

Environmental Management

Sustainable Transport Statement

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Purpose

The University of Lincoln recognises the environmental impact of travel conducted by over 1,800 staff and over 14,000 students as they commute to the University and travel on University business. The University understands that encouraging travel through sustainable options plays a key part in reducing our indirect carbon emissions. This statement has been developed to encourage sustainable use of transport across the University.

The University is spread over a number of sites and we know that many staff and students travel from outside the region for work or education. Ensuring that sustainable transport issues are taken into account is therefore vital in reducing environmental impacts from travel. The statement will be promoted amongst staff, students, suppliers and contractors with the aim of minimising the environmental impacts of travel to, from and within the campuses

Responsibilities

All staff	Encouraged to travel to the University in the most sustainable mode available to them. The University does understand that this may not be feasible in some cases. It is acknowledged that during the Covid-19 pandemic, government guidelines advise individuals to avoid the use of public transport when possible. Therefore, walking and cycling should be prioritised where feasible.
Head of Maintenance and Facilities	Responsible for ensuring adequate facilities are available to support sustainable transport options, for travel to and from the University.
Sustainability Manager	Responsible for the development and delivery of sustainable transport facilities and engagement with staff and students.
Sustainability Projects Officer	Responsible for managing the travel survey and the delivery of sustainable transport opportunities for staff and students. Delivers sustainable transport events and communications to raise awareness of all sustainable transport opportunities available.
Facilities Security Manager	Works in collaboration with the Sustainability Team to review and manage car parking and cycling facilities on campus; including parking permit management.
Other Professional Service departments	The Sustainability Team will work in collaboration with other departments such as HR, the Students' Union and the Sports Centre to deliver alternate transport options and further promote travel choices.

Sustainable Transport Objectives

In order to manage its environmental impacts from travel, the University of Lincoln will undertake the following objectives:

University-wide Travel Plan: The University will engage with staff and students and consult with specialists to produce a five-year Travel Plan. This document will examine options for reducing the need to travel, encouraging non-car methods of transport, incentives for using public transport and any infrastructure changes required. In the short term, it is acknowledged that the Covid-19 pandemic will strongly influence methods of transport chosen by staff and students. The plan will reflect this and seek to support active travel and plans for the medium term.

Conduct travel surveys: The University will conduct travel surveys of staff and students every two years. The information collected will be used to inform the travel plan and consider changes to current sustainable travel initiatives.

Improve sustainable transport infrastructure: Using information gathered from staff and student engagement, the Travel Plan and Travel Survey, the University will review specific infrastructure needs for each campus, to ensure staff and students are able to travel to the University in the most sustainable manner. The University will regularly review the provision of car parking and cycling facilities at all campus sites.

Reduce the need to travel where possible: Video conferencing facilities will be made available where appropriate to reduce the need to travel. The University is currently working with LiftShare to help enable the reduction of vehicles travelling to Lincoln, via car sharing.

Reduce Business Travel: If staff and students are required to travel on University business, they will be encouraged to consider, and to reduce where possible, the carbon impact of this travel by choosing more sustainable options. This is detailed in the University Expenses Policy. This includes choosing economy flights for essential international travel and prioritising train travel for domestic journeys. Data on business travel will be gathered and included in our scope 3 carbon emissions. A policy on carbon offsetting will be developed.

Highlight health benefits: The University will encourage walking or cycling to work as a health and wellbeing benefit. Events, website content and promotions will be used to encourage active travel. The Sustainability Team will also work in collaboration with other departments such as HR, the Students' Union and the Sports Centre to find other channels to deliver healthy alternatives to travel, commuting and exercise.

Promoting public transport: Links to information on public transport services will be made available on the Estates and HR blog websites and on the New Starter Hub. Additionally, schemes offering reduced fare travel for University employees will be promoted to staff.

Manage fleet and hired vehicles: Where appropriate, staff will be encouraged to ensure that sustainability issues are factored into fleet management and vehicle hire arrangements. The Sustainability Team will work with Procurement to ensure sustainability considerations are included within tenders for new travel-related contracts.

Develop site specific travel plans: Site specific travel plans will be developed for all new developments.

Version Control

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11/03/2021	V1.0	Tracey Turton	G Anderson