

# Biodiversity Policy

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London Metropolitan University is committed to the principles of environmental protection and sustainable development with the aim of reducing its environmental impact. The University is located across three main sites in central London, which mainly consist of buildings and limited outside spaces. We recognise that our operations have the potential to impact on biodiversity both directly and indirectly and that we have a responsibility to manage these impacts.

## **1. Objectives**

The policy supports the objectives set out in the University's Environmental Sustainability Strategy to ensure we identify, maintain and enhance biodiversity across our campuses and that construction, refurbishment or maintenance of the estate improves biodiversity and does not have a negative impact on existing habitats.

The policy supports London Borough of Islington's "Biodiversity in built Environment" good practice guide which key aim to ensure both new developments and existing buildings make the most of opportunities to promote biodiversity and to maximise its contribution to people's quality of life.

The policy supports London Borough of Tower Hamlets "Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2014-19" to contribute maintain, enhance and create habitats and species.

## **2. Key Responsibilities**

Sustainability Team is responsible for this policy, which reports to the Estates Senior Management Team. The Sustainability Team has overall responsibility for implementation and monitoring of this policy. Estates will communicate this policy with its stakeholders.

## **3. Stakeholders**

- Employees
- Students
- Contractors
- Suppliers

## **4. Key Aims**

- Comply with all relevant UK legislation and statutory codes of practice relating to biodiversity
- Develop a Biodiversity Action Plan which will be reviewed annually or after any projects which have an impact on biodiversity
- Plan and manage our grounds and gardens activities to avoid loss of

biodiversity and enhance where possible

- When commissioning and undertaking projects including capital works schemes, other projects and maintenance schemes likely to result in disturbance or other impact to land and/or water, endeavour to avoid damaging wild species and their habitats and, where appropriate, create opportunities for biodiversity enhancement
- Improve air quality by maintaining and expanding our green spaces
- Raise awareness of biodiversity at the University and encourage students and staff to engage in biodiversity activities
- Work in partnership with environmental groups and local authorities where appropriate, including support London Borough of Islington and London Borough of Tower Hamlets biodiversity guide and LBAP.
- Review and monitor annually recorded habitats and species.

## 5. Policy review timescales

Approval and Review	Details
Approval Authority	Estates Senior Management Team
Lead	Sustainability Team
Approval date	31 <sup>st</sup> July
Next Review Date and Updates	Annually from approval date / Update in accordance with projects and or improvements made.

## 6. Related Documentation

- Sustainable Construction and Refurbishment Policy
- Environmental Sustainability Strategy
- London Borough of Islington [“Biodiversity in Built Environment”](#)
- London Borough of Tower Hamlets [“Local Biodiversity Action Plan”](#) (LBAP)