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1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This policy outlines how CQUniversity will undertake its business in a more sustainable manner by aligning with the Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) standards (led by the Australian Government) and contributing to the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#).
- 1.2 This policy supports CQUniversity's [Strategic Plan](#) to advance a culture of sustainability that is reflected in the University's learning, teaching, research and general business practices.

2 SCOPE

- 2.1 This policy applies to business practices undertaken by and for CQUniversity, and members of the University community including:
 - members of the University Council and Committees
 - an office holder or board member in a University controlled or non-controlled entity
 - adjunct or honorary appointees of the University
 - University employees and students, and
 - any other person/s appointed or engaged by the University to perform duties or functions on its behalf, including contractors, consultants and/or volunteers.

3 POLICY STATEMENT

- 3.1 The University has a responsibility to educate its employees and students to preserve the quality of life for present and future generations; support the communities the University operates within; and manage business as a global community member. Using the power of place and engagement strategies, the University will identify opportunities to embed relevant sustainable practices.
- 3.2 Sustainability is about providing for the present without compromising the ability of future generations. The University is committed to operating in a sustainable, economically rewarding, socially considerate and technically feasible manner.

- 3.3 Supporting this policy is an operational Sustainability Framework that aligns with and provides practice guidance towards achieving the University's strategic goals. This policy provides focus on four main key principles:
- environmental sustainability management
 - social wellbeing
 - sustainable governance, and
 - engaged teaching, learning and research that reflects sustainability practice, where appropriate.

Corporate practice

- 3.4 The University will effectively manage sustainability by:
- implementing and maintaining a structure that ensures the systematic management of sustainability through the University campuses and sites
 - complying with all statutory requirements
 - minimising its environmental impact and managing its carbon footprint by focused actions on its energy, water, waste management and recycling
 - embedding sustainability in decision making processes
 - providing appropriate training in and communicating relevant sustainability information to all employees, students, contractors, visitors and the wider community
 - developing and showcasing the University as a best practice model in sustainability
 - annual reporting against progress, and
 - creating targets within the [Strategic Plan](#) for delivery.

Teaching and research

- 3.5 The University confirms its commitment to sustainability in teaching and research and will:
- where appropriate promote knowledge for students to live sustainably
 - advance the University's contribution to research on sustainability
 - promote sustainability within and beyond the University, and
 - engage with and involve students in sustainability projects and ideas, where appropriate.

Community engagement

- 3.6 The University will:
- share and exchange sustainability knowledge and experience with other universities, community groups, and the public and private sector
 - foster engagement of the University community and wider community in sustainability, and
 - develop strategies to create knowledge and leadership in sustainability among local, national and international communities.

4 RESPONSIBILITIES

Compliance, monitoring and review

- 4.1 The Director of Facilities Management is responsible for implementing, monitoring, reviewing and ensuring compliance with this policy.

Reporting

- 4.2 An annual report will be presented to the Strategic Planning and Projects Committee, via the University Management Committee, by the end of first quarter of the following year.

Records management

- 4.3 Employees must manage records in accordance with the [Records Management Policy and Procedure](#). This includes retaining these records in a recognised University recordkeeping information system.
- 4.4 University records must be retained for the minimum periods specified in the relevant [Retention and Disposal Schedule](#). Before disposing of any records, approval must be sought from the Records and Privacy Team (email records@cqu.edu.au).

5 DEFINITIONS

- 5.1 Terms not defined in this document may be in the University [glossary](#).

6 RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

[Environment Protection Act 1993](#) (SA)

[Environment Protection Act 2017](#) (Vic)

[Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999](#) (Cwlth)

[Environmental Protection Act 1994](#) (Qld)

[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975](#) (Cwlth)

[Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989](#) (Cwlth)

[Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997](#) (NSW)

[Strategic Plan 2024-2028](#)

Sustainability Framework

[Sustainable Development Goals](#) (United Nations)

[Vegetation Management Act 1999](#) (Qld)

[Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001](#) (NSW)

[Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011](#) (Qld)

[Water Act 2000](#) (Qld)

7 FEEDBACK

- 7.1 Feedback about this document can be emailed to policy@cqu.edu.au.

8 APPROVAL AND REVIEW DETAILS

Approval and Review	Details
Approval Authority	Council
Delegated Approval Authority	Strategic Planning and Projects Committee
Advisory Committee	N/A
Required Consultation	N/A
Administrator	Director Facilities Management
Next Review Date	30/07/2027

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Notes	