Sustainable Food Policy

Keele University commits to providing healthy sustainable food that:

- Contributes to our local economy and sustainable livelihoods
- Minimises damage to the planet
- Enhances animal welfare
- Provides measurable social benefits

We will implement the following:

**SOURCING**

We will prioritise ethical and responsible sourcing.

- Engage with local initiatives to develop a ‘whole systems’ approach to food sustainability across Staffordshire.
- Purchase high-welfare meat and dairy to help combat animal cruelty, protect the environment, and promote healthier options to customers.
- Remind people how little meat they need to maintain a healthy diet.
- Source sustainable seafood to help reduce the negative impacts on fish stocks, protect our marine environment, and give customers better seafood choices.
- Prioritise the sourcing of fairly-traded food, drink and other products for our operations.

**ENVIRONMENT**

We will actively manage the resources that our business consumes, from cradle to grave.

- Engage with our supply chain to affect positive economic, environmental and social change.
- Reduce our environmental impact by improving our energy efficiency year-on-year.
- Use water responsibly by raising awareness of our staff and students, and monitoring our water consumption.
- Manage our waste effectively, prioritising the waste hierarchy.

**COMMUNITY**

We will respond to the diverse food requirements of our community, and promote the benefits of healthy eating and well-being.

- Ensure our menus are well-balanced, offering a diverse range of food options to promote a nutritious and healthy diet.
- Engage with the community to influence a positive culture change towards healthy eating (eg by providing cooking demonstrations) using healthy recipes and sustainable food options.
- Respond positively to customer feedback, and be open to introducing new ideas.
- Implement a comprehensive and externally verified framework for continual improvement in sustainable food and catering.
- Adopt a marketing and communications strategy to actively promote our sustainable and environmental activities

We will meet our Policy objectives by implementing an annual action plan.