



Sustainability Policy

This policy replaces the previously issued Environmental Policies & Strategy which is now rescinded.

Robinson College recognises that its activities impact upon the environment both through its routine internal operations, development of its resources, and through its influence and effects on the wider community. The College acknowledges a responsibility for, and a commitment to, protection of the environment at all levels and to manage all aspects of its operation as sustainably as possible.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The College aims to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2030, though it is acknowledged that the meaning and understanding of this aim is still to be properly defined and set out.

College will comply fully with environmental legislation and is in addition committed to the following objectives:

1. To install and monitor robust mechanisms for measuring the energy/water consumption across College so that:
 - a. Impact of any actions can be ascertained and monitored and can be used to steer future decisions and investment
 - b. Direct action can be taken in areas where consumption is higher than what might be expected or considered reasonable so as to enable recovery action planning as required.
2. To “Go Paperless” – to organise and monitor a campaign to reduce and minimise paper use/printing and action across all departments and all areas of College.
3. To review the balance of gas vs electricity consumption and determine what actions can be facilitated/financed to move to more carbon neutral electricity usage in favour of gas, and on a planned basis over time, implement approved conversion plans.
4. To increase the capability for self-generation of energy on the College estate – to investigate and consider proposals for the adoption of more self-generating energy installations (e.g. additional solar panels, wind turbines, air-source heat pumps), prepare feasibility and capital plans and implement as approved.
5. To plan and implement water consumption reduction measures – to review all options to enable the reduction in water consumption across College, for example aerated showers, urinal flush sensors, push-timer showers, rain water storage and reuse.
6. To review with Science-based targets any offsetting capabilities within College and determine how we can implement such to reduce the carbon footprint, i.e. planting more trees.
7. To review all food processing/production/consumption across College outlets and develop a plan for reduction including for example, less ruminant meat served, carbon reduction menus featuring carbon footprint measurement codes, further waste reductions plans and plant food education programmes.
8. To ensure that sustainability features as a major factor in all future refurbishment planning and installation.
9. To develop a College Sustainability Charter - everyone has a part to play and this can be detailed in a charter for all students, staff and Fellows to encourage altered behaviour and habits, thus enabling planning and action to reduce Scope 3 emissions.
10. To share our successes and projects with the local and wider communities and commercial partners to assist with further engagement and enable them to promote their footprint reduction planning alongside the College.



METHOD & SCOPE

MANAGEMENT

- Overall responsibility for the Policy is that of the Warden and Fellows of Robinson College through the College Council;
- Finance Committee will allocate funds based upon an agreed budget bid each year;
- Day-to-day responsibility for ensuring the Policy is put into practice is delegated to the Domestic Bursar, through Heads of Department and in cooperation and consultation with the Sustainability Committee which reports to Council;
- College Officers and Heads of Department will ensure that strategic goals of the College and the resultant objectives set are reflective of this policy;
- Heads of Department will monitor annually the College's compliance in respect of relevant environmental legislation;
- Responsible management together with the Sustainability Committee will determine the action plan for each year which will inform activity and financial commitment.

ACTION PLAN FOR 2022

- To follow

Document Owner: College Council through the Domestic Bursar

Date: January 2022

This policy will be reviewed annually