

University of Kent Waste Strategy 2018-2021

1. Introduction

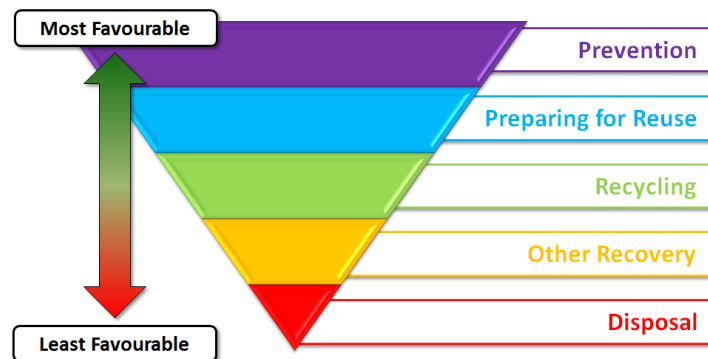
1.1. Drivers for Waste Management

Compliance with waste management legislation forms the basis of all our waste management operations. Our Environmental Management System (EMS) certified to ISO14001:2015 identifies all of our legal requirements and how these impact on our waste operations. At all times we manage our waste in line with our Duty of Care responsibilities and in a manner which does not cause damage or pollution to the environment or harm to human health. We recognise that promoting sustainable waste management has beneficial financial implications. Starting with waste prevention, there are financial benefits for improvement at each step of the waste hierarchy. As a leading academic institution, we firmly recognise the important role we play in providing a clear, educational example on the importance of responsible waste management, to staff, students and wider stakeholders.

1.2. Key Principles of Sustainable Waste Management

The Waste Hierarchy

The Waste Hierarchy model (implemented through Waste Regulations in the UK) sets out the “most favourable” and “least favourable” options for waste management. Where disposal is the only remaining option, the University aims for 100% of waste to be diverted from landfill.



Wider Resource Efficiency

Resource Efficiency is all about using natural resources in the most effective way, as many times as possible whilst minimising the impact of their use on the environment. This makes good business sense and is a concept that the Estates Department aims to consider when managing all of its resources along with waste disposal techniques.

1.3. Vision for Waste Management 2018-2021

Significant progress has been made in recent years and therefore we want to look beyond traditional waste management practices and develop a more holistic cradle-to-grave approach.

In order to achieve this, we will look further at; infrastructure for waste, operations for waste and measuring waste success.

2. Infrastructure for Waste

2.1. Procurement

Aim: Ensure procurement processes are set up so that a) waste contractors contribute towards our overall aims and objectives, and b) waste is embedded at the heart of construction, refurbishment and procurement operations to design waste out of projects and purchases from the outset.

Key objectives:

- Develop standard tender documentation for all waste contractors to include key operational requirements such as data uploads to waste expert, our online database used to compile, store and analyse all waste data.
- Work with procurement to develop procedures which disincentive purchasing on non-essential items and promote re-use from across campus.
- Support BREEAM and/or SKA criteria to construction and major refurbishment projects to ensure building design is optimised to reduce waste during the demolition/construction process with the projects team.

- Explore central procurement of key items such as stationary, uniforms, print and PPE.

2.2 Provision of Facilities and Visual Identity

Aim: Ensure that waste management facilities across Canterbury and Medway are sufficient, fit-for-purpose, provide continuity and display a clear visual identity.

Key objectives:

- Develop uniformity for the supply of waste management facilities (internal, external bins and waste compounds).
- Conduct regular audits of facilities internally and externally.
- Develop a university waste visual branding scheme to be applied across all campuses.

2.3. Compliance

Aim: Maintain legal compliance across all of our waste management operations.

Key objectives:

- Develop robust systems for ensuring waste duty of care documents are accurate, complete and accessible.
- Ensure all staff with responsibility for waste management are kept informed of their legal obligations and receive appropriate and regular training.

3. Operations for Waste

3.1. Application of the Waste Hierarchy

Aim: Apply the waste hierarchy to all waste streams at the University.

Key objectives:

- Maximise uptake of WARP-IT, an online subscription service we use to reuse furniture and other items around campus rather than purchasing new, through effective communication and development of systems for the removal, storage and distribution of items for re-use.
- Develop partnerships with appropriate charities and other third sector organisations to maximise opportunities to reuse waste materials.
- Explore other opportunities to establish reuse and recycling schemes for selected waste materials.

3.2. Resource Efficiency

Aim: Encourage the efficient use of resources across the University highlighting the financial and environmental benefits.

Key objectives:

- Run effective campaigns aimed at reducing food waste from catering and student accommodation with hospitality, conferencing and the sustainability team.
- Work with individual departments to prevent local printers, which do not have the papercut software, to tackle paper consumption.

3.3. Waste Stream Specific Actions

Aim: Identify waste streams where there is significant potential to prevent, reuse or increase recycling and put action plans into place to address this.

Key objectives:

- Conduct a review of all University waste streams to identify those where improvements could be made.
- Develop action plans for those waste streams where improvements have been identified.

3.4. Organisational Culture Change

Aim: Deliver a university-wide culture programme including actions around waste, procurement and resource efficiency.

Key objectives:

- Work with the Sustainability team to ensure that the University-wide culture change programme reflects the aims and objectives of the waste strategy.
- Support the delivery of the programme through communications, attendance at workshops and participation in the programme.

3.5. Stakeholder Engagement

Aim: Work closely with stakeholders to ensure waste management operations are conducted with maximum efficiency

Key objectives:

- Work with Kent Hospitality, and to a lesser extent Kent Union, Greenwich and the local councils, to deliver a consistent approach to waste management across the University with regards to facility provision, visual identity, communications and training.

- Conduct annual external stakeholder meetings to discuss issues, plans and progress.
- Reduce general waste volume.
- Increase both recycling and reuse options and volume.

4. Measuring Waste Success

4.1. Monitoring and Measurement

Aim: Develop robust, transparent systems for monitoring and measuring all waste activity.

Key objectives:

- Ensure that 100% of waste data is accurately uploaded to the waste expert by waste contractors.
- Develop targets and KPIs for all areas of waste management and review progress against these regularly.
- Explore options for measuring waste at the ‘per’ building scale and ensure this information is available to building users.

4.2. Communication and Reporting

Aim: Ensure staff, students and stakeholders, have access to up-to-date information on waste management including procedures, data and audit findings where appropriate.

Key objectives:

- Develop the waste and recycling web pages to include clear information and a waste data dashboard to communicate progress against targets.
- Contribute towards the annual sustainability successes report.
- Maintain a consistent presence on social media, including twitter and blogs.

4.3. Continuous Improvement

Aim: Ensure that progress on waste management across the university improves year on year.

Key objectives:

- Ensuring SMART targets for waste management are included as part of the RPD process for all appropriate staff with waste management responsibility.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with other university waste teams, external organisations such as the EAUC, suppliers and contractors to keep up-to-date with advances in waste management practices.
- Achieve waste reduction targets in regards to general waste following the below percentage decreases from the baseline year 2016- 2017 of 779.198 tonnes and achieve increased reuse targets to the below increases from the baseline year 2016-2017 of 56.414 tonnes. Our focus has been on increasing our recycling percentage which we have successfully achieved a level of 68%. We now recognise that we don’t foresee the possibility of this percentage increasing and so we have decided to aim for other targets which follows the waste hierarchy. The approach taken is that we start with the top priority of the waste hierarchy of waste reduction, following to the next level of importance of increasing reuse. We are basing each year of target as a follow on from the baseline year of 2016-2017, therefore in 2021 our aim is to reduce the general waste by 6% from the 2016-2017 baseline year and to increase our reuse by 36% in 2021 from the baseline year 2016-2017.

Year	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
% decrease on baseline year 2016-2017	1-1.5%	1.5-3%	3-4.5%	4.5-6%
Tonnage decrease on baseline year 2016-2017	7.99-11.985 tonnes	11.985-23.4 tonnes	23.4- 35.05 tonnes	35.05-47.94 tonnes

Year	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
% increase of baseline year 2016-2017	1-9%	9-18%	18-27%	27-36%
Tonnage increase on baseline year 2016-2017	0.56- 5.04 tonnes	504- 10.08 tonnes	10.08-15.12 tonnes	15.12- 20.16 tonnes

- Below shows waste data comparisons from the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 academic years. In these years we introduced the Warp-it system resulting in reuse, were further promoting and increasing number of British Heart Foundation collections and introduced donating food with FareShare. Therefore we saw a reduction of general waste produced by 13% and an increase in reuse by 87%.

Year	2015-2016	2016-2017	Percentage Change
General Waste (tonnes)	898.43	779.198	-13%
Reuse (tonnes)	30.20	56.414	+87%