



Sustainable Travel Policy

Policy Statement

The University is committed to taking action to achieve net zero by 2030 whilst undertaking research to reduce emissions across all its Themes. Our research and teaching on transport including aviation requires us to engage and support these sectors in achieving net zero.

This policy statement indicates our intent to introduce a culture of sustainable travel to help us achieve our net zero goal. It includes business travel, commuting, and international student travel.

Travel is a difficult area to address as a global university that engages with organisations worldwide through research, field trips, conferences and collaborations and that has its own global research airport. In this context we recognise that some travel is necessary to carry out research and our wider institutional work.

In line with our vision to become a globally valued university for sustainability, our Ambition 2027 goals, and our environmental strategy, we want people to look for every opportunity to do things differently, so that travel only happens when it is essential, and it has the lowest possible carbon impact. We also recognise that our research is aimed at finding sustainable solutions to achieve net zero.

Context

In 2022, Cranfield signed the Sustainable Development Goals Accord, which committed us to combating poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, and promoting peace and justice. We also created a new Vision statement, to become a globally valued university for sustainability through our education, research and operations; and launched a new Corporate Plan, Vision 2027, creating impact together [Introducing Ambition 2027 - Ambition 2027 - Cranfield University's Corporate Plan \(foleon.com\)](#) with sustainability at its heart. Reducing scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions is therefore a priority for Cranfield as well as for key industries we partner with and applies to all our Themes.

This Sustainable Travel Policy statement will apply to all travel on University business, commuting and international student travel from 15 July 2024 and should be read in conjunction with:

- Business Travel guidance on booking travel - [Business travel \(cranfield.ac.uk\)](#);
- Overseas Travel procedure

Approach

The University is committed to providing adequate resources to meet the objectives set out in Cranfield's Sustainable Business Travel Plan and our Campus Travel Plan addressing commuting - [Sustainable travel and transport \(cranfield.ac.uk\)](#).

To be successful the University needs everyone who works, studies or lives on campus to help achieve this policy, in particular by:

- considering whether they need to travel or whether virtual alternatives could be used;
- choosing the most sustainable travel option;
- considering the carbon footprint of their travel; and
- sharing suggestions for reducing the carbon impact of travelling

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) oversees the University's Travel Plans and holds regular reviews to ensure that adequate progress is being made against these main targets, taking remedial action if not.

The Energy & Environment Team in Facilities coordinates and delivers travel reduction management (including carbon offsetting measures), with support from relevant working groups, reporting progress to EEC.

This policy is communicated within the University and available to the general public, students and all persons working for, in or on behalf of the University.

Where to go for help

If you require any help or advice on any aspect of this policy, please contact the Energy and Environment team green@cranfield.ac.uk. Information can be requested in an alternative format using this e-mail address if required.


Approved:

Date:
9 July 2024



Professor Karen Holford
Chief Executive and Vice-Chancellor

Document control

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