

Environmental Policy

Queen Mary University of London (QM) is one of the UK's leading research-focused higher education institutions. As a global university with students originating from over 160 countries, the university recognises its privileged position to contribute towards sustainable development through environmental best practice whilst reducing its contribution to climate change. QM is committed to supporting and enhancing its environmental performance, whilst meeting the needs and expectations of its interested parties in an environmentally sound and sustainable manner through continuous improvement in all its activities.

QM seeks to integrate sustainability throughout campus, curriculum, research, culture, and community. This serves to encourage student and staff engagement in sustainability and incorporates their contributions to a more sustainable future. This policy statement covers all activities across all our UK campuses.

We have established the following commitments and objectives to track our progress towards a more sustainable future.

- Maintain and continuously improve our Environmental Management System in line with ISO 14001:2015 requirements to enhance our environmental performance and protect the environment, incorporating the necessary processes and controls to prevent environmental damage and pollution
- To fulfil and where possible exceed our environmental compliance obligations and the standards to which we subscribe
- Monitor and increase the integration with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across all aspects of our operations and academic programmes
- Increase the accuracy and breadth of QM's carbon footprint calculations with specific focus on scope 3 emissions and implement projects and initiatives to reduce carbon, including delivery of the Heat Decarbonisation Plan published in 2022
- Enhance biodiversity across campus and in the local community to improve air quality and provide good quality habitats for local wildlife
- Utilise QM's procurement powers to support environmental and social justice, ensuring that procurement decisions consider relevant sustainability and Modern Slavery criteria and requirements
- Respond to adverse impacts of climate change through our operations, teaching, research, and collaborations to increase QM's resilience to climatic events and help other communities do the same
- Continuously review and improve energy and water efficiency and decarbonisation measures across our campuses as well as exploring all relevant sources of renewable energy generation
- Continue to integrate the waste hierarchy into our waste management processes, exploring ways to adopt circular economy models, maximise segregation of recyclable and organic waste streams generated across our campuses, maintain a zero to landfill policy for non-hazardous waste, as well as ensure adequate segregation and treatment of hazardous waste
- Develop a Sustainable Travel Plan that promotes active and sustainable travel for staff and students
- Work with Projects teams to incorporate sustainability considerations into the design and construction of buildings and interiors, including refurbishments

QM intends to develop and implement an overarching Sustainability Strategy for the coming 5+ years and provides the following 4 objectives to be achieved in the 2023/24 academic year, against 2022/23 performance.

Waste:	Energy:	Greenhouse gases from Energy:	Water:
We aim to reduce our total waste by 10%	We aim to reduce our energy consumption by 8%.	We aim to reduce our carbon dioxide equivalent emissions from energy by 5%	We aim to reduce our total water consumption by 4%.

Our Environmental Policy was developed under the oversight of our Sustainability Committee (with representation from the academic, professional and the students' services), and approved by our Senior Executive Team (SET). We will continue to report our progress against this policy via our governance structure.



Dr Philippa Lloyd
VP Policy and Strategic Partnerships (Chair Sustainability Committee)



Professor Colin Bailey CBE
President and Principal



Scan here for
more information