

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY



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1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This policy outlines the requirements of the executive, managers, employees and students in meeting the environment sustainability objectives of the University.
- 1.2 CQUniversity will support and protect the environment through the adoption and implementation of sustainability practices. We will create a culture of environmental sustainability that will be reflected in our learning, teaching and research as well as our infrastructure including energy, water and waste management practices.
- 1.3 CQUniversity has a responsibility to educate its employees and students to preserve the quality of life for present and future generations; support the communities we operate within; and manage our business as a global community member. Using the University's power of place and engagement strategies the University will seek to identify opportunities to embed environmental sustainable practise through engaged education and training, research and innovation, service and general business.

2 SCOPE

- 2.1 This policy applies to all students, employees, and visitors of CQUniversity. It also applies to all business practices undertaken by and for the University.

3 POLICY STATEMENT

- 3.1 Sustainability is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. CQUniversity is committed to managing all areas of its business in an environmentally sustainable, economically rewarding, socially considerate and technically feasible manner.
- 3.2 This policy outlines the approach the University will adopt to manage itself in a more sustainable manner across all areas of its business. The University will strive to continually improve its sustainability practices in its corporate, teaching and research and community engagement activities.
- 3.3 The policy and framework will focus on four main key principles outlined below:
 - Environmental sustainability management

- Economic sustainability
- Social wellbeing, and
- Engaged teaching, learning and research to facilitate acquiring knowledge to live sustainably

Corporate practise

3.4 CQUniversity will effectively manage sustainability by:

- implementing and maintaining a structure that ensures the systematic management of sustainability through CQUniversity campuses and sites
- complying with all statutory requirements
- minimising its environmental impact and managing its carbon footprint by focused actions on its energy, water and waste management and recycling
- embedding sustainability in decision making processes
- providing appropriate training in sustainability for all employees, students, contractors and visitors. Communicating all relevant sustainability information to all employees, students, contractors, visitors and the wider community
- showcasing the University as a best practice model in sustainability, and
- regularly reporting against progress.

Teaching and research

3.5 CQUniversity confirms its commitment to sustainability in teaching and research and will:

- through teaching, learning and research, facilitate students gaining the knowledge to live sustainably
- advance the University's contribution to research on sustainability
- promote sustainability within and beyond the University, and
- engage with and involve students in sustainability projects and ideas.

Community engagement

3.6 CQUniversity will:

- share and exchange sustainability knowledge and experience with other universities, community groups, the public and private sector
- foster engagement of the University community and wider community in sustainability, and
- develop strategies to create knowledge and leadership in sustainability among local, national and international communities.

3.2 Supporting this policy will be a Framework that will align with the strategic goals of the University and provide practical guidance through the consideration of nine elements that support the United Nations' [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).

4 RESPONSIBILITIES

Compliance, monitoring and review

4.1 The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Services) and Facilities Management Directorate are responsible for implementing, monitoring, reviewing and ensuring compliance with this policy.

Reporting

- 4.2 An annual report will be provided by the end of First Quarter of the following year. This report will be available to the Executive Management Committee, the Vice-Chancellor's Advisory Committee, and the Strategic Projects and Planning Committee.

Records management

- 4.3 Employees must manage records in accordance with the [Records Management Policy and Procedure](#). This includes retaining these records in a recognised University recordkeeping information system.
- 4.4 University records must be retained for the minimum periods specified in the University Sector Retention and Disposal Schedule on the [Queensland State Archives website](#).

5 DEFINITIONS

- 5.1 Terms not defined in this document may be in the University [glossary](#).

6 RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

[Environment Protection Act 1986](#) (WA)

[Environment Protection Act 1993](#) (SA)

[Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999](#) (Cwlth)

[Environmental Protection Act 1970](#) (Vic)

[Environmental Protection Act 1994](#) (Qld)

[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975](#) (Cwlth)

[Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989](#) (Cwlth)

[Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997](#) (NSW)

[Sustainability Framework](#)

7 FEEDBACK

- 7.1 Feedback about this document can be emailed to policy@cqu.edu.au.

8 APPROVAL AND REVIEW DETAILS

Approval and Review	Details
Approval Authority	Council
Advisory Committee to Approval Authority	Strategic Planning and Projects Committee
Administrator	Director, Facilities Management
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Approval and Amendment History	Details
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