

Biodiversity Policy

The University of Strathclyde recognises that our land and property assets encompass a range of habitats and species, with opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

We are committed to actively enhancing and promoting biodiversity on our grounds. Benefits include supporting biodiversity in our local neighbourhoods and region, enhancing the health and well-being of our staff, students, visitors and the wider community.

This policy will build upon established initiatives such as incorporating biodiversity learning in our teaching and research programmes and our cross disciplinary work.

The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 placed a duty on all public bodies to further the conservation of biodiversity within their premises. Our duties are further defined under the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011 which requires us to report on progress to the Scottish Government.

Our Objectives

For the University of Strathclyde, actively managing biodiversity means:

1. Developing and maintaining an up to date list of species and habitats through the continued commissioning and periodic review of biodiversity surveys of key land holdings.
2. Conserving and enhancing existing, and creating new habitats. Specifically replacing any trees that are removed on a 3 for 1 basis.
3. Maintaining excellent grounds management practices by landscape staff and contractors.
4. Keeping ecological enhancement opportunities at the forefront of decision making relating to major refurbishments and new capital project investments.
5. Meeting or exceeding the requirements of legislation regarding biodiversity.
6. Enhancing staff, student and the local community involvement in biodiversity issues where appropriate.
7. Continuing to promote healthy living and well-being through use of outdoor amenity areas.
8. Seeking funding and grants to facilitate our biodiversity aims.
9. Developing relations with neighbours and interested parties and sharing knowledge and resources relating to biodiversity.

The place of useful learning

The University of Strathclyde is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, number SC015263

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INTENSIVE UNIVERSITY

THE UK UNIVERSITY OF THE
YEAR WINNER

THE UK ENTREPRENEURIAL
UNIVERSITY OF THE
YEAR WINNER

Current Progress

We have an up to date Phase 1 Habitat Survey of the John Anderson Campus, the playing fields at Stepps and Ross Priory. This is enabling the University to understand the nature of existing habitats and potential future enhancement opportunities.

Next Steps to be completed

The next steps will include developing an implementation plan that will embed awareness and learning of biodiversity throughout the University. This will enhance partnerships throughout the University, and with the wider community, encouraging a cross-disciplinary and strategic approach moving forward.