

## Introduction

Edith Cowan University (ECU) aims to develop a set of responsibilities for a sustainable community at ECU. Broad objectives include:

- Developing a heightened awareness and practice of social and environmental sustainability amongst ECU staff, students and communities.
- Embedding the principles of social and environmental sustainability as knowledge and skills into the curriculum and research programs.
- Continuous improvement in reducing the university's environmental footprint in areas of energy, water, materials, waste, biodiversity and transport.

The ECU Sustainable Communities Action Plan comprises actions across 15 sustainability programs derived from the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). A Senior Executive has been allocated accountability for each of the programs and has allocated a Program Manager to be responsible for driving and reporting continuous improvement.

The Sustainable Communities Steering Committee guides continuous improvement through its monitoring and review of actions and targets described in the Sustainable Communities Action Plan. Members of the Steering Committee represent a cross-section of the University and staff selected by Program Managers to report against relevant programs.

The Sustainable Communities Steering Committee meets quarterly to receive reports from each program and review specific initiatives. The Steering Committee is chaired by the DVC (Teaching, Learning and International) who reports progress to the Vice-Chancellors Planning Management Group (VCPMG) and, where appropriate, to the University Council.

Ron Oliver

Chair, Sustainable Communities Steering Committee

## 8. Energy Consumption and Production

Program Owner: Vice-President (Corporate Services)  
Program Manager: Director Facilities and Services  
Steering Committee Member: Brian Yearwood

### OBJECTIVES

To reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions associated with ECU's operations.

### TARGETS for 2014

TARGET	ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identify opportunities to reduce energy consumption</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hold bi-monthly energy management meetings within Facilities and Services to consider and develop energy saving initiatives.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improve data collation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consolidate data collection monitoring processes through the Environment Dashboard.</li><li>Continue to install individual building energy meters to collect data for gas, electricity etc.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aim to stay below the mean average for energy consumption per EFTSL for Australian Universities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Complete the annual Carbon and TEFMA reports and review the University's energy consumption for 2013 against all other TEFMA members.</li><li>Subject to successful contract negotiations implement a District Energy Scheme at Joondalup.</li><li>Review, assess and consider with key Faculty stakeholders, opportunities to reduce energy used to `light up` individual buildings.</li></ul>

## 9. Transport

Program Owner: Vice-President (Corporate Services)  
Program Manager: Director Facilities and Services  
Steering Committee Member: Brian Yearwood

### OBJECTIVES

- To reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from staff and student travel.

### TARGETS for 2014

TARGET	ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work towards an increase of 1-3% of staff and students using active forms of transport by 2015.</li></ul>	<p>Implement 2014 actions of the Travel Plan including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improving pedestrian and cyclist access on JO campus.</li><li>• End-of-trip facilities.</li><li>• Use \$4.5k grant received from RAC for installation of bike “Fixit” stations on JO and ML.</li></ul> <p>Maintain a carbon neutral university pool vehicle fleet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Smaller and low emission vehicles selected for University fleet.</li><li>• Consider an additional electric vehicle in the pool fleet.</li><li>• Offsets purchased through Carbon Neural.</li></ul>

## 10. Water Consumption and Discharge

Program Owner: Vice-President (Corporate Services)  
Program Manager: Director Facilities and Services  
Steering Committee Member: Brian Yearwood

### OBJECTIVES

To achieve continual improvement and innovation in water conservation and efficiency.

### TARGETS for 2014

TARGET	ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identify opportunities to reduce water consumption</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hold bi-monthly water management meetings within Facilities and Services to consider and develop water saving initiatives.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improve data collation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consolidate data collection monitoring processes through the Environment Dashboard.</li><li>Continue to install individual building meters to measure water consumption.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aim to stay below the mean average for water consumption per EFTSL for Australian Universities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Complete the annual TEFMA report and review the University's water consumption for 2013 against all other TEFMA members.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monitor water quality</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Measure and assess annually, water quality from storm water drains at each campus.</li></ul>

## 12. Environmental risks at the South-West Campus

Program Owner: Vice-President (Corporate Services)  
Program Manager: Director Facilities and Services  
Steering Committee Member: Brian Yearwood

### OBJECTIVES

To identify and manage environmental risks associated with the South-West campus.

### TARGETS for 2014

TARGET	ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manage environmental risks associated with the bushland at the Bunbury Campus.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain fencing and warning signage to the contaminated site (Lead from spent ammunition on an old shooting range).</li><li>• Monitor illegal dumping.</li><li>• Monitor fire risks, maintain fire breaks and undertake controlled burns.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work towards the development of a long-term plan for the Bunbury Precinct.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participate in the development of a long-term plan for the Bunbury Precinct.</li></ul>

### 13. Waste produced

Program Owner: Vice-President (Corporate Services)  
Program Manager: Director Facilities and Services  
Steering Committee Member: Brian Yearwood

#### OBJECTIVES

To reduce waste to landfill as a result of activities under the control of Facilities and Services.

#### TARGETS for 2014

TARGET	ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aim to increase the recovery rates of waste and reduce waste to landfill by 1-3% by 2015.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Roll out recycling facilities in all buildings at the Mount Lawley Campus.</li><li>Continue to work with ECU Waste Provider to implement waste management strategies.</li><li>Operationalise the Joondalup Waste Compound.</li><li>Continue to improve management of waste streams.</li></ul>