

# **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**



Lancaster &  
Morecambe  
the College

December 2006

## **Preface**

Sustainability is about respect;

- Respect for the environment.
- Respect for each other, and:
- Respect for the communities we operate in.

Here at Lancaster and Morecambe we believe that understanding and managing the impact our actions have on people and on the environment is an essential part of being an ethical and socially responsible college, and it needs to be built in to how we go about our business.

We have an important role supporting the local community by providing high quality education and training to enhance the long term future of the region; and we will do this without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same.

Working together we will implement this strategy and action plan to ensure that we continue to develop our college in a responsible manner. Whilst we are all members of teams and ultimately members of one team, the college, we have a responsibility as individuals in playing our part in delivering the core priorities.

Sustainability is everyone's responsibility. We will become a stronger institution, and in doing so will be seen as an exemplar public sector organisation by 2008.

**David Wood**  
**Principal of Lancaster and Morecambe College**

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## 1. **What is sustainable development?**

Sustainable development is the simple idea of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, both now and for generations to come. A widely used definition is:

*'Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'*

World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) (The Brundtland Report) p. 43

Although the idea is simple, the task is substantial. It means meeting four objectives at the same time:

- social progress that recognises the needs of everyone
- effective protection of the environment
- prudent use of natural resources
- the maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment

## 2. **Why is sustainable development important?**

To grasp the concept of sustainable development and understand its importance we have to recognise that the earth has limits. There are limits in terms of natural resources such as metals and oil on which we depend, and limits to the damage that can be done to natural systems such as climate, oceans and forests – on which we also depend.

Sustainable development is also important because as the availability of natural resources decreases, the cost increases. As the UK government becomes more aware of the threat of climate change and the importance of reducing our collective footprint on the planet, new legislation appears. And as our local community and students become more aware of sustainable development, more questions will be asked about our response as an institution and important member of the community.

As a college we believe we should respect natural limits and reduce resource consumption when carrying out our business.

Whilst as a college we recognise that in many ways we have a positive impact on society – developing skills and knowledge – we also understand the need to address the negative impacts to become more sustainable.

## 3. **Purpose**

The purpose of this strategy is to demonstrate our commitment to the principles of sustainable development and provide a framework for action. Lancaster and Morecambe College aims to be recognised as a leader on sustainable development within further education by 2008, this strategy is a key element in us achieving that goal. This strategy will be used to support the 'whole institution approach' to sustainable development that the college is taking, integrating sustainable development thinking and actions into the very fabric of the college.

Through the implementation of the action plan which supports this strategy we will manage what we do on a day-to-day basis to reduce the negative impacts of our activities and improve the positive ones. We will monitor our performance against the objectives identified in this strategy and report them to all of our stakeholders.

#### 4. **Scope**

This sustainable development strategy refers to the activities, products and services relating to Lancaster and Morecambe College. The strategy and action plan cover four key areas of activity and identify seven key targets.

##### *Priority areas*

- **Building Capacity:** supporting behaviour change within the college
- **Buildings and Estates:** reducing the impact of the campus and related construction projects
- **Curriculum:** promoting education or sustainable development through our teaching and training
- **Community Participation:** enhancing our excellent links with the communities within which we operate

The Learning and Skills Councils vision as set out in *'From Here to Sustainability: The Learning and Skills Council's Strategy for Sustainable Development'* is that the learning sector will proactively commit and contribute to sustainable development through its management of resources, the learning opportunities it delivers and its engagement with communities. Lancaster and Morecambe College will ensure this is achieved through the implementation of this strategy.

#### 5. **Management**

To support this strategy and the implementation of the associated action plan the college has established a cross-functional sustainability team (the Sustainability Forum) to drive, monitor and report on progress against the identified priorities. However, overall responsibility for being a more sustainable college lies with David Wood, the Principal of Lancaster and Morecambe College.

#### 6. **Priority areas**

Lancaster and Morecambe College aims to be a leader on sustainable development within further education by 2008. For us to achieve this we have identified the following four priorities which contain seven key objectives.

##### **Priority 1: Building capacity: supporting behaviour change within the college**

People are at the very heart of sustainable development. By working with staff and students we will develop a 'whole institution approach' to sustainable development. We will support staff by providing the skills, knowledge and encouragement to allow the organisation to meet its objectives.

*Objective 1: Build capacity of staff and students to implement sustainable development at a personal and professional level.*

**Priority 2: Buildings and estates: reducing the impact of the campus and related construction projects**

The management of our buildings and the development of new sites can have a huge impact on the environment. The choices we make can on a day-to-day basis can have long term implications in terms of resource consumption and costs for the college. Taking a long term perspective and using whole life costs will reduce the impact of the college and save money.

*Objective 2: Ensure prudent procurement and use of sustainable resources in all that we do.*

*Objective 3: Develop and implement best practice on utilities management to reduce costs and the consumption of natural resources.*

*Objective 4: Minimise the production of waste from the college and ensure the maximum amount is reused and recycled.*

**Priority 3: Curriculum: promoting education for sustainable development through our teaching and training**

Education and training is the core of our business activity. We have a duty to ensure that students emerging from our institution are equipped to face the professional challenges that lay ahead. To support this we will take opportunities to integrate education for sustainable development into all of our education and training programmes.

*Objective 5: Integrate education for sustainable development into all of our education and training programmes.*

**Priority 4: Community participation: enhancing our excellent links with the communities within which we operate**

Lancaster and Morecambe College sees itself as an important and integral part of the local community. Through its commitment to sustainable development the college will extend its networks and relationships with stakeholders locally and nationally.

*Objective 6: Further improve communications with employers, local and regional agencies, suppliers and other key stakeholders.*

*Objective 7: Increase the use of college facilities by the local community.*

## **7. Reporting**

Lancaster and Morecambe will report on progress against the following objectives on an annual basis.

***Summary of key objectives***

*Objective 1: To build on existing good practice and to enhance the capacity of staff and students to implement sustainable development at a personal and professional level.*

*Objective 2: Ensure prudent procurement and use of sustainable resources in all that we do.*

- Objective 3: Develop and implement best practice on utilities management to reduce costs and the consumption of natural resources.*
- Objective 4: Minimise the production of waste from the college and ensure the maximum amount is reused and recycled.*
- Objective 5: Integrate education for sustainable development into all of our education and training programmes.*
- Objective 6: Further improve communications with employers, local and regional agencies, suppliers and other key stakeholders.*
- Objective 7: Increase the use of college facilities by the local community and also the college's involvement in its community.*

Each of these objectives has a number of associated actions which form our sustainable development action plan. This action plan will be updated on a termly basis.

**David Wood**  
**Principal of Lancaster and Morecambe College**

# Appendix I

## Action Plan – June 2006

<b>Priority 1: Building capacity: supporting behaviour change within the college</b>				
<b>Objective 1:</b> To build on existing good practice and to enhance the capacity of staff and students to implement sustainable development at a personal and professional level.				
<b>KEY AREA</b>	<b>SCOPE OF ACTIVITY</b>	<b>PROPOSED ACTIONS 2006/2007</b>	<b>TIMESCALES</b>	<b>OWNER/ RESPONSIBILITY</b>
Capacity building	Raise awareness and understanding of the SD strategy within the college	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Undertake a series of workshops to raise awareness of the policy and strategy, and support understanding of SD within the college</li> </ul>	Nov 2006 onwards	David Wood
	Build sustainable development into the induction for new staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure sustainable development is built into staff induction</li> </ul>	By April 2007	David Wood
	All staff to have sustainable development-related targets in personal objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Build sustainable development targets into performance objectives for staff</li> </ul>	March 2008	David Wood

## Priority 2: Buildings and estates: reducing the impact of the campus and related construction projects

**Objective 2:** Ensure prudent procurement and use of sustainable resources in all that we do.

**Objective 3:** Develop and implement best practice on utilities management to reduce costs and the consumption of natural resources

**Objective 4:** Minimise the production of waste from the college and ensure the maximum amount is reused and recycled

KEY AREA	SCOPE OF ACTIVITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS 2006/2007	TIMESCALES	OWNER/ RESPONSIBILITY
Environmental Management Systems (EMS)	Undertake an audit of existing consumption and management of energy, waste and water with a view to implementing an effective EMS or adopting a sound sustainability policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Action Carbon Trust energy audit as appropriate</li> <li>▪ To set up an energy group</li> </ul>	Sept 2006 onwards	John Mather
Building and design	Promote and deliver good sustainable practice in all design, new build and refurbishment activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New social facilities will reflect best 'S' principles</li> <li>▪ Training flat – to be developed into an example of a sustainable environment</li> </ul>	Apr 2007 July 2007	David Wood Brenda Tattersall
Procurement	Make sure that all procurement practices reflect social and environmental as well as economic costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Produce a sustainable procurement policy and strategy</li> </ul>	Sept 2007	John Pollard
Biodiversity	Implement a locally appropriate biodiversity programme that best manages the site for conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Investigate developing bio-diverse sites in the college</li> <li>▪ Plan to use part of the ADEC yard as a quiet area for staff</li> </ul>	Apr 2007 April 2007	John Mather/Brenda Tattersall John Mather
Travel	Implement a travel plan that tackles the issues of providing access for all as well as reducing the environmental impact of travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop a travel plan</li> <li>▪ Look into minibuses for wheelchair access</li> </ul>	April 2007 Sept 2007	John Mather John Mather

**Priority 3: Curriculum: promoting education for sustainable development through our teaching and training**

**Objective 5:** Integrate Education for Sustainable Development into all of our education and training programmes

KEY AREA	SCOPE OF ACTIVITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS 2006/2007	TIMESCALES	OWNER/ RESPONSIBILITY
Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)	Promote and encourage acceptance and delivery within learning programmes of the Sustainable Development Education Panel's key concepts for ESD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NCFE Sustainable Development Programme to be reviewed</li> </ul>	Sept 2006	Helen Deacon
Learning materials	Consider adopting currently available sustainable development learning materials and develop appropriate sustainable development programmes and modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a resource directory with links, for example <a href="http://www.greentv">www.greentv</a></li> <li>Teachers' toolkit of exemplar assignments and ideas</li> </ul>	Dec 2006 Apr 2007	Helen Deacon Helen Deacon
Whole-institution approach	Implement a whole-institution approach to sustainable development, taking account of both institution-based provision and virtual learning environments, and both informal and formal learning approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitating student action group</li> <li>Curriculum projects, for example using recyclable materials</li> <li>Activities week, for example sustainability to be a theme in European Week</li> <li>Sustainability competition</li> </ul>	Dec 2006 Jul 2007 Mar 2008/9 2008/9	Charmaine Nuttall Heads of Faculties John Perry/Heads of Faculties David Wood
Links and partnerships	Develop links between providers and industry and between pre and post-16 education and training providers (including higher education); also consider European and international partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to develop links with other organisations where sustainability is a prime feature of their business, for example Furniture Matters</li> </ul>	Dec 2006/ ongoing	David Wood/ John Perry
Healthy college programme	Encourage as many colleges as possible to develop and implement a healthy college programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College to develop its link with Healthy Colleges' Network</li> </ul>	July 2007	Louise Evans

**Priority 4: Community participation: enhancing our excellent links with the communities within which we operate**

**Objective 6:** Further improve communication with employers, local and regional agencies, suppliers and other key stakeholders

**Objective 7:** Increase the use of college facilities by the local community and also the college's involvement in its community.

KEY AREA	SCOPE OF ACTIVITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS 2006/2007	TIMESCALES	OWNER/ RESPONSIBILITY
Community engagement	Ensure good communication exists with the local community at all levels, including employers, and that this leads to greater community and employer involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Development of Morecambe Learning Centre as a community venue</li> </ul>	July 2007	Brenda Tattersall
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community newsletter to be published 3 times per year</li> </ul>	July 2007	Coleen Walker
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community provision to be available for all offenders returning to their communities throughout Lancashire</li> </ul>	July 2007	Laura Mitchell
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continuation of basic skills work with employers</li> </ul>	July 2007	Maggie Dodd
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Development of new full cost provision for adults</li> </ul>	July 2007	Anne Purvis
Local and regional networks	Maintain and develop appropriate local and regional partnerships between providers, local authorities, regional development agencies, higher education and other key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sustain existing links with networks and partners to include CLN, NWLLP, UCLAN etc</li> </ul>	July 2007	Brenda Tattersall/ Anne Purvis
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Work with community partners to deliver the OLASS contract in the community</li> </ul>	July 2007	Laura Mitchell
Local markets and ethical trade	Support local markets, ethical and fair trade and socially responsible initiatives within the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Audit existing activity to gain a fuller picture of college activity</li> <li>▪ Audit how community uses the college</li> </ul>	July 2007	Brenda Tattersall
Share facilities	Consider sharing facilities with local community agencies and groups to make the best use of resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify barriers to community use of facilities</li> </ul>	March 2007	David Wood
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Audit current lettings policy and practice</li> </ul>	March 2007	David Wood

Local economic strategies	Be aware of, support and connect to the local economic strategies drawn up and developed by local authorities and regional development agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue to work closely with the Vision Board</li> </ul>	July 2007	David Wood
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain membership of the local Skills for Life Strategy Group</li> </ul>	July 2007	Maggie Dodd
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Collaborate with the NWLLP in the delivery of the community plan</li> </ul>	July 2007	Brenda Tattersall/ David Wood
Volunteering	Encourage learners and providers to undertake volunteering activity as part of community commitment to sustainable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop a resource base for information on gap year and career break volunteering. Student Services to hold files of all organisations offering voluntary schemes abroad; to offer appointments to find the right option for the individual, and to provide presentations cross-campus and in tutorials.</li> </ul>	Dec 2006	Adele Burrows
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Set up LMC Volunteers; a volunteer bureau for students and staff, offering advice and guidance about local volunteering opportunities and running one-off volunteering projects.</li> </ul>	March 2007	Adele Burrows
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Facilitate a student action group that organises their own voluntary projects in the community</li> </ul>	April 2007	Adele Burrows
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organise and run a volunteering fair on campus to promote local and global opportunities.</li> </ul>	September 2007	Adele Burrows