

Water Consumption & Reduction Policy

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The University of Northampton is one of the youngest Universities in the UK and one of the first to be named as a Changemaker Hub, reflecting on social impact. This means that as an institution we work hard to have a positive impact on the world around us. The University recognises our activities can have a negative impact on the environment, both locally and globally and we are committed to making sustainable development part of its operations, research and curriculum.

This policy will be reviewed by Estates & Campus Services on a 3-year basis or amended in response to changes in future legislation and/or case law.

2.0 OWNERSHIP

The Estates & Campus Services owns and manages this policy on behalf of The University of Northampton.

3.0 ORGANISATIONAL SCOPE

This Water Consumption & Reduction Policy is a corporate policy and applies to all employees (and workers, as applicable) of The University of Northampton including any wholly owned subsidiaries, unless an alternative policy exists, subject to any qualifying conditions.

4.0 POLICY STATEMENT

The University recognises that water is a valuable shared resource with tangible flows into and out of the organisation. Natural water flows represent both a risk and an opportunity which we will manage to minimise potential damage to University assets and our surrounding environment, whilst capitalising on opportunities to reduce our demand from artificial sources.

The effective treatment of water has significant greenhouse gas emissions,

contributing to climate change, we are committed to supporting Sustainable Development Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, through the effective monitoring of water consumption and implementation of improvement initiatives across our campus.

The Estates & Campus Services department will monitor and reduce the consumption of water, ensuring all legal, regulatory and service requirements are adhered to.

This policy forms part of and should be read in conjunction with the University's [Environment Policy](#).

5.0 KEY PRINCIPLES

The University of Northampton will:

- Comply with all relevant legal and legislative requirements relating to water use, consumption and efficiency.
- Identify areas of significant water use at the University in order to set appropriate objectives and action plans to reduce water use and water waste.
- Strive to reduce year on year water consumption per full time equivalent staff & student.
- Monitor and report on water consumption.
- Promote conscious water usage amongst staff, students, visitors and wider community driving water efficiency and conservation.
- Implement water saving and harvesting technologies in all new builds and major refurbishment projects and implement such technologies in all existing UON buildings within 10 years.
- Procure water in accordance with the University's Ethical and Sustainability Procurement Policy.
- Provide free drinking water facilities to staff, students and visitors across the estate.

- Provide educational opportunities for staff, students, visitors and local community to learn about good water management.

6.0 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

The University of Northampton's associated documents:

- [Environment Policy](#)
- [Water Action Plan](#) (as part of our liE Manual)
- [Carbon Management Plan](#)
- [Ethical and Sustainable Procurement Policy](#)
- [Ecology Policy](#)
- [Sustainable Construction Policy](#)

7.0 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality Impact Assessment must accompany this document.

8.0 VERSION CONTROL

Version Control	V1	Approval record	
Author:	Environment & Sustainability Team, Estates & Campus Services	Approval:	TU Liaison - 20/05/2021 Sustainability Board - 14/06/2021
Date written:	30/03/2021	Updates:	
Current Status	Approved	Approval of revision:	