



KCL People and Planet Society
Macadam Building
Surrey Street
London
WC2R 2NS

Professor R. H. Trainor
Principal
King's College London
James Clerk Maxwell Building
57 Waterloo Road
London
SE1 8WA

Dear Professor Trainor,

We are writing to you on behalf of the King's College London People & Planet Society regarding the University and its environmental performance. Today, Britain's universities have a massive environmental impact that could be vastly reduced. Several UK universities (including Glamorgan, Herfordshire, Leeds Metropolitan, Oxford Brookes and Sheffield Hallam) have already shown that high environmental performance is possible – cutting greenhouse gas emissions through reducing energy use; reducing water use; increasing recycling and reducing landfilled waste; purchasing environmentally friendly products and services; eliminating unnecessary consumption; promoting environmentally friendly travel options to university sites; and improving local biodiversity.

We applaud the steps that King's College London has already taken to reduce its impact on the environment, including: achieving Energy Efficiency Accreditation; switching to a green electricity supply; and involvement in the Carbon Trust University Pilot Scheme to reduce carbon emissions. Other encouraging initiatives include the Energy Department's ongoing appraisal of the College's buildings, energy and lighting schemes and the, albeit small-scale, provision of recycling facilities.

However, there is a highly fragmented approach to environmentally-friendly schemes across King's College London with wide variations in initiatives on the different campuses. It is clear that a single policy is needed to ensure that the College as a whole reduces its environmental impact, but that there is also vast potential to improve the College's 'green' status. We believe that the College needs to adopt the four approaches detailed below – these are common to almost all the institutions that are leading environmental performance within the UK Higher Education sector.

1. Employ full-time staff dedicated to environmental management to develop objectives and set clear timescales for meeting targets.
2. Conduct a comprehensive review of all the University's environmental impacts so that current impacts can be measured, potential improvements identified, and performance monitored.
3. Produce a publicly available environmental policy to provide a formal demonstration of intent regarding environmental performance improvement, against which future practice can be compared.
4. Finally, we believe that your support for high environmental standards is particularly important. No programme to make the College more environmentally-friendly will work without the active, public support of senior management.

The enclosed People & Planet report, *Going Green*, sets out the key steps that all universities, including King's College London, need to take to achieve high environmental performance. It includes case studies of good practice, and we believe that our College should follow their lead.

We look forward to hearing from you,

Carolyn Dawson
P&P Go Green Sub-Committee

Marc Bramham
P&P Go Green Sub-Committee

Amy Manley
President, KCL People & Planet Society

Lee Peterson
VP Sites & Services, KCLSU

Matt Pusey
President, KCLSU Executive Committee

Encl:

People & Planet *Going Green* report

cc:

Mr Keith McIntyre
Energy Manager
Estates Department
42 Weston Street
London
SE1 3QD

Environmental Research Group
4th Floor
Franklin-Wilkins Building
150 Stamford Street
London
SE1 9NN