


# Environmental information for new starters

Estates and Facilities  
Version: 1.1

Welcome to Solent. Our staff play a key role in helping deliver the University's environmental initiatives through the actions they take. As a University, we are committed to environmental and social justice, and addressing the challenges presented by the climate and ecological crisis. Our University community has a responsibility to adopt behaviours that will make a net positive impact on the environment.

#### **New starters should be aware of the following:**

- The Environmental & Sustainability Team work with faculties and services across the University to ensure colleagues have the necessary experience, competence and training on environmental matters, relevant to their role. *If you feel that your work has a significant environmental impact that has not yet been identified or addressed, you should contact your line manager and the [Environmental and Sustainability Team](#).*
- All contractors are expected to meet the University's environmental requirements and to minimise environmental impacts during their activities. We kindly ask that contractors familiarise themselves with the University's [Environmental Policy](#). Please contact the [Environmental & Sustainability Team](#) if you need more advice.
- The [Environmental and Sustainability page](#) on the portal provides the latest information on the University's environmental initiatives, including waste and recycling on campus, energy-saving tips, activities and contacts.
- Staff are encouraged to use the Solent Reuse Portal on [Planon](#) to advertise and claim any office items which are surplus to requirements, for use on campus and at home. Simply add the Reuse Portal to your homepage on Planon by clicking on the cog  on the top right of the screen and selecting the Solent Reuse Portal gadget from the toolbar.

#### **Active travel:**

- The University is keen to support staff to travel to campus as easily, safely and sustainably as possible. There are cycling facilities across campus, a number of cycling

initiatives available to staff and a Cycle To Work salary sacrifice scheme, which enables staff to purchase a bicycle and cycling accessories tax free. [Find out more.](#)

### Our plans and policies:

- Environmental sustainability is a foundation of the Solent University Strategy 2025 and our [Environmental Policy](#) commits us to managing our environmental impacts and continually improving environmental performance.
- Our [Environmental and Sustainability Enabling Plan](#) lays out the projects, objectives and actions we will undertake to 2025 on energy, waste, water, education, biodiversity, construction, procurement, travel and student, staff and community engagement. The University's Environmental Management System (EMS) is certified to ISO14001:2015 and EcoCampus Platinum standard and brings together all our environmental and sustainability initiatives under one umbrella.
- The University has set an ambitious target to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The route to delivering net zero in the coming decade will be outlined in a new Carbon Management Plan in 2021/22.
- We're giving nature a home across all our sites. The University's [Biodiversity Action Plan](#), created in partnership with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, guides our work to protect, enhance and create new habitats for wildlife, and provide pleasant places for staff and students to work and study.
- The University's [Travel Plan](#) is focused on reducing the adverse impacts of travel and transport across all areas of the institution. The plan aims to reduce reliance single-occupancy car journeys, manage business travel to reduce carbon emissions and to promote more active and sustainable modes of transport.

For more information please contact the Environmental and Sustainability Team at [sustainability@solent.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@solent.ac.uk)