

Title:	Biodiversity Policy
Keywords:	Biodiversity, Environment, Ecological, Campus
Description:	A Policy detailing the importance of Biodiversity at BU
Owner:	Sustainability Strategy Group
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Approved by:	Sustainability Committee
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Due for review:	January 2022
Audience:	Staff & Students

Biodiversity Policy

1. SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 This policy and related procedures is applicable to any member of BU staff, students, external contractors and other relevant stakeholders.
- 1.2 This policy and related procedures relate to any activity that could impact on biodiversity either within the Bournemouth University estate or beyond its boundaries and may require action to be taken to reduce that impact where practicable.

2. KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 Sustainability Committee has overall responsibility for implementation and monitoring of this policy. Day to day responsibility lies with the Sustainability Team and Maintenance Services Manager.

3. LINKS TO OTHER BU DOCUMENTS

- 3.1 Bournemouth University Sustainability Policy
- 3.2 Bournemouth University Environmental and Energy Management System (EEMS)
- 3.3 Bournemouth University Sustainable Construction Policy
- 3.4 Bournemouth University Estates Development Framework
- 3.5 Bournemouth University Design Standards

Policy

4. Overview

- 4.1 Bournemouth University is a large and complex organisation and is committed to maintaining and wherever possible, enhancing, the quality of this

environment, both for people who live and work in the University and for the wider community.

Bournemouth University's vision is to create the most stimulating, challenging and rewarding university experience in a world-class learning community by sharing its unique fusion of excellent education, research and practice and inspiring our students, graduates and staff to enrich the world. The University recognises that its operations have the potential to impact on biodiversity both directly and indirectly and that it has a responsibility to manage these impacts.

The University also recognises its statutory obligation to have due regard for the conservation of biodiversity in the exercise of its functions and is therefore committed to maintaining, enhancing and where possible creating new habitats on campus.

4.2 Legislation & Environmental Management Systems

- Comply with all biodiversity compliance obligations.
- The Biodiversity Policy forms part of the BU EEMS which is certified to Eco-Campus Platinum and ISO 14001:2015.
- This Policy forms part of BU's contribution to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

4.3 Operational & Estates Development

- Seek to support projects and programmes that will conserve and, where possible, enhance habitats and biodiversity.
- Minimise the impact on habitats and biodiversity from grounds maintenance and landscaping work and prevent pollution by restricting the use of pesticides to a minimum.
- Seek to create, maintain and enhance habitats to encourage wildlife, where possible.
- Minimise the impact on biodiversity from development works and where possible install nature based solutions and seek a net increase in ecological value through project design and delivery.
- Ensure ecological surveys are completed prior to, and post completion of, building work and the results are documented.
- Work with stakeholders to improve habitat and biodiversity management practices.

- Actively seek opportunities to use the estate as a Living Lab to link landscape management to education and research.

4.4 **Training**

- Provide training for staff to ensure contractors are able to meet the requirements of the Biodiversity and Sustainability Policies.
- Ensure all contractors are provided with a copy of the BU Design Standards which reference the Biodiversity Policy.

4.5 **Monitoring and reporting**

- Implement mechanisms for monitoring habitats and biodiversity on campus wherever possible.
- Actively encourage student-led monitoring projects at species level on campus.
- Review and update the Biodiversity actions (EEMS Objectives Register) with the Biodiversity Group at least once every six months.

4.5 **Communication, Education & Stakeholder Engagement**

- Raise awareness of staff and students about the climate and ecological crisis and the importance of protecting the natural world and what measures they can take to help mitigate the major loss of biodiversity.
- Encourage learning & teaching and research activities to contribute to the delivery of this policy, in particular promote campus grounds as an educational resource for student projects.
- Encourage and support BU participation and contribution (research, development, good practices, and policy/procedures) at relevant national and international forums.
- Work in partnership with environmental groups, local authorities and environmental charities to share research and knowledge and improve biodiversity management practices.

4.6 **Review**

Review and publish the Biodiversity Policy on an annual basis.

Procedures

5 Procedures

5.1. None

General

6 REFERENCES AND FURTHER INFORMATION

6.1 This policy is delivered by the actions identified in EcoCampus Register of Objectives.

7 APPENDICES

7.1 None

10. SIGNATURE

Stuart Laird
Director of Estates
September 2020