



Sustainability Position Statement

Introduction

This Position Statement supports the delivery of the University's Strategy 2030 by providing a clear framework for embedding sustainability and corporate social responsibility. It ensures that decisions about the institution's services are grounded in the ethos of sustainability, ethical responsibility, stakeholder accountability, and long-term institutional and societal benefit.

The statement encapsulates Lincoln Bishop's longevity as an institution originally founded in 1862, and the stewardship required to ensure that in meeting the needs of the university community today we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their needs too. In order to protect and conserve natural resources, reduce pollution, and mitigate the impacts of climate change, the University will embed climate action into its curriculum and operations. In support of the Global Goals (United Nations, 2015) and as one of the most powerful and proven ways to advance sustainable development, the University will champion inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Strategic Context

Guided by our values, anchored by our mission and compelled by our vision, the University recognises its responsibility to balance environmental, social, and economic impacts whilst delivering meaningful benefit to our communities and region. We align our activity with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a deliberate and focused emphasis on SDG 4: Quality Education, recognising this as the area where we can achieve the greatest and most sustained impact.

Our Commitments

- **Reducing Environmental Impact**

The University is committed to taking all reasonable steps within our current estate and operations to reduce carbon emissions through to 2030, achieved through improving energy efficiency across buildings and infrastructure; transitioning, where feasible, to lower-carbon energy sources; and embedding sustainability into estates planning, maintenance, and procurement decisions. Alongside this, we will take an active and structured approach to understanding our Scope 3 emissions, including those arising from supply chains, travel, and procurement.



- **Embedding Climate Literacy Within the Curriculum**

We will embed climate literacy and sustainability principles across the curriculum, ensuring learners are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and values to navigate and respond to environmental challenges. This includes the integration of environmental awareness and responsibility within the teaching and learning portfolio, and encouraging interdisciplinary approaches to sustainability education, including via the integration of a core graduate attribute module on sustainability within our undergraduate portfolio.

- **Encouraging Behavioural Change Across the University Community**

Recognising the importance of collective behavioural change in reducing environmental impact we will promote practical, local actions, raise awareness to encourage participation and foster a shared culture of responsibility among staff and students around sustainability issues on campus and in the wider community.

- **Championing Inclusive and Equitable Education**

In prioritising Sustainable Development Goal 4 as our principal contribution to sustainable development, the university will make a demonstrable contribution to sustainability across social, environmental and economic dimensions by:

- Promoting inclusive access through admissions policies and outreach activity, to support lifelong upskilling and reskilling;
- Advocating flexible, lifelong learning pathways, on campus, online, with partners and through employers, to include engagement with the Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE);
- Strengthening information, advice and guidance to support informed learner choices, to engage under-represented learners;
- Driving social mobility and widening participation, to support community and regional development.

- **External Engagement and Sector Participation**

We will actively demonstrate and strengthen our commitment to sustainability through external engagement and sector collaboration, to include:

- Membership of relevant bodies such as the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC)
- Participation in recognised frameworks and awards, including the Green Gown Awards
- Collaboration with partners to share best practice and enhance impact

Implementation and Review

This Position Statement will guide institutional decision-making and practice. Delivery will be supported through:

- Integration into planning and governance processes
- Defined measures to monitor progress
- Ongoing stakeholder engagement
- Regular review in line with Strategy 2030