



Grounds Management Policy

The policy forms part of the University's sustainability framework and supports the Biodiversity Action Plan. The University commits to, as far as reasonably practicable, our grounds are maintained in a manner that:

- Provides an environment which helps to enhance the University's academic, business and social activities.
- Maintains the distinct character of the individual campuses.
- Retains and enhances the University's parkland.
- Retains the varied specimen tree stock.
- Promotes a variety of uses for the grounds, e.g. academic, sport and recreational.
- Creates a safe environment for all students, staff and visitors address the risks and opportunities relating to grounds management.
- minimise negative and maximise positive, environmental impacts resulting from grounds management activities.
- ensure appropriate consideration of sustainability issues when undertaking grounds management works, including reference to the requirements of the University's Biodiversity Action Plan.
- ensure compliance with relevant environmental legislation.
- minimise the use of pesticides & herbicides.
- undertake monitoring of protected species on campus e.g. bat surveys and monitoring ahead of works on our campuses.
- monitor and protect any IUCN Red Listed species and national conservation list species.
- ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems on our campuses.
- reduce the impact of alien species on our campuses eg Japanese Knotweed.
- When sourcing plants, select locally grown, non-alien species.
- Provides a cost effective and professional grounds maintenance service.
- Ensures grounds maintenance practices are safe and comply with relevant legislation.
- Focuses available resources on the areas that are most highly used.
- Adopts a risk-based approach to the prioritisation of workload.
- Uses sustainable practices where possible, subject to budgetary constraints.

Reviewed: November 2021

Next Review Date: November 2022

Reviewed by: University Sustainability Management Group