

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 from over 170 different nationalities studying with us, the university recognises its privileged position to contribute towards sustainable development through the positive impact made through our education, research and engagement. QM also recognises that its activities and operations can have a significant impact on the environment and seeks to implement measures and controls to mitigate any potential negative impacts.

This policy statement covers all activities across our UK campuses, including those carried out by contractors.

We have established the following commitments:

- 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.
- 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 our operations, research and education 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.
- Where possible, enhance biodiversity across the various campuses to provide good quality habitats for local wildlife and amenity spaces for students, staff and the local community, as well as contribute to carbon sequestration.
- Review the Sustainable Procurement Policy and supporting procedures to utilise QM's market leverage to promote environmental and social justice, ensuring that QM's procurement decisions consider relevant sustainability, social value 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 deliver decarbonisation measures across our campuses as well as explore the installation of onsite renewables at the right stages of construction and refurbishment projects.
- 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 Sustainable Travel Guidance 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 is currently working to the 2023/24 Sustainability Action Plan while we develop an overarching Sustainability Action Plan for the coming 3+ years to sit alongside the plans to deliver our Strategy 2030.

Our Environmental Policy has been developed under the oversight of the Sustainability Committee and approved by our Senior Executive Team (SET). We will continue to report our progress against this policy via our governance structure.

Approved by:



Dr Philippa Lloyd
VP Policy and Strategic Partnerships (Chair of the Sustainability Committee)
3rd May 2024



Please visit our Sustainability website for more information.

