



<b>Relevant University of Tasmania Ordinance and/or Rule Reference No.</b>	Ordinance 1 Role of Council
<b>Relevant State/Federal Govt. Legislation</b>	University of Tasmania Act 1992
<b>Commencement Date</b>	December 2014
<b>Review Date</b>	December 2015

## 1. Statement of Context

The achievement of the University's [Mission](#)<sup>1</sup> and Statement of Values,<sup>2</sup> as well as the [Strategic Plan](#)<sup>3</sup> requires that environmental protection and sustainability are key priorities in the way the University operates.

The University has a strong tradition in environmental education and research, as well as contributing to greater awareness of the importance of sound environmental management in the broader community. Consistent with this, the University has a focus on continually improving the way it manages the impact that University operations have on the environment.

The University must deliver consistent, responsible and effective environmental sustainability to achieve its strategic goals and to fulfil its obligations to members of the University community, as well as the broader community.

## 2. Objective

The objective of this principle is to improve the University's contribution to global environmental sustainability by:

- establishing high level priorities
- describing roles, responsibilities and accountabilities.

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<sup>1</sup> The University of Tasmania is committed to continuing its long tradition of excellence in the creation, preservation, communication and application of knowledge and to scholarship that is global in scope, distinctive in its specialisations and reflecting the distinctiveness of Tasmania. The University will provide leadership within its community, contributing to the cultural, economic and social development of Tasmania.

<sup>2</sup> We work in a unique setting and actively partner with the communities in which we live, in support of a healthy, civil and sustainable society. At the same time, we are outwardly focused and part of a global community, engaging with the rest of Australia and the world.

<sup>3</sup> Future planning, design and management of our facilities will be guided by a vision of sustainability seeking to reduce environmental impacts, achieve economic efficiency, demonstrate social responsibility, and enhance student experience. The implementation of innovative design and technology will complement an organisational culture which promotes sustainable practices through all of our endeavours.

### 3. Priorities

The University will:

- ensure waste minimisation and efficient utilisation of energy, water and other resources by fostering initiatives such as demand management, where appropriate, as well as reuse and recycling to minimise pollution, decrease stormwater runoff, and other adverse effects from operations, and will take reasonable steps to monitor, evaluate and report performance under this paragraph;
- endeavour to reduce both direct and indirect carbon emissions from operations and functions of the University;
- ensure that development initiatives are environmentally sustainable, consistent with current technical knowledge;
- comply with all applicable legislation, regulations, statutory requirements and license conditions relating to environmental management;
- promote environmental sustainability awareness, environmentally sound behaviours and responsibility amongst members of the University community;
- take reasonable steps to monitor and evaluate the environmental sustainability performance of contractors and suppliers against University policy and procedures where significant potential environmental issues may occur, and implement effective communication with them on environmental sustainability issues; and
- through the University's existing research, learning and teaching and community engagement activities on environmental sustainability issues and sustainable development, aim to promote better understanding in the broader community, in line with relevant commitments made by the University, such as through signing the Talloires Declaration.

In addition to these priorities, there are a number of other priorities that are common to most individual Principles. These additional priorities are specified in the University Governance Principle and are not repeated in detail here.

- 1 supporting policies, plans and procedures
- 2 resourcing and implementation
- 3 training and awareness
- 4 monitoring, review and ongoing development.

### 4. Implementation

The Vice-Chancellor has responsibility for the implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Principle and the development and implementation of supporting policies, plans and procedures.

All members of the University community are responsible for undertaking their University activities in ways that support this principle and related policies, plans and procedures.

University Council is responsible, through the Built Environment and Infrastructure Committee, for over-viewing the performance of environmental sustainability.

The University Senior Management Team is responsible, through the Sustainability Committee, for integrating environmental sustainability concerns with those of other aspects of the university's holistic approach to sustainability.