SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Yeovil College University Centre | Yeovil College

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

Yeovil College is committed to sustainability and recognises that it can contribute towards conservation and protection of the environment. Sustainability is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs.

This policy provides a management framework for continual environmental improvement allowing for the adoption of new ideas and innovation.

It sets responsibilities and accountabilities with respect to the environment and empowers members of the college community to manage environmental issues.

SCOPE

The policy applies to everyone in the Yeovil College Community.

RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY

College Strategic Aims and Operating plans target improvement including sustainability.

The Head of Estates and Facilities will determine key projects and target impacts annually through consultation with stakeholders and interested parties. Projects and action plans will be monitored by the Estates and Facilities Department and will be reported through the Health & Safety Committee to the Governing Body.

It is a requirement within the ESFA funding rules that a sustainability policy is in place and an annual report on activities.

Principles

Promotion
1. By raising the awareness for both students and staff through the curriculum and tutorial schemes of work and college wide activities and by the use of focused themes weeks to highlight the responsibility of everyone eg Climate Week, Fair Trade Fortnight.
2. Improve physical and mental well-being.
3. Reduce health inequalities by supporting: healthy, balanced lifestyles; healthy homes and workplaces; clean, safe and green environments; and supportive and inclusive community.

Reduce our carbon footprint
4. Be resource wise.
5. Cut consumption of resources and adopt high energy, water and resource efficiency at home and at work; maximise the use of local, renewable energy; minimise waste and prevent pollution
6. Reduce high carbon travel.

Sustainable local transport

7. Encourage the use of public or sustainable transport for all staff and students eg walking and cycling, cycle to work scheme for staff, cycle racks and shower/locker facilities, limited parking facilities, encourage car sharing, working from home.
8. Encourage sustainable transport links to rural areas where student numbers support the provision of dedicated bus services.

Enhance the local environment

9. Use local and ethical goods and services.
10. Use locally and ethically sourced goods and services – and strengthen local/regional supply chains – to boost our local economies.
11. Enhance and celebrate local distinctiveness & diversity.
12. Protect and enhance our natural resources and biodiversity, culture and heritage.
13. Consult with appropriate local authority representatives when in the planning stage of a new building or development eg, planning officer, landscaping officer, tree officer.
14. Implement a locally appropriate biodiversity programme for all new builds eg tree planting, bird boxes.

Key Aims

1. CO_2 - Reduce the carbon dioxide (and other greenhouse gas) intensity of the college's operations.
2. Monitor the use of energy and water and implement energy and water efficiency action plans.
3. Manage the estate to enhance wildlife habitats through an Ecological Management Plan.
4. Identify Sustainability initiatives termly.
5. Work to identify Sustainability initiatives at least termly.
6. Set and meet annual targets to reduce energy consumption.
7. Ensure all waste produced is minimized and adopt a 'zero to landfill' 'policy' within the College's operations.
8. Review all curriculum areas to ensure the principles of sustainability are embedded in teaching programmes and reinforced in teaching practices.
9. Choose eco/lean burn engines with reduced environmental impacts when leasing or purchasing vehicles.
10. Adopt bio friendly cleaning products and reduce the use of plastic bin liners.
11. Actively promote a Green Travel strategy, encouraging cycling, walking, car sharing and the use of public transport.
12. Work with others where possible to continue to bring down the cost of public transport for students.
13. Reduce the number of toner cartridges and fluorescent light tubes used including the installation of LED lighting.
14. Update the sustainability web page every term.
15. Consider ways to reduce travel between campuses and Out-Centres.
16. Raise awareness of green issues on campus and in the wider local community.
17. Ensure any new building works meet BREEAM Very Good as a minimum and where cost effective achieve Excellent.
18. Embed sustainability as a key determinant in decisions on the selection of suppliers, services and products.

Development and Procurement

1. Minimise the life cycle environmental impact of new building and other developments.
2. Promote sustainability in maintenance practices and establish guidelines for construction and refurbishment projects.
3. Assess the lifecycle impact of products purchased by the college.

RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES, DOCUMENTS, DEFINITIONS

Health and Wellbeing Policy
Drugs, Alcohol and Substance Misuse Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
Financial Regulations
Health & Safety Policy
Smokefree Policy
Subcontracting Supply Chain Fees and Charges Policy
Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Procedure
Cycle to Work Scheme Procedure

Author	Position	Approved by SMT	Approval date	Review date
Emma Cox	VP Finance & Resources	Signed:	15.05.18	May 2020

Document Control – Revision History (Policies only)

Author/Owner	Summary of Changes	Date	Date last reviewed by SED	Recommend to SED Y/N
Emma Cox	Minor amendments to reflect additional reporting.	27.02.18	15.06.16	N

Initial Equality Impact Screening

Have you consulted on this policy?   No
Details: this is our initial policy statement and there will be further consultation as the plan is developed.

What evidence has been used for this assessment?

Could a particular group be affected differently in either a negative or positive way? Indicate Y where applicable

Group	Negative impact	Positive impact	Evidence
Age			
Disability			
Gender (incl. Transgender)			
Race (incl. Gypsy &Traveller)			
Religion or belief			
Sex			
Sexual orientation			
Marriage & civil partnership			
Pregnancy & maternity			
Other groups (see guidance)			

Please give details:

If any negative impacts are identified, are there any related polices, services, strategies, procedures or functions that need to be assessed alongside this screening? If yes, please detail below:

Should the policy proceed to a full Equality Impact Assessment? No
If no, please give reasons: no negative impacts identified

Declaration
We are satisfied that an initial screening has been carried out on this policy and a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

We understand that the Equality Impact Assessment is required by the College and that we take responsibility for the completion and quality of this assessment

Completed by Author: Emma Cox   Position: VP Finance & Resources   Date: 17.05.16

Reviewed by Safeguarding, Equality & Diversity Group: Date: 15.06.16

Comments from Safeguarding, Equality & Diversity Group Review: