



Energy Policy 2003

This Policy supersedes the Energy Strategy 1989 and supports the University's overarching **Sustainability Policy 2000**. In that Policy the University committed to make sustainability integral to research, teaching and operations, to promote continual environmental improvement and to maximise the efficient use of resources, improve pollution prevention measures and increase the use of renewable energy.

The Scottish and the **UK Climate Change Programmes** aim to cut carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by 20% by 2010 and to increase proportion of electricity generated from renewable resources to 40% in Scotland. The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution in their 2000 Report: **Energy: the changing climate** urges a 60% cut in fossil fuel emissions by 2050 – in line with UN International Panel on Climate Change.

The Government has called for publicly funded New Buildings to achieve "Excellent" ratings under the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (**BREEAM**) and Refurbishments to achieve "Very Good" ratings. The University recognises its responsibility to contribute to all these targets.

Objectives

The University seeks to maintain its position as an environmentally sustainable institution, and to ensure that the needs of the academic community for a high quality estate are met in the most cost effective manner. The University will continue to invest at least 5% of the Energy Budget – and will re-invest cumulative savings achieved up to a maximum of 10% of Energy spend – with objective by 2010 of:

1. Improving relative energy efficiency by 20% against the 1990 base year – in line with UK targets
2. Cutting absolute CO₂ emissions by 40% against the 1990 base year – towards RCEP/IPCC target
3. Reducing by a further 20% the 2000 water consumption – with assistance of Scottish Water.

Implementation

These will be achieved through a partnership between the academic community, support staff and students: Staff in the Colleges, Accommodation Services and admin units can help immensely by:

- Identifying opportunities for waste reduction in their work area – with Estates & Buildings help
- Reporting repairs / defects causing discomfort or energy waste to RepairLine on 650 2494
- Adopting good housekeeping practice, switching off equipment when not required etc.

Staff in Estates & Buildings will progress this policy by:

- Providing high quality internal comfort conditions for staff and students – endeavouring to maintain temperatures at or above 20°C in winter and below 25°C in summer – during normal working week¹

¹ Please see the Space Temperature Standard approved as an Addendum in October 2007

- Promoting energy awareness among staff and students, encouraging good housekeeping, improving monitoring of energy, identifying exceptions to normal consumption and giving feedback to users
- Optimising heating and ventilating equipment using Building Energy Management Systems to monitor and control conditions
- Working with Procurement Office and Colleges to promote Whole Life Costing and invest wherever practicable in the most energy efficient building service components and equipment
- Benchmarking University buildings against energy performance of UK Higher Education buildings
- Purchasing a significant proportion of certified Green Energy, while ensuring value for money
- Extending the energy efficiency provisions of the 6th Amendment (Part J) of the Building Standards Scotland to all practicable aspects of Capital Projects and Major Replacement Projects
- Promoting significant reductions in CO2 emissions through e.g. Combined Heat & Power
- Ensuring that design consultants use best practice technologies and techniques in all major works.

Design Teams employed shall endeavour to achieve BREEAM “Excellent” ratings for New Buildings and “Very Good” for Major Refurbishments – embedding Sustainable Construction in all estate developments.

Monitoring & Review

- Estates & Buildings will co-ordinate the implementation of this policy and will publish an Annual Utilities Report on progress towards these goals
- The Estates Advisory Group (EPAG) will approve an annual Energy & Environmental Programme
- Estates & Buildings will review this Policy for Sustainability & Environmental Advisory Group in 2006.

For more information, or to suggest projects for funding from the Energy Efficiency Budget, contact: Andrew Whitson, Energy Manager 650 9536, Andrew.Whitson@ed.ac.uk [Adopted by the University Court in 2004]

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