

Environmental and Sustainability Policy

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1. Policy Statement

The Ten Group acknowledges its responsibility to act sustainably across all of its functions and recognises its role as an exemplar in sustainable practices.

The TEN Group is committed to manage its activities and estates to promote environmental sustainability, conserve and enhance natural resources, prevent environmental pollution and bring about a continual improvement in its environmental performance.

This policy outlines the measures that the Group will take to embed sustainability into all group functions, identifies methods of delivery and ways of communicating the policy to staff and students to make them aware of and support best practice procedures.

2. Policy Aims & Objectives

The TEN Group aims to:

- be considered an example of good practice for the delivery of sustainability in the education sector.
- strive to exceed all the environmental legislation and regulations relating to its activities.
- promote sustainability to all stakeholders, including students, staff, suppliers and visitors.
- achieve measurable reductions in the Carbon Emissions within its members' estates.

3. Definitions

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

4. Scope

This Policy applies to all employees permanent or temporary of TEN Group and includes any agency, or visiting professionals employed to provide services on their behalf.

5. Legal requirements

Planning Policy – Low/zero carbon (LZC) requirements BREEAM/CSH

Building Regulations Part L

Carbon Reduction Commitment – Mandatory Energy Tax £16/tCO₂ – organisations using >6,000MWh/year

The Climate Change Act 2008 set legally binding targets for the UK to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 34% by 2020 and at least 80% by 2050 (both targets against a 1990 baseline).

The government's Low Carbon Transition Plan, published in July 2009, sets out how the UK will meet the 34 percent cut in emissions on 1990 levels by 2020. In this document, it states that "Every part of Government will need to help drive the transition that is needed to live within the UK's carbon budgets. For the first time, each major government department will

have its own carbon budget representing its share of responsibility. From April 2010, it will also include emissions from schools, further and higher education institutions and the NHS.”

6. Procedure

The TEN Group will deliver the aims and objectives of the policy through the following key areas:

Environmental and Sustainability Management:

- Develop and review sustainability targets against appropriate benchmarks.
- Monitor energy consumption against past performance.
- Communicate and promote environmental and sustainability procedures, regulations and initiatives at staff inductions and training sessions.
- Encourage and facilitate feedback and suggestions from stakeholders to improve good practice and communicate via operational groups and team meetings across the Group member organisations.
- Exchange best practice with industry experts, local authorities, higher education institutions, partners and other organisations.
- Integrate environmental and sustainability principles into the TEN Group operational procedures and decision making process.
- Encourage inclusion of environmental and sustainability issues in curriculum delivery.
- Actively promote sustainable operations with students and staff and amongst its partners and suppliers.
- Commit to supporting the Students Union in working towards Environmental and Sustainability Awards and Accreditation.
- Work towards achieving Carbon Trust Accreditation.

Carbon Management:

- Develop a Carbon Management Plan setting clear targets for carbon reduction, identify initiatives to achieve the target and key stakeholders responsible for delivery.
- Implement working practices to ensure the efficient use of energy at all TEN Group sites.
- Incorporate low carbon technology and renewable energy systems in building projects and equipment procurement.
- Improve the energy efficiency of existing buildings.

Estates and Facilities:

- Where resources allow, achieve the relevant BREEAM Standard, to meet the requirements of Capital Funding Bodies.
- Enhance biodiversity within the TEN Group sites where possible.
- Manage noise pollution to ensure minimal impact on neighbours and the natural environment.

Waste Management:

- Minimise waste and reduce consumption through efficient operational use of assets.
- Minimise the environmental impact of waste through appropriate re-use and recycling.
- Measure and monitor waste.
- Segregate waste to achieve zero waste to landfill.
- Develop working practices to reduce waste and prevent pollution.

Water:

- Manage clean, ground and waste water efficiently including recovery and recycling opportunities.

Procurement:

- Encourage sustainable procurement, encouraging where practical the use of products, services and suppliers which cause least harm to the environment.
- Maintain and develop central and group procurement plans to ensure economic and sustainable purchasing.
- Promote a lifecycle approach to the procurement of goods and services

Transport and travel:

- Minimise carbon emissions through effective energy and transport management.
- Encourage sustainable transport practices across all activities as outlined in the TEN Group Travel Plan.
- Encourage the use of public transport, walking, cycling and vehicle sharing.

7. Organisational Responsibilities

The Environmental and Sustainability Policy will be monitored by the Estates and Facilities Department and reported annually to the TEN Board

8. References to related TEN Group policies

- TEN Group Procurement Policy

9. Contact

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10. Equal Opportunities Statement

This policy and procedure has been assessed against the nine protected characteristics outlined in the Equality Act 2010 and no apparent disadvantage to equal opportunities has been determined.

If you have any comments or suggestions in relation to equal opportunities of this policy or procedure please contact the policy holder.