Sustainability Policy
Poileasaidh Seasmhachd

UHI

UHI Sustainability and Climate Change Policy
Poileasaidh Seasmhachd is Atharrachadh Gnàth-shìde UHI

UHI recognises that all of its functions and operations have an impact on the environment. UHI will therefore reduce its impact on the local and global environment by demonstrating clear leadership, providing high quality learning and teaching, whilst managing environmental and climate risks, preventing pollution, reducing waste and the use of resources and greenhouse gas emissions, adapting and reducing vulnerabilities to climate change and the ecological emergency. UHI will strive towards compliance with all environmental, climate change and social value legislation, guidance and best practice principles to fulfil its statutory environmental and climate change responsibilities.

As part of its commitment to acting sustainably and safeguarding the environment, UHI will follow an informed approach to protect the environment and the landscape of our regions. To mitigate and adapt to climate change we will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to net zero as soon as possible and no later than 2040 and become energy secure. UHI will improve its resilience to future climate predictions and manage risks, conserve our natural resources, enhance biodiversity and strive to further improve the quality of life and the sense of well-being for all staff, students. Through our research and the use of UHI assets, we will improve the quality of life of communities and residents in our regions.

We will do this by working constructively with students, partners and communities and by ensuring that in reaching decisions, the full range of sustainability, environment and climate change aspects are taken into account over the short, medium and long term. To meet these commitments, we will:

Tha UHI a' tuigsinn gu bheil buaidh aig a h-uile gnìomh agus obair air an àrainneachd. Mar sin, lùghdaichidh UHI a' bhuaidh a bheir e air an àrainneachd ionadail agus cruinneil le bhith a' taisbeanadh ceannardas soilleir, a' toirt seachad ionnsachadh agus teagasg de dh'àrd-chàileachd, agus aig an aon àm a' riaghladh chunnartan àrainneachdail is gnàth-shìde, a' casg truailleadh, a' lùghdachadh sgudal agus cleachdadh air goireasan is sgaoilidhean gasa taigh-glainne, ag atharrachadh agus a' lughdachadh so-leòntachdan a thaobh atharrachadh gnàth-shìde agus an èiginn eag-eòlasach. Bidh UHI a' strì a dh'ionnsaigh gèilleadh do reachdas àrainneachdail, atharrachadh gnàth-shìde agus luach sòisealta, stiùireadh agus prionnsapalan deagh chleachdadh uile, gus a dhleastanasan reachdail a thaobh àrainneachd agus atharrachadh gnàth-shìde a choileanadh.

Mar phàirt den dealas aige a bhith ag obair gu seasmhach agus a' dìon na h-àrainneachd, leanaidh UHI dòigh-obrach fhiosraichte gus an àrainneachd agus cruth-tìre ar roinnean a dhìon. Gus atharrachadh gnàth-shìde a lasachadh agus gabhail ris, lùghdaichidh sinn na sgaoilidhean gasa taigh-glainne againn gu neoni cho luath 's a ghabhas agus gun a bhith nas fhaide na 2040 agus bidh sinn tèarainte le lùth. Leasaichidh UHI a shoirbheachas a thaobh ro-innsean gnàth-shìde san àm ri teachd, a' stiùireadh chunnartan, a' gleidheadh ar stòrasan nàdarra, ag àrdachadh bith-iomadachd agus a' strì ri càileachd beatha a leasachadh nas motha agus faireachdainn mathas an luchd-obrach is oileanaich air fad. Tro ar rannsachadh agus cleachdadh maoin UHI, leasaichidh sinn càileachd beatha choimhearsnachdan agus luchd-còmhnaidh nar sgìrean.

Nì sinn seo le bhith ag obair gu cuideachail le oileanaich, com-pàirtichean agus coimhearsnachdan agus le bhith a' dèanamh cinnteach ann a bhith a' tighinn gu co-dhùnaidhean, gu bheilear a' toirt aire don raon iomlan de thaobhan seasmhachd, àrainneachd agus atharrachadh gnàth-shìde sa gheàrr-ùine, sa mheadhan-ùine agus san fhad-ùine. Gus na geallaidhean sin a choileanadh, bidh sinn:

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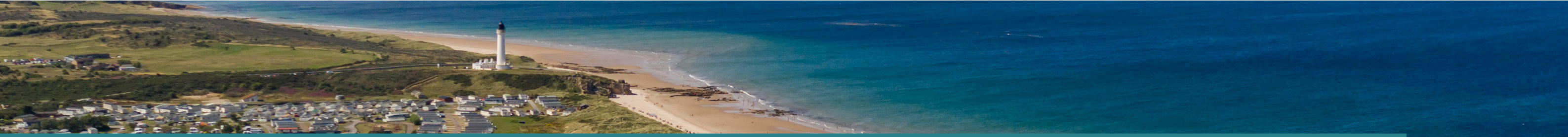
- Maintain and develop systems and procedures that identify and manage UHI's environmental and climate change impacts.
- Introduce and provide systems that ensure all activities are sustainable and take action to prevent pollution and mitigate and minimise environmental risks.
- Reduce our use of energy, water and natural resources consistent with and in support of net zero, circular economy principles and zero waste.
- Set challenging targets to be met or exceeded with urgency and act in a way best calculated to reduce CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions from UHI premises, operations, travel and activities reporting these each year to the Scottish Government. (Including a Carbon Budget when adopted).
- Identify the risks and vulnerabilities from expected climate change and produce plans and actions to limit negative impacts and improve resilience.
- Lead by example and use our influence to raise awareness and understanding of environmental and climate change issues through learning & teaching, research and knowledge exchange and actively encourage responsible practices and behaviours that accelerate positive impacts.
- Promote sustainable procurement throughout the supply chain and adopt innovative solutions that positively benefit the environment.

- Cumail suas agus a' leasachadh shiostaman is mhodhan-obrach a chomharraicheas agus a stiùireas buaidhean àrainneachdail agus atharrachadh gnàth-shìde OGE.
- Toirt a-steach agus a' solarachadh shiostaman a nì cinnteach gu bheil a h-uile gnìomh seasmhach agus a' gabhail cheumannan gus casg a chur air truailleadh agus cunnartan àrainneachdail a lasachadh agus a lùghdachadh.
- Lùghdachadh ar cleachdadh air lùth, uisge agus stòrasan nàdarra a rèir agus an taic do neoni lom, prionnsapalan eaconamaidh cearcallach agus gun ana-caitheamh.
- Suidheachadh thargaidean dùbhlanach a thèid a choileanadh no a dhol thairis orra le cabhag agus gnìomhadh san dòigh as fheàrr air a thomhas gus CO2 a lùghdachadh, agus sgaoilidhean gasa taigh-glainne eile bho thogalaichean, obraichean, siubhal agus gnìomhan UHI a lùghdachadh, ag aithris orra seo gach bliadhna do Riaghaltas na h-Alba. (A' gabhail a-steach Buidseat Carboin nuair a thèid gabhail ris).
- Comharrachadh nan cunnartan agus so-leòntachdan bho atharrachadh gnàth-shìde ris a bheil dùil agus cur ri chèile phlanaichean agus gnìomhan gus buaidhean àicheil a chuingealachadh agus seasmhachd a leasachadh.
- Stiùireadh le eisimpleir agus a' cleachdadh ar buaidh gus mothachadh agus tuigse a thogail mu chùisean àrainneachdail agus atharrachadh gnàth-shìde tro ionnsachadh is teagasg, rannsachadh agus iomlaid eòlais, agus gu gnìomhach a' brosnachadh chleachdaidhean agus giùlan ciallach a luathaicheas buaidhean adhartach.
- Brosnachadh solar seasmhach air feadh na sèine solair agus gabhail ri fuasglaidhean ùr-ghnàthach a tha buannachdail don àrainneachd.



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- Develop and implement integrated, sustainable transport solutions and travel plans that align with targets and processes and meet the needs of staff, students, partners and visitors, including staff journeys to, from and at work, business and student travel.
- Introduce modules and course content on United Nations SDGs.
- Conserve the natural and historic environment at UHI premises and assets by protecting and enhancing the landscape, bio-diversity, any historic assets and protecting carbon sequestration in soils and land.
- Develop an approach to ensure that local environmental, social and economic issues relating to the health and fair treatment of people are considered while also strengthening and enhancing UHI's role and impact on social value and a just transition to achieving net zero.
- Set formal objectives across all teams and sections and provide the necessary training, resources and performance review to ensure continuous improvement of overall sustainability performance and embedded the need for urgent and ongoing climate change action.
- Promote this policy and make it known to all staff, students, partners suppliers, contractors, other stakeholders and the public.

- Leasachadh agus cur an gnìomh fhuasglaidhean còmhdhail amalaichte is seasmhach agus planaichean siubhail a tha a rèir targaidean is pròiseasan, agus a choinnicheas ri feumalachdan luchd-obrach, oileanaich, com-pàirtichean agus luchd-tadhail, a' gabhail a-steach tursan luchd-obrach gu, bho agus aig obair, siubhal gnothachais agus oileanaich.
- Toirt a-steach mhodalan agus susbaint cùrsa air SDGan nan Dùthchannan Aonaichte.
- Gleidheadh an àrainneachd nàdarrach is eachdraidheil aig togalaichean agus maoin UHI le bhith a' dìon agus ag àrdachadh cruth-tìre, bith-iomadachd, maoin eachdraidheil sam bith agus a' dìon glacadh gualain ann an ùir is fearann.
- Leasachadh dòigh-obrach gus dèanamh cinnteach gu bheilear a' beachdachadh air cùisean àrainneachdail, sòisealta agus eaconamach ionadail co-cheangailte ri slàinte agus làimhseachadh cothromach dhaoine, agus aig an aon àm a' neartachadh agus ag àrdachadh àite agus buaidh OGE air luach sòisealta agus gluasad dìreach gu neoni lom.
- Suidheachadh amasan foirmeil thar gach sgioba agus roinn agus a' toirt seachad an trèanaidh, goireasan agus sgrùdadh coileanaidh riatanach gus dèanamh cinnteach à leasachadh leantainneach air coileanadh seasmhachd iomlan, agus a' stèidheachadh an fheum air gnìomh èiginneach is leantainneach a thaobh atharrachadh gnàth-shìde.
- Brosnachadh a' phoileasaidh seo agus ga dhèanamh aithnichte do luchd-obrach, oileanaich, solaraichean com-pàirteachais, cunnradairean uile, luchd-ùidhe eile agus am poball.

Vicki Nairn
UHI Principal and Vice-Chancellor
Air a shoidhnigeadh le VC

Alastair MacColl
UHI Chair of Court
Air a shoidhnigeadh le Ceann-suidhe na Cùirte

22/5/2023
Date | Ceann-latha

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