

# Waste Reduction and Management Strategy Middlesex University 2010 - 2018

## **Background**

The Waste Strategy for England 2007 highlights the need to reduce greenhouse gases, improve resource efficiency and protect ecosystems. Landfill taxes have been increasing and the number of facilities able to accept waste to landfill has diminished significantly.

The value of raw materials and their cost to refine and place on the market has increased. The University is legally required to demonstrate that it meets the waste hierarchy. It also needs to demonstrate that it manages its Estate in an efficient and cost effective manner.

Stakeholder expectation also places pressure on the University to improve its recycling and recovery rates to minimise our environmental impacts and ensure we operate our facilities in a cost effective manner. A good waste minimisation strategy and effective operational approach are essential and we utilise the 'best practical environmental option', reviewing this annually as the technology, markets & opportunities improve.

Middlesex has introduced a waste management strategy and recently implemented (Jan 2014) a new waste management contract

## **Waste Hierarchy**

The waste hierarchy as documented in Waste Strategy of England 2007, The Waste (England & Wales) Regulations 2011, and the University's Waste Management Code of Practice provides the foundation for this Waste Management Strategy. The waste hierarchy is based on the principles of waste prevention, reuse, recycling, energy recovery and finally disposal to landfill.

## **Objectives**

The University's key waste objectives are (*see below for current progress*):

- To reduce the waste sent to landfill by 80% by 2015
- To achieve zero waste to landfill by 2018
- To meet and exceed, where practicable, any legislative targets imposed on the University
- To achieve a minimum 10% reduction in waste per student FTE by 2015
- To strive for maximum benefit from waste by encouraging reuse of waste products, increasing recycling and recovery of energy from the waste stream
- To embed good waste management practices into the culture of the University

## **Strategic Vision**

The University is committed at the highest level to achieving the objectives described in this strategy. It aims to achieve the objectives set out in this strategy by enacting yearly waste management plans and audits, as well as following best environmental and industry practices, such as the introduction of “binless” rooms supported by mini recycling centres for source segregation of waste streams. The waste disposal provision of the University was re-tendered in 2013 thereby providing the University with the infrastructure necessary to achieve this strategy.

## **Summary or Progress to date (July 2014)**

- Waste management centre (WMC) created on site for the segregation of waste
- Bin the bin campaign completed with more than 80% of office and teaching space now utilising centralised recycling/waste stations
- Since inception of new waste management contract (Jan 2014) all non-hazardous waste streams are now zero to landfill
- Recycling rates for non-hazardous waste streams are currently (July 14) at 49% compared to 21% in July 12
- Non recycled waste streams are now directed to energy from waste and all ash produced re-used as an aggregate in construction
- Specific metal and wood recycling streams have been introduced
- Food waste recycling for main catering areas is being introduced August 2014
- Zero emission vehicle introduced for transporting waste from collection points to our WMC for segregation
- In partnership with ISS (our cleaning contractor), waste collection staff are incentivised for the correct segregating and recycling of waste in the WMC