

Environmental Policy

Introduction

This policy has been prepared in response to the commitment by the Church of England to reach carbon net zero by 2030 and in response to the ongoing climate and environmental crisis.

The policy reflects those steps essential for the realisation of the Fifth Mark of Mission, “to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth”, and also identifies those areas of LCT’s life and community where we have particular environmental responsibility.

The policy has been drafted by the Environmental Response Group which consists of representatives from students, staff, tutors and trustees. It is intended to be a living document which will be reviewed regularly.

Aims and Objectives

We will commit to practices that promote environmental and social justice and will take environmental concerns into account in all aspects of LCT’s life and community including its teaching, worship, administration and communal activities.

We will participate in the Eco Church programme and will seek to work towards the silver award.

Energy Use and Carbon Footprint

We will seek to reduce our energy use and our greenhouse gas emissions in those areas where we are able to influence those actions. In particular:

- We will conduct an environmental audit to identify those areas within our control where there are significant issues which should be addressed and make and implement plans to tackle them.
- Whilst we do not own or control land or buildings, we will seek to make use of premises where the owners have a commitment to reduce the environmental impact in line with this policy. We will encourage and support owners in this respect.
- In planning events and courses such as residential modules we will seek to limit and reduce their environmental impact, for instance in areas of catering, travel etc.
- We will seek to reduce material consumption and reduce unnecessary waste.
- Where we serve food we will, where possible, choose local produce and seek to minimise its carbon footprint, with vegetarian options where appropriate.
- In the purchase of resources for teaching/learning purposes we shall encourage the use of online resources rather than physical items

Lifestyle

- We will encourage administrative and teaching staff and students wherever possible to use forms of transport to work and lectures which have minimum or reduced environmental impact.
- We will promote and encourage the whole LCT community to live simply and sustainably.

Worship and Teaching

- We will take environmental considerations into account when formulating our blended learning policy and determining the mode and mix of teaching methods for modules, e.g. online or face to face teaching.
- We will include the importance of care for creation in our worship and communal life.
- We will work towards being in a position where we can incorporate environmental teaching and learning within our syllabus and teaching practices.
- We will investigate further how to provide learning opportunities for students on environmental theology and theologies of creation to assist in mission for the future.