

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Background

The World Commission on Environment and Development defines sustainable development as “Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Bruntland Report 1987)

The Higher Education Funding Council of England (HEFCE) in its vision statement states that “Within the next 10 years, the higher education sector in this country will be recognised as a major contributor to society’s efforts to achieve sustainability – through the skills and knowledge that its graduates learn and put into practice, and through its own strategies and operations”

HEFCE further states that “Sustainability has often been given a rather narrow financial meaning in higher education. We now regard it as a much broader issue. Yet financial sustainability remains important, because we cannot expect institutions to embrace the long-term view on which a commitment to sustainable development is founded without some confidence in their own survival.” (HEFCE 05/28).

Vision

London Business School’s vision is to be the pre-eminent global business school. The School recognises the importance of engagement in sustainable development in the achievement of its vision. It aims to promote awareness of and engagement in sustainable development and to work towards achieving sustainable development in all aspects of its activity.

Principles

London Business School is committed to:

- the provision of effective leadership from its management to ensure that sustainability issues are considered strategically and that initiatives are implemented in a coherent and planned manner
- the setting of annual objectives and key performance indicators at both a School-wide and departmental level in relation to its work towards achieving sustainable development, in order that its performance can be monitored and reviewed.
- the effective communication of its commitment to sustainable development and its performance against its annual objectives to its key stakeholders
- the provision of appropriate training and consultation opportunities with employees and students on sustainability issues

Monitoring and Review

London Business School’s Sustainability Policy and its associated action plan will be monitored and reviewed annually by the School’s Health, Safety and Environment Committee. The Committee will provide information on the action plan and performance against its objectives to Management Committee and Governing Body in its annual report.

Implementation

In order to achieve its vision London Business School will implement an action plan focussing on the following areas of its activities:

1. Teaching

The promotion, as appropriate, of awareness and engagement in sustainable development to students and participants on the School's postgraduate and executive education programmes.

2. Research

The incorporation, as appropriate, of sustainability issues into the School's corporate social responsibility research agenda.

3. Procurement

The integration of sustainability factors into the School's procurement policy and processes.

4. Energy

The reduction of the School's level of energy usage and carbon emissions

5. Waste and resource management

The reduction of the School's level of waste production through re-use, recycling and waste disposal initiatives

6. Water

The reduction of the School's level of water consumption

7. Construction

The effective consideration of sustainability issues in order to ensure that all new build and refurbishment projects result in buildings that are the best practicable for both purpose and the environment.

8. Biodiversity

The management of the impact of the School's activities on biodiversity through sensitive management of its estate

9. Travel

The reduction of the environmental impact of commuting and business travel by employees and students

10. Space Utilisation

The efficient and effective utilisation of the School's estate.

11. Human Resources

The embedding of sustainability issues within the School's human resources policies and practices.

12. Students

The embedding of sustainability issues within the student experience and the involvement of students in the decision-making process on issues of sustainable development.

13. Community

The ongoing development of ties to the School's surrounding communities in order to reduce collective environmental impact

14. Environmental Management Systems and Audits

The use of an environmental management system and internal audits to monitor the effectiveness of the School's activities in the field of sustainable development.