

# Waste Management Policy

## 1. Introduction

This policy forms part of, and should be read in conjunction with, the University's Environment policy, Health and Safety Management Policy and Risk Assessment Policy.

A breach of this policy may be addressed via the University's disciplinary and code of conduct policies.

## 2. Ownership

Campus Services owns and manages this policy on behalf of The University of Northampton. This policy will be reviewed on a yearly basis or amended in response to changes in future legislation and/or case law.

## 3. Organisational Scope

This policy applies to staff, students and contractors of the University.

## 4. Policy Objectives

The Universities waste system will be managed according to the principles of the waste hierarchy:

- **Prevention:** Through effective procurement, operational procedures and raising awareness amongst users of the system, the volume of waste generated can be reduced.
- **Re-use:** By ensuring items are maintained, repaired or refurbished, or donated where applicable, the lifetime of items can be maximised, reducing waste output. Alternative uses can be found for items no longer required for its original purpose.
- **Recycling:** By treating waste as a resource, segregation and management of waste streams enables materials to be recycled back into useful products, reducing raw material exploitation and other demands of production. The University aims to optimise its ability to manage waste streams of recyclable material.
- **Other recovery:** Where waste streams are not compatible with the above options, recovery of stored energy or useful gases will be prioritised. This includes anaerobic digestion of food, composting green waste, and extracting energy from waste through the process of gasification or pyrolysis.
- **Disposal:** As a last resort, waste is sent to landfill or incineration. The University sends zero waste to landfill under its current management process and is committed to maintaining this.

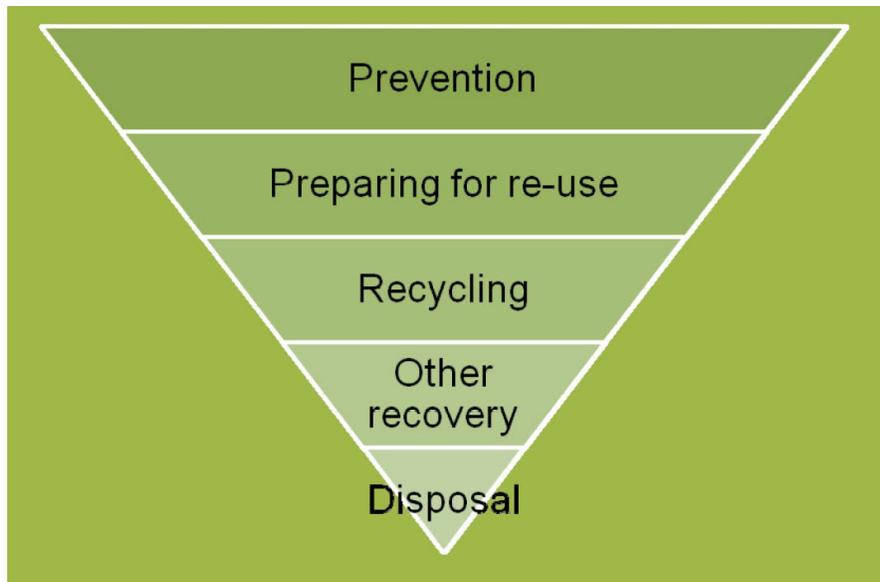


Figure 1: Waste hierarchy provided by DEFRA (2011)

## 5. Policy Statement

Waste is a systemic issue which will be considered in conjunction with the three cross cutting themes of the Universities strategic plan:

- **Super Supportive** - doing the right thing, in the right way, with the right people, for the right reason. Successful waste management requires participation and inclusion by all users of the system. Staff, students and contractors are encouraged to be considerate of the waste generated by their activity and empowered to be impactful through interaction at all stages of the waste journey.
- **Social Impact** - betterment of Northampton, Northamptonshire and the wider world. Waste is a multi-disciplinary, long term problem, effected largely by the ingrained culture of an organisation. The can-do attitude promoted by the Universities Changemaker campus ensures staff and students have a positive impact on the world around them. This begins by embedding behaviours at the individual level which result in a University wide culture of social responsibility.
- **Future focused** - forward thinking, innovative and ambitious. Waste is an ever-evolving volatile market, subject to disruption from international players. We will use Waterside as our internal source of disruptive innovation, challenging the status quo of current waste practices and embracing smart technological solutions. Old models of a throwaway society are no longer acceptable and the concept of waste as a resource is firmly established. Procurement plays a key role in ensuring materials coming into the University are compatible with the future of resource recovery.

## 6. Waste journeys

*Figure 2: Pathway for glass recycling*



*Figure 3: Pathway for food waste*



## 7. Associated Documents and References

The University of Northampton's associated documents:

- Environment Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Strategic plan 2018

## 7 Approval Process

This policy has been approved by:

- Trade Union Liaison Group
- Health, Safety, Security and Environment committee

## 8 Equality Analysis

An Equality Impact Assessment must accompany this document.

## 9 Version Control

Version Control	V1	Approval record	
<b>Author:</b>	Safety, Health & Environment Team, Campus Services	<b>Approval:</b>	TU Liaison HSSE
<b>Date written:</b>	March 2019	<b>Status:</b>	DRAFT
<b>Record of Amendments</b>			
<b>Date</b> March 2019	<b>Details of Change</b> Version 1	<b>Approval</b>	