
Purpose, Aims & Objectives:

The purpose of the Sustainability Steering Group (SSG) is to:

1. Strengthen the University's sustainability governance arrangements.
2. Oversee the development and execution of a Sustainability Enabling Plan (and subsidiary thematic plans) to deliver Strategy 2030's sustainability commitments.
3. Position the University a leader on action against the climate emergency.

To enable this, the SSG will:

- Adopt metrics to quantify and monitor sustainability performance.
- Identify priority areas to target improvements.
- Develop and maintain annual and five-year work-plans.
- Guide the development and/or refresh of subsidiary action plans.
- Foster cross-institutional collaboration and action on sustainability.
- Oversee the execution of action plans and monitor progress.
- Foster continual improvements and instigate corrective action where appropriate.
- Report progress to internal/external stakeholders.

Examples of subsidiary action plans (* indicates future plans): University's Sustainability Enabling Plan*; Directorate/School Carbon Management plans*; Estates Carbon Management Plan*; Fairtrade Plan; Sustainable Food Plan; Sustainable Travel Plan; Circular Economy Plan; Water Efficiency Plan; Biodiversity Plan; Sustainable procurement; Sustainability Student & Staff Engagement Plan.

Roles & Responsibilities:

Membership of SSG will include (not exclusively): COO DVC (Chair); VP Strategy & Planning; PVC Education; PVC Research; Dean GSBS; Dean SCEBE; Dean SHLS; Director of GCU London; CFO; Director of Estates; representation from the Students' Association; and H. Op. Sustainability. Other stakeholders may be invited to join the SSG as and when required.

Membership of the SSG will be reviewed periodically and the group will consider whether its focus also includes, in addition to operational matters, education and research.

The SSG will guide and be supported by the University's Sustainability Team (ST) in the development of cross-institutional plans, collating and analysing data and reporting progress. Through the ST, the SSG will support schools/directorates develop local plans/climate action (e.g. with data and templates). The ST will also provide the secretariat for SSG.

Meetings & Updates:

SSG will meet 4 times a year. Notes with actions from the meetings will be taken.