

Ulster University Energy Policy

Declaration of Commitment

Ulster University is committed to responsible energy management and will practice energy efficiency and water conservation throughout its campuses.

Policy

In line with its environmental sustainability policy statement, the University will endeavour to responsibly manage energy and water usage in a manner commensurate with the requirements of business activity.

The University will aim to develop and maintain an energy strategy and procedures consistent with U.K. Higher Education sector energy and environmental targets, guidance codes and best practice.

Objectives

1. To reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and where practicable to utilise renewable energy and low carbon technologies.
2. To reduce water consumption.
3. To monitor and audit energy and water usage and report in an appropriate manner both internally and externally.
4. To procure fuels at the most economic cost and to maximise the use of fuel types which cause least environmental impact.
5. To promote energy conservation awareness among staff and students.
6. To prioritise energy efficiency, water conservation and low carbon technologies in the specification and operation of buildings, plant and equipment proportionate to the consideration of cost effectiveness.
7. To incorporate sustainability criteria into the design of new and refurbished buildings in compliance with appropriate standards e.g. BREEAM.
8. To target a reduction in energy consumption and associated carbon emissions in line with Government climate change legislation, regulation and targets.
9. To develop and maintain an energy management information system to inform decision making and improve efficiencies.
10. To act as an advocate of best practice in energy and water management.

Responsibilities

The Director of Physical Resources will be responsible for

- ensuring that within the funding available, buildings and building services are maintained and efficiently operated to reduce the consumption of energy and water
- maximising the utilisation of energy efficiency, water conservation, renewable and/ or low carbon technologies
- ensuring that the energy strategy is developed and effectively implemented and the energy management measures under Physical Resources Departmental control are appropriately devolved and co-ordinated.

Heads of Schools, Units and Departments will be responsible as far as possible for ensuring:

- staff participate in energy efficiency and water conservation measures and initiatives promoted by the University
- the use of University's Procurement Office guidance on Sustainability Impact Assessment and Whole Life Costing for devolved procurement activities to assess the energy efficiency, environmental impact and life cycle costs of the equipment they select and operate.