

# SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

## Policy Document Purpose Statement

This document sets out Cornwall College's commitment to sustainability and its objectives.

## Application

This document's objective is to provide a framework for reducing the college's environmental impact and preparing staff and students for a sustainable future.

## Interpretation

Further guidance on using or interpreting this policy may be obtained from the responsible postholder.

## Legislator / Regulatory Compliance

Compliance with relevant current Environmental legislation, Data Protection Act and other legislation/regulations in the document's body.

## Publication Restrictions

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

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Author (Post title):	Mark Wright, Deputy Head of Estates	
Post Title responsible for review:	Deputy Head of Estates	
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Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	N	Mark Wright
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Risk	N	Mark Wright
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# **SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

## **Organisation for Sustainable Management**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This policy section aims 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. To perform their duties, the Board will:
  - 2.1.1. Incorporate sustainability into governance arrangements;
  - 2.1.2. Satisfy themselves that a policy on sustainability is prepared, implemented and periodically reviewed
  - 2.1.3. Ensure implementation of the sustainability policy through effective monitoring and audit
  - 2.1.4. Satisfy themselves that management responsibility for sustainability is clearly designated;
  - 2.1.5. Satisfy themselves that sustainability is an integral part of the College's overall business strategy;
  - 2.1.6. 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 the Board for sustainability. 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 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 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 college's Carbon footprint, define targets, take steps to reduce college 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 the 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 a curriculum to include sustainable awareness and carbon literacy training for all students.
  - 5.1.2. Develop the curriculum to provide appropriate educational programs for learners considering new technologies, new working methods, and current and future skill gaps.
  - 5.1.3. Determine the needs of employers regarding their climate change and ecological challenges and modify the curriculum 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 that protect, conserve, restore, and use resources.
  - 5.1.6. Incorporate sustainability into enrichment and extra-curricular activities.
  - 5.1.7. Incorporate sustainability into the management of residential accommodation 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 implementing 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 always promote a positive and sustainable culture.

## Sustainability Policy Statement

Cornwall College is a large Further and Higher Education college operating from several sites throughout Cornwall and Devon. It comprises both general further education and specialist land-based campuses.

Cornwall College will manage its operations in environmentally sustainable, economically feasible and socially responsible ways. 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 we face and take advantage of their opportunities.

To achieve this, the College will:

- Continually develop and expand the curriculum to develop awareness of sustainability.
- Consider new technologies, new ways of working, and current and future skills needs to create a curriculum that enables students to develop the skills required and take advantage of opportunities arising from ecological and climate challenges.
- Reduce energy and water consumption, improve efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.
- Protect the environment by preventing pollution and minimising natural resource use.
- 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 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 practices and promote environmental responsibility.
- Set sustainability targets and actively monitor its environmental performance.
- Implement sustainable land management strategies for the college farms aimed at protecting, conserving, restoring and using 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.

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 2023

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