literacy training as mandatory

Evaluation of Environmental Policy

- To undertake an annual review of environmental management procedures and activities to ensure suitability, adequacy and effectiveness. This will be reported to Climate & Environment Action Group.

Responsibilities

The overall responsibility for implementation of this policy lies with the University’s Vice Chancellor.

The Climate & Environment Action Group shall assume responsibility for ensuring compliance with the University’s Environmental Policy within their area of control.

Pro Vice Chancellors, Heads of Colleges, Directors and Heads of Functions are responsible for ensuring compliance with University Environmental Policy within areas of control.

The University will actively monitor the performance of all activities in the implementation of the aims and objectives of this policy in the activities under their control.

Whilst the University accepts the main responsibility for implementation of this policy, individuals have a very important role in co-operating with those responsible for safeguarding the environment.

Individuals are required to abide by rules and requirements made under the authority of this policy.

This policy will be reviewed annually.
Message from the university's President & Vice Chancellor
10th June, 2021

Dear colleagues,

In the last few weeks, you have said you want UAL to be a university designed around its social priorities. You’ve set out three priorities – anti-racism, employability and climate justice. Today I want to tell you about UAL’s new targets on climate.

We have a strong track record in promoting sustainability, but such is the scope and scale of the environmental crisis facing all of us, we have to do more. Much more. That is why today, we are announcing the most demanding carbon reduction plan of universities in the UK.

The UK government has set the goal of net zero by 2050. However, not everyone will reach that goal, so some institutions will have to do more to compensate. We are therefore committing to UAL going faster, so as to bring the average down. Our target will be to achieve net zero across our total carbon footprint by 2040.

This means achieving net zero on our direct emissions by 2030 and net zero by 2040 for our indirect emissions, 10 years ahead of the UK government’s deadline. The Executive Board will be accountable for delivering these targets and will agree university-wide actions each year. Each area of the business will be asked to come up with its plans to contribute and we will track performance on an annual basis. These actions will cover carbon reduction, business operations, academic strategy and delivery, community and influence.

This builds on UAL’s strong track record of carbon reduction since 2012 and we will approach it with the same level of rigour and attention. It goes hand in hand with the responsibility we have as a community to exchange knowledge and show leadership on emerging societal issues as these inevitably intersect with climate emergency. This is not simply a matter of ecological breakdown but of climate justice.

This pledge means many things for UAL. Critically, climate justice is a core theme throughout the development of the new UAL strategy. From education and curriculum to conversations across the creative sector, the realities of our net zero carbon pledges are far-reaching. They will require us all to be active participants in empowering students, staff and the creative community to innovate and imagine a different future. We will collaborate with other universities, to learn what is working, research what can make a difference and agree a collective response.

To reduce direct emissions, we will enhance utility management across university buildings and improve timetabling to reflect actual building occupancy to limit energy waste. Our Environmental Management Systems will track progress and provide transparency about our impact on the natural environment. We will continue to develop
and roll out carbon literacy training, educating and deepening our community’s understanding of decarbonisation and empowering everyone to take action.

For the emissions we can influence, our indirect emissions, we will focus our efforts on sustainable supply chains and responsible procurement. We will provide a digital tool to assess the carbon impact of the products we purchase whilst considering how to reduce ‘last mile’ deliveries to our buildings and seek opportunities to consolidate UAL’s own supply chain.

It's important to remember that so much has already worked well at UAL. We are recognised for our sustainable business operations, placed in London’s Top 4 green universities in People & Planet Green League 2019 and among the Top 20 most environmentally sustainable universities in England.

The university’s response to the climate emergency, led by Jeremy Till, has seen staff and students from across the university come together in student-led climate assemblies to discuss and respond to pertinent issues. From this we’ve seen active communities grow across UAL with the Climate & Environment Action Group and Climate Emergency Network both contributing to the creation of initiatives and the dissemination of research, projects and information.

Our sustainability intern programme - a first for UAL - demonstrated the value of working collaboratively and transparently with staff and students on projects across the university and we continue to embed sustainability within the curriculum, although we have further to go here. Our contributions to sustainable design, materials, fashion and buildings continue, with LCF East Bank one of the largest buildings in an urban environment to achieve BREEAM ‘outstanding’. And, most recently, the appointment of a dedicated COP 26 Project Officer will help to ensure we play our part in responding to this important summit. UAL’s plan to become net carbon zero is built on well-evidenced work and achievements from across the university. The work so far lays the foundation for today’s announcement and our future as a university.

In the coming weeks, we will talk about the actions and performance framework which will ensure we achieve these targets. For now, I encourage you to think creatively and innovatively about how we, as a community and as individuals, can create positive change in the world. Please engage with the existing initiatives, projects and groups across UAL. Be sure to join the conversation, share your thoughts and support our pledge to achieve these targets.

Best wishes,

James Purnell, President & Vice-Chancellor