

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY**

### **1.0 Purpose:**

New College Stamford recognises that its activities have the potential for both positive and negative impacts upon the environment at local, national and global levels, and believes that environmental sustainability is the foundation to wider economic and social sustainability as well as being an integral part of good institutional practice. The College acknowledges its responsibility for environmental protection and aims to contribute to the national commitment to sustainable development. It will seek to achieve continual improvement in how it measures and responds to its environmental impacts and will formulate a strategy and action plan with targets to structure this response.

New College Stamford's Environmental and Sustainability Strategy is a framework for actions that include:

- 1) Devise and implement strategies to reduce environmental impact and better management of resources which will include:
  - a) Corporate Action
  - b) Energy Management
  - c) Waste Management
  - d) Water Management
  - e) Sustainable Purchasing
  - f) Transport
  - g) Biodiversity
  - h) Community Involvement
- 2) Provide necessary training and awareness for staff and students.
- 3) Include the development of an externally verified Environmental Management System to provide a formalised structure for management and review of environmental issues at New College Stamford.

The Environmental and Sustainability Policy will be communicated to all staff and students and to all contractors' and suppliers working on behalf of the College. Hard copies are available on request but in line with environmental best practice this policy will be primarily distributed electronically on the Staff Intranet and on the college website [www.stamford.ac.uk](http://www.stamford.ac.uk)

The objectives and targets of this strategy are as follows:

## **2.1. Energy Management**

### **2.1.2 Objective**

To provide a framework for reducing the environmental impact and costs arising from energy use in buildings. This will be achieved through the better management of resources, as well as meeting and where possible exceeding the requirements of legislation.

### **2.1.3 Targets**

Improve efficiency of meter reading systems to comply with new regulations (European Energy Performance of Buildings and DEC; Carbon Reduction Commitment CRC) and develop a more reliable monitoring of energy consumptions.

Maintain our DECC ratings.

### **2.1.4 Actions**

Actions will fall into a number of areas including awareness raising, good housekeeping, following good practice, monitoring and targeting.

Actions will include switch it off campaigns, ensuring heating and cooling of the building stock is operating efficiently, investment in energy saving techniques including lighting and heating controls, insulation. Reviewing the operation of heating and cooling to ensure we meet the needs of users.

## **2.2.1 Waste Management**

### **2.2.2 Objective:**

To reduce the amount of waste produced by the college, to manage waste according to best practice; to ensure that waste is considered a resource by staff and students and managed accordingly; to do this in the most cost – effective manner possible,. Whilst providing a service consistent with good practice.

### **2.2.3 Targets:**

- 1) To cut waste to landfill by increasing re-use, recycling and resource recovery

### **2.2.4 Actions**

Work will continue on diverting waste from the refuse stream to either reuse or recycling streams. The college now recycles paper, cardboard, glass and tins, confidential waste is shredded and recycled collected. Furniture is reused. The centralisation of waste collection will be investigated as this will help reduce disposal costs, reduce fire risk and release space on the campus. It will also provide closer control of waste streams and support awareness activities. Organic waste is a major component of the College's waste stream

and a review of options will be undertaken to see how this can be diverted to either composting or anaerobic digestion.

### **2.3.1 Water Management**

#### **2.3.2 Objective:**

To reduce the environmental impact and costs arising from water use in buildings through the better management of resources, meeting the requirements of legislation.

#### **2.3.3 Target:**

To reduce water consumption and to do this cost neutrally or better within period.

#### **2.3.4 Actions:**

Key actions will be focussing on water saving devices for domestic fittings like showers, toilets and taps. Increased campaigns to encourage users to save water.

### **2.4.1 Sustainable Purchasing**

#### **2.4.2 Objective:**

To carry out our purchasing activities in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. To ensure that sustainable purchasing activity is consistent with best purchasing practice.

#### **Targets:**

To implement sustainable procurement policy

#### **Actions**

The actions will include whole life cost assessments, risk analysis of products in terms of environmental management, engagement with suppliers on their environmental and social impacts relating to their products and services, opportunities to write in waste reduction to product supply contracts and working with departments to identify how they might have synergies that will save them money and reduce environmental impact e.g. Pooling of product resources.

### **2.5.1 Transport**

#### **2.5.2 Objectives:**

To maintain staff and student travel plans consistent with best practice and business needs.

#### **2.5.3 Targets:**

Develop a framework to support sustainable modes of transport to work and study at the college by staff and students (by walking, cycling, public transport and car sharing).

Reduce the percentage of single occupancy car journeys made to the college by staff and students.

#### **2.5.4 Actions**

Transport activity is key to the medium term development of the college. Continued activity in this area includes increased promotion of the facilities already present for cycling and walking, investigation of salary sacrifice schemes for cycle to work scheme, and an internet car sharing database through the VLE.

### **2.6.1 Biodiversity**

#### **2.6.2 Objective**

To ensure maintenance of current levels of biodiversity. To provide for the conservation of native plants, animals, habitat and ecological processes within the College grounds.

To ensure that future development and planning should, at an early stage, be aware of existing ecologies and habitats and recognise legally enforced limitations to construction.

To support the development of buildings which introduce and increase existing levels of biodiversity (where possible as part of a stepping stone policy) and sit within a pleasantly landscaped natural environment.

#### **2.6.3 Targets**

To monitor the vegetation surrounding the college.

#### **2.6.4 Actions**

The actions include surveys and monitoring and guidance if required.

### **2.7.1 Communications**

#### **2.7.2 Objectives:**

Communicate both internally and externally about the College environmental performance

Provide training and awareness for staff and students

#### **2.7.3 Targets:**

Develop and review an communication action plan for each academic year.  
Report on progress at the end of each academic year.

Produce an annual sustainability report covering all aspects of the sustainability strategy.

#### **2.7.4 Actions:**

Actions will include all awareness campaigns and specific training for particular groups, like hazardous waste training for technicians.

### **2.8.1 Curriculum**

#### **2.8.2 Objectives:**

To seek opportunities to align curriculum activities with sustainability throughout the department areas of the college.

#### **2.8.3 Targets:**

To annually monitor sustainability activity starting.

#### **2.8.4 Actions**

These will focus on identifying what activities are currently being undertaken within the college on sustainability and identifying activities that the College want to take forward.

### **2.9.1 Involvement**

#### **2.9.2 Objectives:**

Alongside raising awareness of the environmental activities that the college is involved in, it should be recognised that everybody has a responsibility for the environment, and the various stakeholders should be involved in and be made aware of the various initiatives across the college.

#### **2.9.2 Targets:**

Increase student involvement in environmental activities throughout the college in enrichment or voluntary capacity as well as formal education delivered through curriculum areas.

#### **2.9.3 Actions:**

Action for this area includes student involvement. Formation of an Environmental Group run by the Students Union to represent the learner voice and decision-making processes on behalf of the students, in liaison with the College's Student Engagement & Liaison Officers, has been established. Activities include: Eco Slogan '*Recycling today for a better tomorrow*' devised by students as they work towards a Green Award, posters for the plasma screens, recycling of plastics project and across college monthly litter picks in the local community initiative.

The college to become involved in education initiatives with the local schools in the area.

## **2.10.1 Corporate Action**

### **2.10.2 Objectives:**

To guarantee a solid framework of action to inform the decision making process, senior management commitment needs to be present. Embedding sustainability into management is of primary importance to give the strategy a start.

Implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMS) to provide a mechanism for managing the environmental impact of the college activities, its legislative compliance obligations and delivering continual environmental improvement.

### **2.10.3 Targets:**

Embed sustainability into policies and procedures in every department and curriculum area in compliance with the environment strategy

Enhance college image in its commitment for sustainability

Include sustainability strategy in starter packs for new staff and students

Sourcing opportunities for funding to enhance the sustainability of the college

To implement a fully operational, externally verified environmental management system across the entire college.

### **2.10.4 Actions:**

The actions in this section are to maintain our continual improvement in alignment with sustainable development.

Reviewing environmental aspects and impacts, producing procedures and protocols to address these impacts, maintaining an environmental legislation registers and ensuring compliance with relevant legislation, ensuring staff are aware of their legislative responsibilities and joining up actions in other areas to assist with the ethos of continual improvement.

## Summary Action Plan

	Objective	Target	Action
<b>2.1.1 Energy Management</b>	To provide a framework for reducing the environmental impact and costs arising from energy use in buildings. This will be achieved through the better management of resources, as well as meeting and where possible exceeding the requirements of legislation. To undertake this in the most cost effective manner possible, whilst providing an environment consistent with good practice.	<p>Improve efficiency of meter reading systems to comply with new regulations (European Energy Performance of Buildings and DEC; Carbon Reduction Commitment CRC)</p> <p>Develop monitoring of energy consumptions.</p> <p>Maintain our DECC ratings</p>	<p>Investment in heating and lighting controls</p> <p>Raising awareness among staff and students about the need to switch off appliances through staff newsletters and Student Forums</p>
<b>2.2.1 Waste Management</b>	To reduce the amount of waste produced by the college by ensuring that waste is considered a resource by staff and students and managed accordingly and to do this in the most cost effective manner possible.	To reduce waste to landfill by increasing re-use, recycling and resource recovery	<p>Continue on diverting waste from the refuse stream to either reuse or recycling streams.</p> <p>Investigate centralisation of waste collection to help reduce disposal costs, reduce fire risk and release space on the campus. It will also provide closer control of waste streams and support awareness activities.</p> <p>Review options on how to divert organic waste to either composting or anaerobic digestion</p>
<b>2.3.1 Water Management</b>	To reduce the environmental impact and costs arising from water use in buildings through the better	To reduce water consumption	<p>Invest in water saving devices</p> <p>Awareness raising</p>

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Action</b>
	management of resources, meeting the requirements of legislation.		on water saving
<b>2.4.1 Sustainable Purchasing</b>	To carry out our purchasing activities in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. To ensure that sustainable purchasing activity is consistent with best purchasing practice	To implement a sustainable purchasing policy	Engage with suppliers on their environmental and social impacts relating to their products and services.  Working with cross college departments through the Value for Money Forum to identify how resources can be reused across the college before purchasing.
<b>2.5.1 Transport</b>	To maintain staff and student travel plans consistent with best practice and business needs.	Support and encourage sustainable modes of transport to work and study at the college by staff and students (by walking, cycling, public transport and car sharing).  Reduce the percentage of single occupancy car journeys made to the college by staff and students	Increased promotion of the facilities already present for cycling and walking through Student Forums and staff newsletters Investigate salary sacrifice schemes for cycle to work scheme, and  Establish and promote a car sharing database through the VLE and email.
<b>2.6.1 Biodiversity</b>	To maintain current levels of biodiversity.  To ensure that future development and planning considers biodiversity  To support the development of buildings that introduce	To monitor the vegetation surrounding the college.	Survey and monitor biodiversity before any significant development

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Action</b>
	and increase existing levels of biodiversity (where possible as part of a stepping stone policy) and sit within a pleasantly landscaped natural environment.		
<b>2.7.1 Communications</b>	Communicate both internally and externally about the College environmental performance	Develop an annual action plan for each academic year.	Report on progress with each plan at the end of each academic year. Produce an annual sustainability report covering all aspects of the sustainability strategy
<b>2.8.1 Curriculum</b>	To seek opportunities to align curriculum activities with sustainability throughout the department areas of the college	To report annually on sustainability in curriculum areas	Identify and survey activities currently undertaken within the college on sustainability and identify activities that the College want to take forward.
<b>2.9.1 Involvement</b>	It should be recognised that everybody has a responsibility for the environment, and the various stakeholders should be involved in and be made aware of the various initiatives across the college	Increase active involvement in environmental activities throughout in addition to formal education delivered through curriculum areas.	Recruitment of an Environmental Officer for the Student Union to represent the learner voice  Establish a Student Environment Group to raise awareness of environmental activities  Maintain links to expand college involvement in education initiatives with the local schools in the area.
<b>2.10.1 Corporate Action</b>	Embedding sustainability into management of the college.	To approve Environmental and Sustainability	Maintain continual improvement in alignment with

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>Implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMS) to provide a mechanism for managing the environmental impact of the college activities, its legislative compliance obligations and delivering continual environmental improvement.</p>	<p>strategy</p> <p>Embed sustainability into policies and procedures across college</p> <p>Enhance college image in its commitment for sustainability</p> <p>Include sustainability strategy in starter packs for new staff and students</p> <p>Sourcing opportunities for funding to enhance the sustainability of the college</p> <p>To implement a fully operational, externally verified environmental management system across the entire college.</p>	<p>sustainable development.</p> <p>Reviewing environmental aspects and impacts and producing procedures and protocols to address these impacts</p> <p>Maintaining an environmental legislation registers to ensure compliance with relevant legislation</p> <p>Ensure staff are aware of their legislative responsibilities</p>