

Environmental Policy

In providing excellent premises and facilities for research and education; the Institute recognises its responsibility to the environment and society.

The ICR commits to prevent harm to the environment (locally, regionally and globally), both from the direct impact of its activities and through what influence might reasonably be brought to bear on its contractors, suppliers and partner organisations.

The ICR will ensure good practice and continual improvement in environmental management and performance, by:

1. Maintaining an externally certified ISO14001 environmental management system (EMS).
2. Underneath this policy, the ICR sets improvement objectives for environmental sustainability. These objectives will be reviewed on an annual basis.
3. Meeting, and wherever practicable exceeding all environmental compliance requirements – including laws, policy commitments or sector agreements.
4. The Institute recognises the wide variety of interactions it has with the environment in carrying out its activities and will therefore employ specialists where necessary to provide appropriate advice.
5. Risk assessment will be used to understand risks and opportunities posed by environmental issues taking a life-cycle perspective and establish priorities for improvement as outlined in [2] above. Risk assessments will be used to understand environmental impacts, provide and maintain appropriate control measures and to ensure that pollution is prevented.
6. Ensuring staff, students, contractors and service providers work competently and are not causing damage to the environment through their activities. This includes appropriate information, instruction, training and supervision and making sure that they are aware of this policy and how it applies to them when they are working with the ICR.
7. Reducing the Institute's contribution to climate change from energy use through ICR's sustainable Energy Policy and the implementation of a Carbon Management Plan.
8. Preventing pollution by managing and reducing emissions to air and discharges to water.

9. Minimizing waste (and pollution caused by waste), this involves implementing the waste hierarchy with waste prevention as first priority, followed by reuse, recycling, incineration with energy recovery. Landfill of waste or incineration without energy recovery shall be a last resort for ICR's waste. Ensuring that both storage, transport and treatment of waste does not present a hazard to health or risk of injury. We ensure that contractors working on ICR sites are aware of our waste requirements.
10. Encouraging sustainable travel practices by Institute staff, students and contractors with initiatives taken to reduce private car use through promotion of public transport, lift-shares and cycling to work
11. Ensuring that the design and construction of all refurbishment and new building projects take into account sustainable construction principles and best practice in health and safety beyond the legal minimum.
12. Maintaining biodiversity on ICR's properties and ground – and enhancing biodiversity where there are practicable opportunities
13. Implementing a sustainable procurement policy where environmental and social impacts are part of the decision making process with regards to purchasing
14. Engaging with staff, students as well as the wider community, primarily research, higher education and healthcare, to promote best practice in environmental sustainability. All staff and students share a collective responsibility for our environmental performance.
15. Ensuring that environmental sustainability issues are fully considered and integrated into the strategic direction and future plans of ICR including new activities, construction projects and acquisitions.

This policy will be actively communicated to all staff, students and visitors and is available to anybody upon request. This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Chief Executive.
Paul Workman
July 2016

