

Case Study

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Case Study: University Environmental Manager

The Challenge

A large university required support in saving energy and money and implementing more sustainability initiatives across their sites.

The Solution

A staff member was seconded into an Environment & Sustainability Manager post, reporting to the Director of Estates & Facilities as the University's key point of contact for all environment and sustainability issues. This included working with the Estates & Facilities Department and wider University to identify and implement cost efficiencies.

The Environment & Sustainability Manager post managed teams of consultants and contractors to develop action plans and implement measures to improve performance in areas including: energy; waste; travel; biodiversity; water; discharges and emissions; sustainable and ethical procurement; sustainable construction and refurbishment; community engagement; environmental compliance and management systems.

The role was also responsible for creating, contributing to, updating, maintaining and promoting formal policies, plans, objectives, registers, targets and programmes relating to environmental and sustainability management.

Activities related to the implementation, development and maintenance of an Environmental Management System and associated accreditations were also co-ordinated. Close liaison with University stakeholders, including Local Authority and Statutory Bodies was ensured. Training and workshops were also provided and delivered to staff and students on a range of sustainability issues.

Detailed planning and budgetary papers were prepared for all associated works and present these to the University's senior management team for discussion and approval.

The Outcome

The Environment & Sustainability Manager has managed to consolidate work streams across the University. A contract was set up with a waste broker to replace various ad hoc contracts used to manage the university's waste. Confidential waste was previously managed by paying per minute for onsite shredding to paying per volume. With regards to energy, all bills were reviewed and refunds obtained against overpayment of energy, tax and Climate Change Levy.

A cycle to work scheme was also implemented which ensured the university to receive 12.5% cashback to invest in other schemes. The University are continuing to work towards ensuring year on year improvement of their position under the People and Planet Green League.



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