



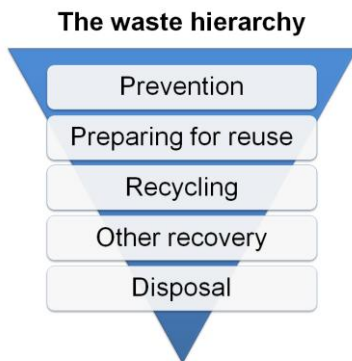
## Waste Management Policy

<b>Brief Description &amp; Purpose:</b>	This Policy sets out the University’s commitments to reduce the volume of waste and the associated carbon emissions produced by the University through waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery initiatives.		
	The policy is overseen by the University Sustainability Management Group. Progress is reported via the Annual Sustainability Report.		
<b>Applicable to (list cohorts):</b>	<b>Staff:</b> All staff	<b>Students:</b> All students	<b>Third Parties:</b> Waste Contractors
<b>Date Created:</b>	16 June 2021	<b>Last Review Date:</b>	01 June 2026
<b>Approval Authority:</b>	University Sustainability Management Group	<b>Approved:</b>	15 June 2026
<b>Executive Owner:</b>	Prof John Woodward	<b>Business Owner:</b>	Dr Paul Steadman
<b>Next Review Date:</b>	15 June 2028	<b>Publication External Y/N</b>	Yes

### 1. Introduction

The Waste Management Policy forms part of Northumbria University’s sustainability framework and supports both the Environmental Sustainability Policy and the Single Use Plastics and Disposable Items Policy.

The Policy aims to reduce the negative environmental impacts of waste generation by preventing, reusing, repurposing, and reducing waste from University operations. It ensures waste is managed in compliance with environmental legislation and applies to all waste streams, including hazardous and non-hazardous waste.



The University is committed to supporting the circular economy through effective waste minimisation, plastics reduction, and a ‘zero landfill’ policy. Waste is managed in line with the waste hierarchy (prevention, reuse, recycling, recovery, and disposal) and the requirements of the Environmental Management System, certified to ISO14001:2015.

This policy will be monitored and reviewed annually by the University Sustainability Management Group.



## 2. Policy Detail

### 2.1 Aim

To reduce the volume of waste and the associated carbon emissions produced by the University through waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and recovery initiatives.

### 2.2 Requirements

The University will:

- Ensure compliance with environmental legislation by storing, segregating, and collecting all waste through fully licensed waste contractors.
- Manage emissions and discharges by requiring all University members to follow Waste Procedure EP08A, overseen by the Sustainability Manager.
- Accurately measure the amounts of waste sent to landfill, energy-from-waste, and recycling, including dry mixed recycling, non-hazardous, clinical, and hazardous waste.
- Reduce the overall amount of waste produced and its associated emissions.
- Provide staff training to ensure correct handling of all waste types, including clinical and hazardous waste.
- Manage all waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy.
- Reduce the use of single-use plastics and disposable items wherever possible (see **Single Use Plastics and Disposable Items Policy**).

### 2.3 Targets

The University has established the following waste reduction targets:

- Increase total waste sent for reuse, composting, anaerobic digestion, or recycling to 65% by 2030.
- Achieve a 15% reduction in total waste produced from the 2018/19 baseline by 2030.

### 2.4 Waste Reduction Strategies

The following strategies have been adopted across campus:

- Installation of **scan-to-print printers** to reduce printing volumes.
- Reuse of unwanted furniture from refurbishment projects.
- Partnership with the British Heart Foundation Pack for Good Campaign during student move-out periods.
- Publication of waste procedures for all waste streams across the University.
- Clear signage on all internal bins indicating correct disposal methods.
- Training for relevant staff teams (e.g., cleaning, maintenance, technicians) on waste procedures.
- Waste awareness campaigns to encourage staff and students to reduce waste and recycle correctly.



- Installation of internal and external recycling bins to increase on-site segregation of recycling.
- Promotion of Love Food Hate Waste initiatives in catering outlets and student halls.
- Provision of free drinking water refill stations across campus to reduce single-use plastic bottles (locations available via the **UK Refill App**).
- Discounts in campus cafés for customers using reusable cups.
- Improved meeting room facilities to enable paperless meetings in rooms with 12 or more participants.

### 3. Key Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
University Sustainability Management Group	Policy oversight, monitoring and annual review.
Sustainability Manager	Oversight of Waste Procedure EP08A, compliance monitoring and reporting.
Facilities, Cleaning, Maintenance and Technical Teams	Proper handling, segregation and disposal of all waste types.
Staff, Students, Visitors	Complying with waste procedures, reducing waste and participating in recycling initiatives.
Contractors and Waste Providers	Providing licensed collection, disposal, and recycling services in line with University requirements.

### 4. Definitions

- **Waste Hierarchy** – A framework prioritising waste prevention, reuse, recycling, and recovery before disposal.
- **Zero Landfill Policy** – Commitment to divert waste away from landfill through reuse, recycling, and energy recovery.
- **Circular Economy** – A model of production and consumption that minimises waste and maximises reuse, recycling, and resource recovery.
- **ISO14001:2015** – International standard for Environmental Management Systems.
- **Hazardous Waste** – Waste posing a risk to health or the environment, requiring specialist handling and disposal.

### 5. Related Policies, Procedures and Other Resources

- Environmental Sustainability Policy
- Single Use Plastics and Disposable Items Policy
- University Environmental Management System (ISO14001:2015)



## 6.0 Document Control

Version No.	Reviewer	Date	Changes
1.0		16.06.21	Created
1.1	Dr Paul Steadman	20.06.24	Target Update
1.2	Dr Paul Steadman	24.06.25	Strategies, Policy format
1.3	Dr Paul Steadman	01. 06.26	Target Update