

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Falmouth University is committed to reducing its environmental impact and promoting sustainability in all aspects of university life. This policy sets out the framework for the delivery of the University's environmental sustainability commitment which is broken down into the three key themes of: Learning & Teaching, Research & Knowledge Exchange, and Physical Estate & Operations.

ORGANISATION: FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY

AUDIENCE: STAFF AND STUDENTS

POLICY OWNED BY: UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE BOARD

REQUIRED CONSULTEES: UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY: UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE BOARD

DATE APPROVED: 23 FEBRUARY 2026

REVIEW DATE: 23 FEBRUARY 2029

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 Falmouth University is committed to reducing its environmental impact and promoting sustainability in all aspects of university life. This policy sets out the framework for the delivery of the University's [Environmental Sustainability Commitment](#) which is broken down into the three key themes of: Learning & Teaching, Research & Knowledge Exchange, and Physical Estate & Operations. This document should be read alongside the Commitment.
- 1.2 The Environmental Sustainability Commitment is underpinned by the University's [Mission, Visions and Values](#), and implemented through this policy and a supporting strategic action plan, which includes relevant metrics and SMART targets. Our approach is informed by our values (Creative, Achieve, Respectful, Sharing) and by our unique location in Cornwall.

2 SCOPE

- 2.1 This policy is applicable to all staff directly employed by, and all students currently studying at Falmouth University. This policy will additionally be indirectly applicable to staff at FX Plus and The Student's Union

3 KEY RELATED INFORMATION

Published on our [Environmental Sustainability webpage](#):

- a) This policy must be read alongside the [Environmental Sustainability Commitment](#)
- b) Environmental Sustainability Strategic Action Plan, Metrics and Targets
- c) Environmental Sustainability Annual Reports

4 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 All members of the University community are expected to be mindful of the impact of their activities on the environment and consider ways to promote and enable positive, values-led change.
- 4.2 'All Falmouth University staff are expected to have regard for the impact their personal and professional behaviour has on the University, colleagues, students, customers, the environment and the local community¹. Faculties, departments and service areas must ensure that their activities align with the University's [Environmental Sustainability Commitment](#).
- 4.3 The Board of Governors is collectively responsible for 'promoting a culture which supports inclusivity, diversity and sustainability across the University²', and is the approving authority for the [Environmental Sustainability Commitment](#) and targets as well as the public annual environmental sustainability report.
- 4.4 University Executive Board is collectively responsible for the delivery of the [Environmental Sustainability Commitment](#) and targets approved by the Board of Governors, as well as the development and review of this policy.

¹ Falmouth University Staff Code of Conduct

² Statement of Primary Responsibilities of the Falmouth University Board of Governors

- 4.5 Each theme (Learning & Teaching, Research & Knowledge Exchange, and Physical Estate & Operations) has a dedicated senior strategic lead, who is responsible for leading the delivery of the commitment and targets for their specialist theme, engaging with relevant stakeholders (internal and external, as appropriate) to accelerate progress.

5 GOVERNANCE

- 5.1 The [Environmental Sustainability Commitment](#) is underpinned by a strategic action plan, with supporting metrics and smart targets, and with dedicated governance oversight of environmental sustainability performance and progress against targets.
- 5.2 University Executive Board has established an Environmental Sustainability Steering Group to steer, measure, constructively challenge, monitor and report on progress to University Executive Board and the Board of Governors.
- 5.3 The Membership of the Environmental Sustainability Steering Group encompasses the executive leads for each commitment theme, as well as relevant specialist staff that support and enable progress and stakeholder engagement.
- 5.4 Compliance with legal and other environmental requirements relevant to the University's activities is monitored via our Corporate Compliance risk register, which is regularly reviewed by University Executive Board, Audit & Risk Committee and the Board of Governors as part of a well-established institutional risk review cycle.
- 5.5 An environmental sustainability impact assessment is embedded alongside social and other considerations into our governance templates, ensuring that environmental sustainability is consistently considered within decision-making processes.

6 REPORTING

- 6.1 Progress is reported on a biannual basis to University Executive Board via the Environmental Sustainability Steering Group.
- 6.2 Progress is reported to Academic Board, University Executive Board and the Board of Governors as well as internal and external stakeholders via our annual Environmental Sustainability report, which is available publicly via our [Environmental Sustainability website](#). We will be open about our progress, communicating with our community clearly and transparently.

7 COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- 7.1 The policy and commitments are promoted to staff, students and key stakeholders who are appropriately engaged to foster shared ownership across the University and its campus partners.
- 7.2 Annual reports and noteworthy developments are published and promoted on our [Environmental Sustainability website](#), along with a range of supporting policies.

8 CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the Environmental Sustainability Team [here](#).