

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

September 2024

As one of the UK's largest universities, with 35,680* students and 3,957* staff across 6 campuses, Nottingham Trent University (NTU) acknowledges that its activities will impact the environment at both local, national and global levels. As an environmentally responsible institution, we promote sustainability awareness and education, in accordance with our [University, reimagined strategy](#). Fully endorsed by the University Executive Team (UET), these commitments build on our current policies, procedures, and practices, seeking to engage all colleagues students and wider stakeholders on environmental management and to embed sustainability principles into all NTU activities.

NTU commits to:

- Developing and embedding environmental awareness within our colleagues and students, encouraging university-wide participation in sustainability-focused activities, training and programmes.
- Promoting Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for all students via a formal curriculum-based approach, alongside informal learning activities and initiatives.
- Protecting the environment by taking direct responsibility for the environmental impacts associated with all activities and operations, including pollution and nuisance, through a life cycle perspective in pursuance of high standards of environmental management across the NTU estate.
- Minimising negative environmental impacts, maximising environmental opportunities, and enhancing environmental performance, including the maintenance of our environmental management system (EMS), which is continually reviewed and improved, and helps NTU to fulfil its compliance obligations.
- [Setting SMART environmental objectives and targets](#) and reporting performance against these annually on the NTU website.
- Communicating the Environmental Policy to all interested parties, including colleagues, students, and partners.
- Achieving Net Zero Carbon (NZC) by 2040 across all three emission scopes, as detailed in the [NZC Roadmap](#), through promoting a Zero Carbon Culture across the NTU community, delivering carbon reduction projects through NZC workstreams, and reporting on progress annually on the NTU website.
- Achieving BREEAM Excellent for all new builds and SKA Rating for building refurbishments where applicable**.
- Optimising energy use by reducing wastage and maximising efficient, low carbon, and renewable energy technologies across the NTU estate.
- Minimising water use by reducing wastage and optimising the use of water saving and harvesting measures across the NTU estate.
- Conserving and enhancing biodiversity both within the existing NTU estate and with any new developments, including the appropriate management of protected and invasive species, and promoting and pursuing Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) opportunities.
- Minimising waste generated through effective resource management, focusing on avoidance, reduction, reuse and recycling, in line with the waste hierarchy, legal duty of care, and circularity principles.
- Promoting and enhancing sustainable procurement by engaging with suppliers and contractors so that they reflect NTU's sustainability ethos, align with NTU's commitments, minimise the environmental risks and maximise the sustainability opportunities pertaining their supply/service provision.
- Developing and implementing proactive travel and transport plans to reduce colleague and students' carbon emissions and wider associated environmental impacts, promoting and rewarding sustainable travel options.
- Enhancing NTU's place in the community, proactively collaborating with external organisations to promote positive environmental outcomes and encouraging sustainability best practice to be applied.
- Planning appropriately and providing the necessary resources for the above to be achieved.

We appreciate that colleague and student education, engagement and ultimately endorsement of the Environmental Policy, are key to its success. This Policy provides our continued focus to create a sense of ownership and responsibility to protect and enhance the environment, on and beyond our campuses.

Signed:



Professor Edward Peck, Vice-Chancellor

*FTE at the time of publication.

** Any deviations from this require express approval of the Chief Operating Officer and Registrar.