

## **Newman University Environmental Policy**

### **Introduction**

Newman University is committed to improving its environmental performance and to the ethical stewardship of the planet and our natural resources. As a Catholic University, we recognise that we have a responsibility to make a meaningful contribution to reducing our impact on the environment. We acknowledge that activities at Newman University impact on the environment and we are committed to minimising such impacts and to developing more sustainable policies and procedures to reduce any negative effects of our operations.

A commitment to improving environmental performance has been introduced through an environmental management system (EMS). The University will provide the necessary resources required to implement strategic goals in reducing environmental impact.

Implementation of a Carbon Management Plan and have environmental key performance indicators to assist our monitoring of our current and future environmental performance against similar organisations in the higher education sector has commenced.

The Carbon Management Plan and the EMS will cover all three scopes of environmental impact as identified in the Carbon Management Plan.

In 2014 the University achieved the Eco Campus Gold award, the University has started on the Platinum phase of the award, which a reaccreditation of the gold award due in October 2017 and the aspiration to achieve the Platinum award in 2018/19.

A commitment to environmental performance will continue through the monitoring of the objectives to ensure continual and measurable outcomes.

### **The Policy**

It is our policy to:

- Integrate our environmental management system (EMS) into day to day operations, to ensure environmental issues are addressed and negative impact minimised, whilst providing a high quality of education.
- Comply with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and requirements.
- Reduce our use of natural resources such as energy and water.
- Encourage the use of recycled materials and implement recycling systems across the University.
- Prevent and minimise pollution by reducing emissions and discharges and setting targets for year on year improvement.
- Increase awareness of environmental issues amongst employees, students and contractors.
- Integrate EMS into Newman University's Master Plan capital development programme and seek to achieve the highest possible standards in all new development with the aspiration of a minimal EPC rating of B or above.
- Give due consideration to environmental issues and energy performance in the acquisition, design, refurbishment, location and use of buildings.

- Encourage all staff, students and visitors onto sustainable forms of transport, and evaluate travel alternatives across all activities.
- Continuously improve our environmental performance and integrate recognised environmental management best practice into our business operations where practical.
- Encourage staff and students to extend this life style outside our University environment.
- Measure and take action to reduce the carbon footprint of Newman University.
- Manage waste generated from the University's operations according to the principles of the waste management hierarchy.
- Ensure environmental, including climate change, criteria are taken into account in the procurement of goods and services.
- Achieve the platinum standard award Eco Campus accreditation within 2016/17.
- Promote communication with internal and external interested parties.
- Ensure that all our employees, students and general public can access and understand our policy.
- Support the Fair Trade Policy.
- Review smart targets as defined within our Carbon Management Plan, these targets have been agreed and are specifically identified within the Newman University Energy Policy for 2017, 2018.
- Increase the impact of bio diversity through planting and landscaping schemes.

### **Internationalisation**

Newman University Environmental Policy aims to encourage and facilitate opportunities for engagement with Internationalisation through the promotion of staff/student initiatives, such as developing additional partnerships in West Africa.

### **Academic Considerations**

In order to implement the policy a baseline review will be undertaken focusing upon Education and Research for sustainability development, which will assist in actively encouraging and supporting the teaching and research of environmental sustainability within the University.

### **Implementation**

In implementing this policy the University will:

- Identify and ring fence appropriate resources for both short and long term change, as identified within the Annual Planning Round.
- Communicate policy objectives to all members of staff and students.
- Develop a clear action plan with associated targets and monitoring criteria.
- Review the policy and action plan regularly and report to the Newman Management Group when appropriate.
- Identify alternative funding routes for environmental improvements.

The following targets are our commitment to energy and environmental impact reduction.

#### **Carbon Emissions**

- We will reduce our carbon emissions by 43% by 2020 against the performance of 2009/10 emissions.

## Waste Management

- We will reduce the total waste being disposed of by 80% by 2020 against the performance of 2009/10. Newman University has already achieved a 93% reduction in disposal of waste to incineration; this will continue to be monitored.
- To minimise construction waste and reuse wherever possible.  
Refer to the waste management strategy.

## Water

- We will reduce our water usage by 30% by 2020 against the performance of 2009/10.

## Electric

- We will reduce our electricity consumption by 2.5% based on 2016/2017 usage.  
Refer to the energy strategy.

## Gas

- We will reduce our natural gas consumption by 3% based on 2016/2017 usage.  
Refer to the energy strategy.

## Green travel

- We are committed to and support green travel.  
Refer to the travel plan strategy.



Mr Tony Sharma  
Chair of the Environmental Committee