

Biodiversity Policy

International and national declarations, policies and legislation on biodiversity show that local biodiversity policies and actions are an urgent requirement.

The University of Glasgow is very fortunate to have inherited, acquired and developed a rich and diverse heritage of plant and animal life at the various natural, semi-natural and landscaped sites it occupies. It is our ongoing responsibility to enhance and protect this heritage, for the benefit of the whole university community, as well as the city and nation beyond. The breadth of diversity reflects the role that the University has played in the history of Glasgow, Scotland and the world at large. It shall be the policy of the University to maintain and expand this broad approach, particularly in regard to the planting of trees, shrubs and perennial plants.

Plans and policies shall be prepared to create a framework for the long-term care and maintenance of the urban sites at Gilmorehill and for the rural estates at Garscube, Crichton and Cochno, out with the main campus. The University shall make every endeavour to maintain the existing proportion of 'green-space' to developed land on Gilmorehill and Garscube Estate.

1. The University will require the use of sustainable practices in the maintenance of the grounds and will use environmentally friendly methods of horticulture.
2. The University will draw up Management Plans in respect of, inter alia, the following matters.
3. Tree planting, maintenance and removal.
4. The use of chemicals in fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides etc.
5. The use of composting as a route to sustainability.
6. The retention of topsoil from University development, where appropriate.
7. The enhancement of the biodiversity of vegetation and habitats so that the University estates become an example of best practice in supporting a rich environment.
8. The development of the grounds as an educational resource and green sanctuary for students, staff and the community at large.