This policy underpins the University's commitment to embed sustainability across all elements of the University and is integral to the Sustainability Plan. The policy focuses on environmental sustainability, but acknowledges that sustainability encompasses social and economic dimensions which are the foci of other University policies.
1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 Sustainability
Sustainability encompasses environmental, social and economic dimensions. A widely accepted definition of sustainability is: "Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (Brundtland Report, 1987)

1.2 Carbon Footprint
Carbon footprint is a measure of the amount of carbon dioxide or CO₂ emitted through the combustion of fossil fuels. In the case of an organisation, business or enterprise, it is the carbon emitted as part of their everyday operations.

1.3 Natural Resources
Parts of nature, including, soil, air, water, flora and fauna, which have a real or potential economic, social or cultural value.

2. VISION
Griffith University contributes to a robust, equitable and environmentally sustainable society. Through this policy, the University reinforces its commitment to foster a culture of sustainability in our teaching, research, community engagement and corporate practices.

3. SCOPE
All staff, students, visitors and contractors should be aware of this policy when they are engaged in University activities or provide products and services to the University.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES
The University's Council and senior management are committed to the principles of sustainability.
Managers and Supervisors have overall responsibility for sustainability and are responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy within their area of control.

The University's Sustainability Plan includes objectives and targets and associated accountabilities across the University.
5. POLICY

The University will strive to continually improve its sustainability practices in its corporate practices, teaching and research and community engagement activities.

5.1 Leadership in Corporate Practices

Griffith University will effectively manage sustainability by:

- Implementing and maintaining a structure that ensures the systematic management of sustainability through Griffith University campuses and sites.
- Complying with all statutory requirements.
- Minimising its environmental impact and managing its carbon footprint.
- Minimising the use of natural resources.
- Embedding sustainability in decision making processes.
- Providing appropriate training in sustainability for all staff, students, contractors and visitors.
- Communicating all relevant sustainability information to all staff, students, contractors, visitors and the wider community.
- Showcasing the university as a best practice model in sustainability to the local and global community.
- Regularly reporting against progress.

5.2 Leadership in Teaching and Research

Griffith confirms its commitment to sustainability in teaching and research and will:

- Through teaching, learning and research, facilitate students gaining the knowledge to live sustainably.
- Advance the University's contribution to research on sustainability.
- Promote sustainability within and beyond the University.

5.3 Leadership in Community Engagement

Griffith will:

- Share and exchange sustainability knowledge and experience with other universities, community groups, the public and private sectors.
- Foster engagement of the University community and wider community in sustainability.
- Develop strategies to create knowledge and leadership in sustainability among local, national and international communities.