

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Owner: Head of Facilities

**Date February 2025
Version: 1.0**

Document Information

Procedure Published/Created:	April 2025
Reviewed Date:	
Owner:	Head of Facilities
Approved by:	Board of Management
Equality Impact Assessment:	
Next Review Date:	February 2026

Version History

Version Number	Date	Author	Rationale
1.0	April 2025	W. MacLeod C.Ferguson J.Jamieson	Document Creation

Quick Links

We are inclusive and diverse, and this is one of our values.

We are committed to the FREDIE principles of Fairness, Respect, Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Engagement.



To find out more about FREDIE click [HERE](#)

To find out more about our Vision, Mission and Values click [HERE](#)



Need help with accessibility? Click [HERE](#) to view our accessibility pages.

1. Table of Contents

1. Table of Contents.....	3
2. Introduction.....	4
3. Purpose of the Policy	4
4. Scope of the Policy.....	5
5. Policy Statement.....	5
6. Responsibilities	6

2. Introduction

South Lanarkshire College (SLC) recognises its responsibility to safeguard the environment for current and future generations. The College is committed to reducing its environmental impact and promoting sustainable practice by improving energy efficiency, reducing its carbon footprint, and encouraging sustainable behaviours among staff, students, stakeholders including contractors, and the wider community.

This Environmental Policy outlines the College's approach to reducing waste, conserving energy, influencing sustainable practices, and achieving Net Zero by 2040.

The College Climate Change Emergency Action Plan (CCEAP) and Public Body Climate Change Duties Report (PBCCDR), which detail our commitment to sustainability, are available on the College website

<https://sustainablesotlandnetwork.org/reports/south-lanarkshire-college>

3. Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this Policy is to outline SLC's commitment to environmental sustainability and resource management. In line the Environment Association of Universities and Colleges (EAUC) guidelines, this policy provides a framework to integrate sustainable environmental practices into all aspects of our activities, and to ensure continuous improvement by:

- complying with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and best practices;
- reducing our environmental impact by improving energy efficiency;
- managing waste responsibly;
- encouraging recycling and circular behaviours;
- enhancing sustainability through responsible procurement, biodiversity protection, and water conservation;
- working closely with local, regional and national stakeholders actively involved in actions and training to tackle climate emergency; and

- creating a culture of sustainability among staff students, stakeholders and the wider community and stimulate actions tangible actions and initiatives with targeted impact towards our journey to net zero.

4. Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all employees, students, contractors, and stakeholders associated with South Lanarkshire College

5. Policy Statement

5.1 Climate Action and Carbon Reduction

- aim to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2040;
- increase energy efficiency; and
- promote sustainable travel options;

5.2 Resource Efficiency and Waste Reduction

- implement a circular economy approach by reducing, reusing and recycling materials;
- minimise single-use plastics and promote responsible consumption; and
- optimise water use and reduce waste generation.

5.3 Sustainable Procurement and Community Engagement

- prioritise ethical and environmentally responsible suppliers;
- encourage procurement of sustainable and locally sourced goods and services; and
- collaborate with other College in pursuit of similar procurement initiatives.

5.4 Biodiversity and Ecosystem Protection

- protect and enhance biodiversity on and around the College campus;
- support conservation initiatives and sustainable land use;

5.5 Learning and Teaching

- integrate environmental sustainability into the curriculum, equipping students to shape a more sustainable future through the provision of training that keeps pace with growing green skills demand within the economy; and
- support the development of staff by providing CPD opportunities that encourage sustainable behaviours
- encouraging students and staff to host events and run workshops to raise awareness about environmental issues e.g. Climate Change Week;

6. Governance

6.1 The Head of Facilities has responsibility for implementing this policy, with support from the Climate Change Operational Leads (CCOL) and the Climate Change Action Team.

6.2 The CCOL are responsible for monitoring the progress of climate change initiatives, actions and legislative requirements, as well as providing quarterly updates to the Senior Leadership Team and Board of Management.

7. Review

7.1 To ensure the College remains vigilant and proactive in its pursuit of environmental sustainability, this Policy will be reviewed annually by CCOL in recognition of the pace of legislative changes and technological advancements in the field of sustainability.



South
Lanarkshire
College

East Kilbride