



University of St Andrews
Sustainable Development Strategy
2005 to 2009

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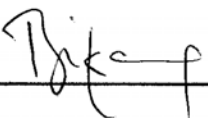
PREFACE

The Sustainable Development Strategy represents a commitment from the University to make improvements across a range of environmental impacts that also carry with them economic and social implications. For instance, the consumption of energy and water not only has environmental implications but the economic impact of electricity, gas and water use is increasing every year. This carries with it a social dimension of awareness by staff and students that there is a 'cost' for our environment. The University's ongoing growth and development needs to be managed in a sustainable way and this means that the Environment Strategy that was developed in December 2003 has naturally evolved into a Sustainable Development Strategy.

Sustainability issues covered within this strategy include a range of issues such as the way the University constructs, maintains and refurbishes its built environment. The Strategy also addresses the emissions from energy and water consumption, the generation of waste as well as the travel patterns of staff and students. It also includes the training given to and awareness of our staff and students, the University's relationship with the town of St Andrews and stakeholders in terms of sustainable development.

Changing the way we do things will not happen overnight. To achieve these changes will take time, and significant engagement is key. As an institution that is renowned worldwide for excellence in teaching and research, the University also aims to be at the forefront in demonstrating working practices that integrate environmental, social and economic issues. Achieving sustainable development rests with all of us. Each of us has a contribution to make, and the consequence will be a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable environment for everyone in St Andrews.

Signature:



Brian A. Lang, Principal of the University of St Andrews

Date:

10.1.06

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1 INTRODUCTION

Sustainable Development is the efficient and effective use of resources (environmental, economic and social) in a long term framework.

This means:

- A long term vision for sustainable development
- A series of sustainability principles that form the basis for a policy framework
- Mechanisms that are necessary for implementation
- Objectives and targets to achieve sustainable development
- Monitoring and reporting mechanisms

The Sustainable Development Strategy describes the commitments made by the University of St Andrews during the period 2005/6 – 2008/9, referring to policy commitments in the areas of environmental impact and legislation, society and business and finance. In addition to this, objectives have been set, each with related targets that are reviewed annually. Some of these targets are quantitative in nature and require delivery of improvement if they are to be successfully met.

2 PURPOSE

The purpose of the Strategy is to reduce the level of impact on the environment and to address related economic and social aspects. The strategy also takes account of the need to influence what we do on a day-to-day basis, and incorporate the principles of sustainable development into the longer-term plans of the University.

3 SCOPE

The Sustainable Development Strategy refers to the activities, products and services relating to the University of St Andrews. Since December 2003, the Strategy concentrated on integrating the environmental principles and commitments within the University's governance processes, establishing information systems in order that performance can be assessed, and improving the controls and procedures for improved efficiency and reduced environmental impact across the University. This revised strategy recognises the previous work carried out and adds to it the need to focus on the economic and social aspects of the University's operations and long term development plans.

The Sustainable Development Strategy includes clear policy commitments, specific long term objectives and targets that are reviewed annually.

4 GOVERNANCE

Environment and sustainability aspects are currently managed by a number of working groups (Figure 1) co-ordinated by the Estates Environment Team. The Environment Task Group is the main body responsible for delivery of strategy commitments. Under this group, sit other working groups which are formed to address specific issues as they arise. Further working groups can be developed as required.

Each group is chaired by a senior manager of the University and the Groups include representatives from a range of departments; the Principal's Office, Estates, Residential Business Services, Schools, Student Support Services, Student Association, Finance, Environment, Health & Safety Services, Human Resources, Development and Library and Information Services.

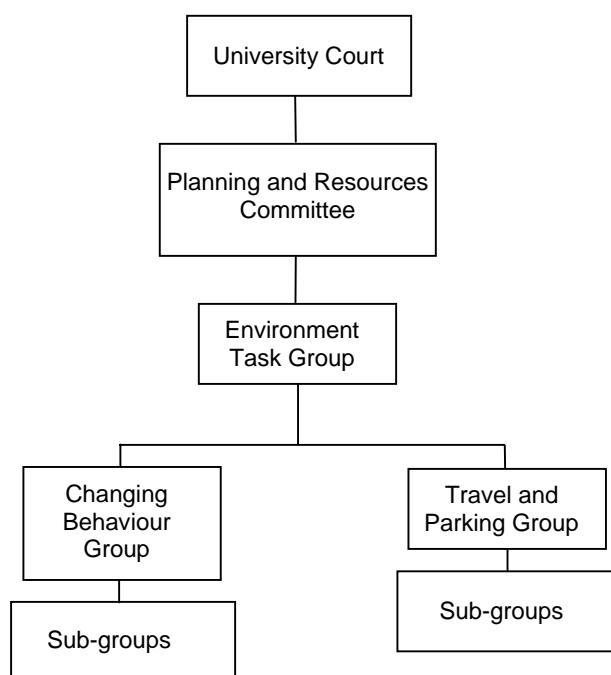


Figure 1 – University of St Andrews Environment and Sustainability Governance Groups

4.1 Environment Task Group

The Environment Task Group supports and advises the University Court on environment-related issues, enabling the University to take a pro-active approach. The Deputy Principal leads the Environment Task Group, which reports annually to Court. The Group is coordinated and managed by the Environment and Energy Manager.

The Environment Task Group is constituted as follows:

Estates	(2 representatives)	Director & Environment and Energy Manager
Finance	(1 representative)	Quaestor & Factor/Nominee
Residential and Business Services	(1 representative)	Head of Support Services
Environmental Health and Safety Services	(1 representative)	Director/Nominee
Research and Teaching	(4 representatives)	Biology /Geography/ Economics/ Chemistry
Human Resources	(1 representative)	Director/Nominee
Student Support Services	(1 representative)	Director/Nominee
Development	(1 representative)	Director/Nominee
Student Association	(1 representative)	President/Environment & Ethics Officer

Each School and Unit has a designated Environment Representative as a point of contact for the Environment Task Group to enable good communication and information dissemination.

4.2 Travel and Parking Group

The Travel and Parking Group develops and implements initiatives to minimise the impact of transport and to improve travel opportunities for staff and students.

4.3 Changing Behaviour Group

The Changing Behaviour Group promotes environmental initiatives and generates new ideas to improve the awareness of staff, students and the local community on environment and sustainability issues.

4.4 Resource Use and Environmental Management

Resource use and environmental management are operational issues for Estates and progress made in these areas is reported to the Environment Task Group.

4.5 Research and Teaching

Sustainability aspects of research and teaching are operational issues for the Academic community and progress is reported to the Environment Task Group.

5 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

The sustainability policy for the university of St Andrews has been reviewed and is attached at Appendix A.

6 OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

The University of St Andrews is committed to continuing to understand and improve its performance with respect to sustainable development. The University works within the UK Government's framework policy approach, which entails meeting four objectives at the same time:

- Social progress that recognises the needs of everyone
- Effective protection of the environment
- Prudent use of natural resources
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment

Since the initial set of 40 objectives were developed in the Environment Strategy of December 2003, these have been refined into 7 key objective areas. The objectives act as high-level areas of focus that will be achieved using a set of annually reviewed targets. Ultimately the objectives and targets will become more quantitative and therefore increasingly more performance based in order to achieve more effective and transparent progress. The objectives for 2005 to 2009 are outlined below:

Objective 1 - Environment Management and Compliance

To prevent pollution and ensure 100% compliance with relevant environment legislation now and in the future.

Objective 2 - Resource Use

To ensure prudent use of natural resources.

Objective 3 - Utilities Management

To develop and implement best practice utilities management to control cost and consumption of specific natural resources.

Objective 4 - Waste Management

To minimise the production of waste from the University and ensure that the maximum amount is reused and recycled.

Objective 5 - Travel and Transport

To develop solutions that reduce travel and transport impacts generated by the University.

Objective 6 - Changing Behaviour

To change behaviour of staff and students by achieving effective internal communication of environment and sustainability issues.

Objective 7 – Research and Teaching

To teach and research at an international level on sustainability issues.

7 TRACKING AND REPORTING PERFORMANCE

Progress made and performance against targets will be reported at each Environment Task Group meeting. An annual report of performance will approved by the Environment Task Group and

presented at the Planning and Resources Committee and then to Court in December of each year. It is intended that this report will be published and made available to internal and external stakeholders in the form of an annual Sustainability Report. A set of sustainability indicators will be created to enable tracking of long-term trends and progress made against the sustainability objectives.

APPENDIX A

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS SUSTAINABILITY POLICY STATEMENT



Our Vision

To be recognised locally and internationally as a world-class institution that leads by example, fully integrating sustainable development into all that we do.

Our Sustainability Policy

The University of St Andrews is Scotland's First University, providing facilities and services for teaching and research to individuals from across the world. As a leader in these areas, the University has a significant role to play in shaping the future both locally and globally through improvements in sustainability stewardship.

The University of St Andrews is unique, both historically and geographically, boasting a spectacular environment, culture and heritage. We all have a responsibility to ensure that the uniqueness and attractiveness that entice individuals to live, work and study here is retained for generations to come. In order to achieve this, the University of St Andrews will lead by example, improving continually upon its performance.

The University of St Andrews is committed to:

Environmental Responsibility

- *Influencing and changing behaviours through supporting new initiatives, marketing, and the use of economic and other types of incentives and disincentives;*
- *Reducing resource use, pollution and atmospheric emissions through a variety of incentives and innovative approaches to improve purchasing, reuse and recycling, and decreasing the amount of materials sent directly to landfill;*
- *Reducing atmospheric pollution and resource use by increasing the amount of renewable energy and alternative fuel types used by the University, improving the purchasing processes, improving energy management and efficiency, and increasing awareness and responsibility;*
- *Reducing atmospheric pollution and resource use, and improving the local environment, through encouraging more sustainable travel alternatives to, from and between University sites;*
- *Preventing pollution through the continual assessment, planning, implementation, operation, review and revision of internal procedures for all Schools and Units;*

Social Responsibility

- *Educating students and staff on environmental and related ethical issues;*
- *Working in partnership with the people of Fife, the local authority and other organisations to improve the local and wider environment;*
- *Fostering the generation of new ideas and approaches through encouraging staff participation and developing opportunities for student dissertation projects with environmental and related ethical perspectives;*
- *Continuing to work with other Universities and Colleges to develop and integrate the principles of sustainable development within the education sector;*

Business, Financial and Legal Responsibility

- *Integrating commitments to environmental and related social responsibility within the core University Strategy;*
- *Maintaining an Environment Task Group led by the Deputy Principal;*
- *Providing the necessary human and financial resources to allow for the implementation of these policy commitments;*
- *Minimising the cost associated with the use of resources and the generation of solid and liquid waste*
- *Integrating commitments to environmental and related social responsibility into the Organisational Objectives, focusing on improved environmental management and sustainable purchasing for the whole University;*
- *Integrating environmental and energy management further within the Estate Strategy and across the University with particular focus on waste/resource use, energy and travel;*
- *Contributing to the development and review of environmental legislation and government policy;*
- *Complying with all environmental legislation, regulatory and other requirements including those set by the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council and other Funding Bodies;*
- *Insisting suppliers and contractors take on board environmental and related social responsibility;*
- *Consideration will be given to financial rewards to Schools and Units for improved performance in the areas of energy, water and waste;*
- *Improving continually upon the University's performance and commitments;*
- *Encouraging the debate of key issues within the University community.*

Signed by the Principal of the University of St Andrews:

Date: 10.1.06

This policy statement is available to all parties including the public and will be reviewed annually