

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Policy Document Purpose Statement

This document sets out the Cornwall College sustainability commitment and objectives.

Application

The objective of this document is to provide a framework to reduce the college’s environmental impact and prepare staff and students for a sustainable future.

Interpretation

Further guidance on the use or interpretation of this policy may be obtained from the responsible post holder.

Legislator / Regulatory Compliance

Compliance with relevant current Environmental legislation, Data Protection Act and other legislation / regulations named within the body of the document.

Publication Restrictions

This document is for internal use but can be shared with external bodies if requested.

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Post Title responsible for review:	Health, Safety and Environment Manager	
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Equality, Diversity and Inclusion		
Safeguarding		
Risk		
GDPR		

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Organisation for sustainable management

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The purpose of this section of the policy is to define responsibilities and relationships that promote a positive culture, and secure the implementation and continued development of the Sustainability Policy. This section of the policy should enable the College to:
 - 1.1.1. Establish and maintain management control;
 - 1.1.2. Promote co-operation between individuals
 - 1.1.3. Ensure the communication of necessary information throughout the College;
 - 1.1.4. Secure the competence of employees.

2. The Board of Governors considers matters affecting the College, its strategy, operation or management.

- 2.1. The Board of Governors considers matters affecting the College, its strategy, operation or management.
- 2.2. In order to perform their duties, the Board will:
 - 2.2.1. Incorporate sustainability into governance arrangements;
 - 2.2.2. Satisfy themselves that a policy on sustainability is prepared, implemented and periodically reviewed
 - 2.2.3. Ensure implementation of the sustainability policy through effective monitoring and audit
 - 2.2.4. Satisfy themselves that management responsibility for sustainability is clearly designated;
 - 2.2.5. Satisfy themselves that sustainability is an integral part of the College's overall business strategy;
 - 2.2.6. Take appropriate action where commitments are not being met

3. The Principal and Chief Executive

- 3.1. The Principal and Chief Executive (CE) has overall responsibility to Board for sustainability, in order to fulfil this duty, the Principal and Chief Executive will:
 - 3.1.1. Ensure a sustainability policy is prepared, implemented and periodically reviewed
 - 3.1.2. Ensure that the effective environmental management is an essential element within the overall business strategy of the College;
 - 3.1.3. Clearly designate management responsibility for sustainability;
 - 3.1.4. Establish and maintain management control of sustainability within the College;
 - 3.1.5. Oversee the organisational arrangements for managing sustainability in the College including training;
 - 3.1.6. Ensure the allocation of sufficient resources to enable the effective implementation of the Sustainability Policy and in order to meet net zero targets;

4. The Deputy Principal Group Operations working with relevant teams

- 4.1. The Deputy Principal Group Operations working with relevant teams will:

- 4.1.1. Measure the colleges Carbon footprint, define targets, take steps to reduce colleges Carbon emissions and monitor performance
- 4.1.2. Ensure that the risk of not implementing this policy, environmental management and adapting to climate change are incorporated into the college risk management plans
- 4.1.3. Modify estates strategy in line with net zero targets and sustainable targets
- 4.1.4. Define targets, reduce energy and water consumption, improve energy and water efficiency and monitor performance
- 4.1.5. Reduce reliance on fossil fuels and identify renewable energy opportunities for the college
- 4.1.6. Develop and implement waste reduction and recycling initiatives
- 4.1.7. Protect the environment by preventing pollution, minimising the use of natural resources
- 4.1.8. Incorporate sustainability into procurement and sourcing agreements and strategies
- 4.1.9. Implement sustainable transport plans to minimise the environmental impact of student and staff travel including travel to and from campuses and business travel.
- 4.1.10. Provide carbon literacy training for staff and embed sustainability into staff development plans
- 4.1.11. Enable staff and students to make sustainable food choices on campus

5. The Deputy Principal Curriculum and Quality working with relevant teams

5.1. The Deputy Principal Curriculum and Quality working with relevant teams will:

- 5.1.1. Develop curriculum to include sustainable awareness and carbon literacy training for all students.
- 5.1.2. Develop the curriculum in order to provide appropriate educational programs for learners taking into account new technologies, new ways of working and current and future skills gaps.
- 5.1.3. Determine the needs of employers regarding their climate change and ecological challenges and modify the curriculum in order to ensure that students can take advantage of employment opportunities that will arise.
- 5.1.4. Modify land-based strategy in line with net zero and sustainable targets.
- 5.1.5. Implement sustainable land management strategies for the college farms aimed at the protection, conservation, restoration and sustainable use of resources.
- 5.1.6. Incorporate sustainability into enrichment and extra-curricular activities.
- 5.1.7. Incorporate sustainability into the management of residential accommodation in order to reduce energy and water consumption, reduce general waste and maximise recycling, reduce transport emissions and incorporate sustainability into extra-curricular activity
- 5.1.8. Train teaching staff to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum for all courses

6. Employees will be expected to:

- 6.1.1. Co-operate with the college and assist with the implementation of the sustainability policy, procedures and initiatives.
- 6.1.2. Help to reduce energy consumption
- 6.1.3. Reduce wastage, reuse resources and recycle where possible
- 6.1.4. Attend training and incorporate sustainable working practices into their normal routines.
- 6.1.5. Personally, display good standards and promote a culture that is positive to sustainability at all times.

Sustainability Policy Statement

Cornwall College is a large Further and Higher Education College, the college operates from a number of sites throughout Cornwall and Devon comprising both general further education and specialist land-based campuses.

Cornwall College will manage its operations in ways that are environmentally sustainable, economically feasible and socially responsible. The college recognises that there is a climate and ecological emergency and that its role includes:

- Minimising the impact of its activities on the environment.
- Enabling staff and students to meet the ecological and climate challenges that we face and take advantage of the opportunities arising from them.

In order to achieve this the college will:

- Continually develop and expand the curriculum in order to develop awareness of sustainability.
- Consider new technologies, new ways of working and current and future skills needs in order to create a curriculum offer that enables students to develop the skills required and to take advantage of opportunities arising from the ecological and climate challenges.
- Reduce energy and water consumption, improve efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.
- Protect the environment by preventing pollution and by minimising the use of natural resources.
- Reduce waste through sustainable resource management, sustainable procurement, reusing materials where possible and improving recycling.
- Develop sustainable campuses, enhance biodiversity and preserve historic landscapes and buildings.
- Promote and continually improve sustainable travel options and reduce the impact of business travel.
- Incorporate sustainability into procurement and sourcing agreements and strategies.
- Promote sustainability awareness and practice amongst all staff and students and provide opportunities for staff and students to reduce their personal environmental impact.
- Enable staff and students to make sustainable food choices on campus.
- Comply fully with all environmental legislation.
- Engage with employers, other institutions and the wider community to share best practice and promote environmental responsibility.
- Set sustainability targets and actively monitor its environmental performance.
- Implement sustainable land management strategies for the college farms aimed at the protection, conservation, restoration and sustainable use of resources.

Cornwall College considers the active involvement of its employees and learners to be vital in achieving its sustainability objectives, the college will maintain a Sustainability Committee to promote, monitor and implement the Policy, and to ensure effective engagement, communication and consultation with staff and learners.

In order to help drive cultural change, staff and students will be provided opportunities to develop their awareness of sustainability through staff training, sustainability related curriculum, tutoring and enrichment activities

Cornwall college will periodically review environmental management policies and procedures and activities to ensure suitability, adequacy and effectiveness.

Signed:



Date: March 2022

Mr John Evans Principal and Chief Executive, The Cornwall College Group