

# SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK



Leeds Arts University is committed to establishing and progressing the highest possible standards of sustainability across all its activities.

To support this goal, the University's Sustainability Framework first launched in 2015, to identify and guide how the University community should engage with and advance its sustainability practices.

The University became a signatory of the SDG Accord in 2019 with a commitment to report annually on the progress made in contributing to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Additionally, the University prepares an Annual Sustainability Report to highlight progress, celebrate success and identify areas for future improvement.

In 2023, the University updated its Carbon Management Plan to launch a new Estate Sustainability Plan, targeting a net zero emissions Estate by 2035.

In 2025, the updated Sustainability Framework reflects an organisational approach to Sustainability which prepares for and responds to the impacts of climate change, across four strands of:

## 1. PERFORMANCE

- Overseeing the monitoring, benchmarking and reporting of sustainability performance
- Ensuring University policies and procedures support sustainability
- Instilling a culture of continual improvement

## 2. ENGAGEMENT

- Facilitating student, staff and community participation in sustainability initiatives through partnerships
- Supporting individuals to be aware of responsibilities and understand their impacts through training & development
- Communicating progress and celebrating success

## 3. EDUCATION

- Fostering enquiry into sustainability in the creative arts through teaching, learning and research
- Embedding sustainability within the curriculum
- Ensuring our students are sustainability literate, equipped with the skills, knowledge and understanding to live and work in a complex and changing world

## 4. OPERATIONS

- Optimising our buildings and infrastructure to reduce emissions and improve efficiency, adaptation and resilience in energy and water usage to support our target of a net zero estate by 2035
- Optimising our waste management and sustainable procurement practices, seeking circular resource-use opportunities
- Enhancing and developing opportunities for Sustainable travel and Biodiversity

An Action Plan underpins each strand of the Framework. Progress on objectives is regularly reviewed and reported to the University's Sustainability Committee which is chaired by the Vice-Chancellor.

The accompanying graphic visually represents our Sustainability Framework with the University and the SDGs at its core.

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“To educate,  
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\*Leeds Arts University Mission, supported by the Sustainability Framework.