



# Environmental Quality Policy

Version 1.2

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<b>Policy Approver</b>	QAC	<b>Effective Date</b>	16/01/2018		

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## 1 Introduction

1.1 The Institute for Education (IfE) recognizes that its activities impact upon the environment through its routine internal operations and its influence on the wider community. The IfE is firmly committed to the principles of environmental sustainability. The 3<sup>rd</sup> strategic priority within the IfE's Strategic Plan 2021-2023 together with the [Environmental Quality Policy](#) have been designed to affirm the IfE's commitment to environmental issues and to demonstrate its intention to address those issues through continual improvement in environmental practices.

## 2 Objectives

2.1 The IfE acknowledges a responsibility for, and a commitment to, the protection of the environment at all levels. The IfE will endeavour to exceed the requirements of relevant environmental legislation, is committed to environmental performance improvement and will:

- Work with other agencies locally, nationally, and internationally to promote appropriate environmental policies;
- Promote a procurement policy in line with the [National Green Public Procurement Policy](#) that will give preference, where practicable, to those products and services that cause the least harm to the environment;
- Seek to integrate a consideration of environmental issues into all relevant aspects of the IfE's teaching and research activities;
- Continue to reduce the consumption of primary raw materials (including fossil fuels, water and energy) and seek to enhance the contribution of energy efficient, low carbon measures, recyclable components and renewables;
- Avoid the unnecessary use of hazardous substances and processes, and take all reasonable steps to prevent damage to the public or the environment where such activities are essential;
- Develop efficient waste management and recycling procedures throughout the IfE and use recyclable and recycled materials wherever possible;
- Maintain and conserve the IfE's premises to protect and enhance natural habitats and biodiversity and provide an environment that is of benefit to staff, course participants and the local community;
- Collaborate with appropriate external organisations to improve our understanding of environmental problems and their solutions;
- In conjunction with the Ministry for Education and Employment, promote and raise awareness of good environmental management policies and practices among staff, course participants and other stakeholders;

- Communicate with interested parties on issues relating to the Environmental Quality Policy including contacts in the national and global community.
- Offer programmes that promote Environmental Sustainability.

### 3 Policy Implementation

3.1 The IfE will undertake the following activities in order to promote effective environmental management:

- Identify the environmental aspects of the IfE's operations and develop mechanisms to monitor and mediate the significant impacts of these.
- Use best practice:
  - To set targets on environmental performance;
  - In our implementation of activities;
  - In engagement with our stakeholders to progress environmental initiatives and exchange ideas and activities that improve the performance of all;
  - To monitor and report on our progress towards our targets.
- Promote awareness with all the IfE's administrative and teaching staff, of the need to achieve sustainable use of resources for the benefit of the IfE and society as a whole.
- Ensure that we are compliant with legal requirements and can demonstrate our compliance through appropriate procedures and management information.

### 4 Version history

Originator	Version	Date	Changes Done
QA Dept.	1.0	16/01/2018	Initial Release
QA Dept.	1.1	30/03/2023	Updated article 1.1 and 2.1. Numbered all articles within the policy.
QA Dept.	1.2	03/05/2024	Updated links