

Sustainability Policy

London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE) is a world leading international university based in London. LSE was founded in 1895 to create and share knowledge addressing major social challenges and to shape a better world.

LSE plays a leading role in shaping the global discussion of ideas on sustainability and the challenges it raises. We will continue to engage with public, private and non-governmental organisation actors to promote understanding and informed decision-making about sustainability around the world.

This policy sets out commitments covering the full scope of LSE's provision of further and higher education, research and support services for the university.

Governance

- We are committed to creating an institutional culture that embeds sustainability into policy and systems, and promotes it throughout all levels and areas of the School.
- We are committed to fulfil, and where possible exceed, all regulatory and other compliance obligations and to protect the environment from adverse impacts that arise from our activities.
- We are committed to continually improving our environmental and energy performance by maintaining an ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 certified Environmental and Energy Management System (E/EnMS).
- We will report publicly on our performance against key environmental objectives and indicators, as defined in our Sustainability Strategic Plan.

Education, Research & Student Experience

- We will equip LSE graduates with the knowledge, understanding, critical thinking and skills needed to become citizens and leaders, empowering them to address the future challenges of society and make a positive impact in the world.
- We will work strategically to bring together the School-wide research community on sustainability issues, enhancing and leveraging the impact of our contribution to the public

debate.

Estates & Operations

- We will work towards becoming net-zero carbon by 2050 at the latest, and by 2030 for our energy use (scope 1 and 2), adopting a carbon reduction pathway aligned to climate science.
- We will manage our estate's energy performance and adopt renewable energy sources, in accordance with our Energy Policy.
- We will make sustainability and ethics a key consideration of procurement activities and actively engage with our supply chain to improve transparency and work towards our collective sustainability goals, in accordance with our Procurement Policy.
- We will design and construct new buildings and refurbishments that enhance the public realm whilst striving to meet the highest standards of environmental sustainability, climate resilience and human wellbeing, throughout the lifecycle of the building.
- We will continue to reduce waste, implementing the waste hierarchy across our operations aiming to send zero waste to landfill.
- We will adopt circular economy principles of resource management, where practicable.
- We will deliver a sustainable catering service which promotes low-impact food choices.
- We will enhance biodiversity on our estate by protecting and expanding green spaces and supporting connected habitats with our neighbours.
- We will reduce our water consumption on campus and in halls of residence.
- We will provide facilities to enable students and staff to access campus by low-carbon means.
- We will protect the environment and prevent pollution of land, air and water through robust implementation of our E/EnMS.

In order to support these commitments, LSE will provide the necessary resources and information to achieve the School's objectives and targets, including (but not limited to) staff, budget, facilities and training.

Review schedule

Review interval	Next review due by
2 years	June 2027

Version history

Version	Date	Approved by	Notes
1	15 May 2018 13 March 2018	Council ELG	
1	Mar 2019	ELG	No changes
1	22 May 2020	ELG Council	Minor wording edits, and contact details.
2	30 June 2021	Sustainability Leadership Board	Embedded objectives set in Sustainability Strategic Plan
3	May 2023	Sustainability Leadership Board	Biannual review
4	June 2025	Sustainability Leadership Board	Edited for brevity and major formatting. No substantive change to commitments.

Contacts

Position	Name	Email	Notes
Head of Sustainability	Steph Van de Pette	sustainability.team@lse.ac.uk	

Communications and Training

Will this document be publicised through Internal Communications?	Yes
Will training needs arise from this policy	Yes
<p>If Yes, please give details</p> <p>Sustainability training and engagement needs are mapped and delivered via the Sustainability Training Plan, which is periodically reviewed as part of LSE's ISO 14001 and 50001 certified Environmental and Energy Management System.</p>	