

Environmental Policy

Passed: February 2013

Reviewed: February 2015

Further Review required: February 2019

Owned by: VP, Education.

This policy commits Winchester Student Union to be sustainable; responsible for its use and management of energy and wastage across the Union building and in all its activities, responsible for its impacts on the environment & responsible for encouraging campus wide biodiversity. All equipment will be employed in the most energy efficient manner possible, and all users of the site will be encouraged to be aware of their energy use, to avoid wastage of energy and water and to seek reductions wherever practicable.

Aims

The overriding aim of the policy is to reduce the Union's waste amount through the efficient use of energy.

The environmental benefits of this aim will lead to financial benefits for the Union.

Key factors to consider in order achieving this aim are:

- Raising the awareness to all site users
- Monitoring energy and waste use across the Union
- Clear definition of roles and responsibilities regarding energy management
- A transparent system of regular reporting
- Strive to improve performance and compliance

Commitments

The Environmental Policy commits the Union to take appropriate action in the following areas:

- To reduce pollution arising from energy use, setting targets as appropriate
- To also reduce waste arising from energy use and setting targets as appropriate

- To increase energy efficiency through more carefully regulated use of existing equipment and by investing in energy saving equipment /technologies
- To purchase fuel and energy supplies at the most economic cost
- To raise the awareness to students, staff and site users on energy conservation and waste reduction
- To improve monitoring and recording of energy use across the Union, with separate metering where practicable
- In purchasing policy, to procure equipment with low energy ratings and to be fully compliant with current best practice
- To reduce pollution associated with travel, both to and from the Union and regarding travel undertaken as part of the work of the Union
- To require all users of the site to adhere to the Environmental Policy
- To establish clear roles in respect of energy management and to designate specific responsibilities for monitoring, reporting, action planning and the setting and assessing of targets for energy saving
- To encourage and promote Union-wide involvement in a common energy saving endeavour
- To comply and remain current with national environmental legislation.
- To disseminate and publicise this policy effectively.
- To review and mirror any and all applicable elements of the University's Environmental policy
- To have a positive impact on the biodiversity value of the campus.