

The Fitzwilliam Museum – UCM Environmental Policy Statement¹

As a part of the University of Cambridge and lead partner in the University of Cambridge Museums (UCM), the Fitzwilliam Museum implements the University Environmental Policy and Strategy and seeks guidance from the Environmental Office and other resources as appropriate. In addition, as a member of the University Museum Group (UMG) the Fitzwilliam Museum, along with its fellow UCM, has endorsed and adopted the principles of the UMG Declaration, December 2010. These policies and principles are set out below:

University of Cambridge Environmental Policy²

In achieving excellence in teaching and research, the University of Cambridge aims to manage its activities, buildings and estates to promote environmental sustainability, to conserve and enhance natural resources and to prevent environmental pollution to bring about a continual improvement in its environmental performance.

Our commitments

The University will comply fully with environmental legislation and officially approved codes of practice, and will make continued efforts to reduce its environmental impact through the implementation of an Environmental Plan which sets out a range of objectives and targets related to its significant environmental impacts, including:

- to promote sound environmental management policies and practices in the work of all Faculties, Departments, and other institutions;
- to increase awareness of environmental responsibilities amongst staff and students;
- to work with other agencies locally, nationally, and internationally to promote appropriate environmental policies;
- to implement policies and procedures that contribute to a reduction in the University's carbon footprint;
- to minimise waste and pollution, and to operate effective waste management procedures;
- to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels;
- to reduce water consumption;
- to promote a purchasing policy which will give preference, as far as practicable, to those products and services which cause the least harm to the environment;
- to avoid use, wherever possible, of environmentally damaging substances, materials, and processes;
- to maintain the grounds and buildings of the University estate in an environmentally sensitive way;
- to have regard to environmental factors as far as practicable in respect of the growth of the University and the integration of new developments into the local environment;
- to encourage modes of transport by staff and students which minimise the environmental impact;
- to communicate with interested parties on issues relating to the Environmental Policy including contacts in the immediate neighbourhood, and the regional, national and global community.

This policy was last updated and approved by the University's Environmental Strategy Committee on 1 February 2011 and is currently under review.



The University of Cambridge has an environmental action plan as a whole, and an Environment and Energy Section, part of Estate Management, deals with waste management, procurement, the built environment, biodiversity, travel, and environmental management in general. An environmental management system (EMS) based on ISO 14001 has been implemented to help strengthen the management of environmental issues throughout the University. The EMS is externally certified under the EcoCampus scheme and achieved the Silver Award level on 24 February 2011. There is an Environmental Strategy Committee that oversees environmental issues and the Environmental Plan, while representatives of the Environmental and Energy Coordinator network distribute the monthly sustainability newsletter, *Greenlines*, keeping University stakeholders informed.

The Electricity Incentivisation Scheme is run each year to reduce the amount of electricity used across the University Estate. A water conservation programme is maintained to hold water consumption at 2009/10 levels based on .5m³ per m² of University Estate.

The whole University community is encouraged to take part in green initiatives through the 'Cambridge Green Challenge' identity. As part of this the University runs an annual Switch Off Week each year from 2013, working with staff, students and visitors to encourage efficiency and reducing waste through switching off unnecessary electrical equipment.

University Museum Group Declaration – 10 December 2010

The Fitzwilliam Museum, along with other UMG members and fellow UCM, has adopted the University Museum Group Declaration of 10 December 2010³, which builds on the National Museum Directors' Council guiding principles for reducing museums' carbon footprint⁴ which was accepted by the European Bizot Group of major museums in May 2009.⁵

The Fitzwilliam Museum is pioneering a more sustainable approach to the Museum environment in line with the above policy and principles. Together with colleagues from the University's Engineering Department and Estates Management, it has secured university and external support for a programme of works which combines improvements to the museum's fabric with new hybrid air handling/air conditioning systems designed to deliver a more reliably stable environment for works of art and reduce carbon footprint over time.

¹ Endorsed by the Cambridge Museums Steering Group, May 2013

² <http://www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/policy>.

³ See: <http://universitymuseumsgroup.files.wordpress.com/2013/03/umg-seminar-declaration-dec-2010.pdf>

⁴ See:

http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk/media/documents/what_we_do_documents/guiding_principles_reducing_carbon_footprint.pdf

⁵ See: <http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk/what-we-do/contributing-sector/environmental-conditions/>