

## **Biodiversity Policy**

Nottingham Trent University (NTU) is committed to protecting and enhancing the biodiversity on the estate, which includes the rich variety of life, all species of plants and animals and the complex ecosystems, which they are part of. This natural capital sustains living systems and enhances our quality of life.

The NTU estate comprises grounds of various land use types in Nottinghamshire. These are significant assets for the University, the community and the natural world.

### **How we will make this happen:**

We will protect and where appropriate, enhance biodiversity within the management of the existing estate as well as with any new developments.

#### **Estate management:**

- 1) Identifying new opportunities for protecting and enhancing biodiversity across the NTU estate.
- 2) Assess and monitor animals and plants sensitive to change. Protect them, their food sources and breeding sites. Where practicable improve biodiversity assessment and monitoring programmes.
- 3) Raise awareness of biodiversity management practices and the associated benefits to staff, students and other stakeholders including members of the public, through our various communication channels, including the Sustainability website and social media platforms, as well as organised events throughout the year.
- 4) Collaborate with local partners such as Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and Natural England to improve biodiversity management practices.
- 5) Minimise impacts on biodiversity from grounds and landscaping work and provide enhancements, where possible.
- 6) Minimise impacts on biodiversity from academic teaching and associated work.
- 7) Using experts for developing long-term management plans that meet the needs of people and wildlife.
- 8) Ensuring compliance with environmental legislation and our environmental management system ISO 14001.
- 9) Ensure the Green Flag Award guidelines are met to maintain Green Flag Status for Brackenhurst and Clifton Campuses.

#### **Design and construction of new developments:**


- 1) We will design with nature in mind, designing out negative impacts where appropriate to do so, by identifying any sensitive natural habitats and ensure mitigation measures are built in at the earliest stage before construction begins. Protection or enhancement measures are numerous and site dependent; typical examples considered may include, green roofs and walls, bat boxes, creating a particular habitat and/or using native plant species in planting schemes.
- 2) Ensuring unavoidable impacts on the local biodiversity are mitigated and opportunities to enhance biodiversity are implemented, where appropriate. These may include:
  1. Champion, raise awareness and collaborate with project teams on the biodiversity aims of the project and NTU's strategic aims.
  2. Achieve British Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) Excellent or higher on new builds and Very Good for refurbishments, which includes a focus on biodiversity.
  3. Improve the immediate habitat through landscaping and planting of appropriate trees and shrubs.
  4. Incorporate habitat or features to accommodate local species as specified in the design.
  5. Consider inclusion of additional features not in design to enhance biodiversity.

### **Biodiversity education for the next generation:**

NTU offers a wide variety of courses, including undergraduate degree courses in Wildlife Conservation, Environmental Conservation and Countryside Management, where the staff and students are involved in a variety of research on declining species, in the management and monitoring of protected species on campus and in studying the impacts and effectiveness of different management and surveying techniques. Students are also taught practical habitat management and conservation skills. The Sustainable

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Development Team liaises with staff and students from these biodiversity focused courses, which encourages engagement and achievement of the aims of this Policy.



Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Steve Denton, Chief Operating Officer and Registrar**

**Revised June 2019**



[www.ntu.ac.uk/sustainability](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/sustainability)

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