


DOCUMENT TYPE	P	
ADMINISTRATIVE	5	
GOVERNANCE	1	
GOVERNANCE	3	
NUMBER	001	Policy Database Document Reference Number 513001P

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Purpose/ objectives	<p>Through this policy, La Trobe University seeks to demonstrate its commitment to sustainable development as defined in the report of the Brundtland Commission (1987):</p> <p>"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."</p> <p>This policy is concerned with environmental sustainability.</p>
Scope/ Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All operations, programs and research • All campuses and facilities • All staff, students and contractors
Policy Statement	<p>La Trobe University will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce the university's carbon footprint • minimise the use of natural resources such as water, non-renewable energy and paper • minimise waste to landfill • consider environmental and social impacts in decision making • collect data which allows us to monitor our environmental performance and report that performance at appropriate committees • embed sustainability in all aspects of our activities and performance management • identify program-specific knowledge and skills to address the challenges of sustainable development, including climate change, particularly as this phenomenon affects or may affect students' chosen vocations or disciplines. • develop ways of facilitating the formation of multi-disciplinary research teams able to tackle problems and issues which arise as a result of climate change and minimise the impact of climate change. • engage with staff, students and the broader La Trobe community working for change towards environmentally sustainable behaviours • minimise green house gas emissions in its operations and supply chain and work towards carbon neutrality • adopt a coordinated approach to sustainability strategy, planning and management • adopt a robust governance process with respect to environmental sustainability • put in place systems and structures to assist in compliance with relevant environmental legislation, standards and agreements • enhance conservation and biodiversity in the management of our campuses and engagement with our communities • associate La Trobe University with leadership on climate change action, education and research

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Supporting Procedures	Procedures to be developed across all operational areas.
Responsibility for implementation	<p>The Accountable Officer: Vice Chancellor</p> <p>The Implementation Officer: Director of Sustainability</p> <p>Committees: Sustainability Taskforce and its working groups</p> <p>Other positions:</p> <p>Director of Sustainability</p> <p>Deputy Vice Chancellor</p> <p>Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)</p> <p>Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Future Students)</p> <p>Pro Vice Chancellor, Curriculum and Academic Planning</p> <p>Director, Buildings and Grounds</p> <p>Executive Director, Infrastructure and Operations</p> <p>Chief Financial Officer & Executive Director, Finance and Resource Planning</p> <p>Director, Financial Operations</p> <p>Executive Director, Marketing and Engagement</p> <p>Director of Institute for Social and Environmental Sustainability</p>
Responsibility for monitoring implementation and compliance	Vice-Chancellor
Status	New
Key stakeholders	<p>La Trobe students</p> <p>La Trobe staff</p> <p>Sustainability Taskforce</p> <p>Council</p> <p>Senior Management Committee</p> <p>Senior Executive Committee</p> <p>Planning and Resources Committee</p> <p>Academic Board</p>
Approval Body	Council, 4 May 2009, C09/34(M), Minute 389.5(j) and Senior Management Committee, 29 May 2009, Minute 3.2
Initiating Body or person(s)	Sustainability Taskforce
Definitions	
Related legislation	<p>Environmental and Resource Efficiency Plan</p> <p>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting and additional relevant legislation as enacted.</p>

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Related Policy and other documents	None
Date Effective	17 April 2009
Next Review Date	October 2010
Keywords	Climate change, sustainability, environmental sustainability
Owner/Sponsor	Vice-Chancellor
Author	Director of Sustainability
Contact person or area	Director of Sustainability