

# Sustainable Development – Policy, Engagement, Strategy and Delivery

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Sustainable development has been widely discussed over a number of years in the University built environment and in the broader community and commercial built environment sphere. Industry has developed numerous standards and tools that are used as the means to inform, guide and measure the implementation of sustainability initiatives, these are well established, applied and understood by many industry practitioners.

In the University context application of commercially generated and adopted standards such as Greenstar<sup>®</sup>, NABERS, Wells or Passivhaus can be difficult as the drivers are different in the commercial space and the need to demonstrate achievement of compliance against a standard is not the primary reason behind the application.

In 2017 Deakin University Council endorsed sustainability as a core Deakin value “We will care about our shared future, integrating economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainability in all we do”. This presentation will focus on how this value is embedded in the built environment through policy, engagement, strategy and delivery of capital and other projects undertaken by the University.

Successful implementation of sustainable development requires a holistic approach that includes policy formation, community engagement, strategy development and project initiation, planning and delivery. The implementation must in itself be sustainable, unless there are achievable, tangible and measureable benefits that can be translated into real terms and real outcomes success is limited to a paper based outcome.

The presentation will discuss the development and implementation of Deakin University’s Sustainable Built Environment Principles and as case studies current projects that Deakin University are undertaking at our Waurn Ponds campus, these include Renewable Energy Microgrid, Future Economy Precinct and Integrated Water Management.

The importance of providing measurable and communicable results to the broader University community is paramount. The presentation will include implementation of our reporting and communication tool, Kinesis, and how this contributes to changing behaviours and the use of our buildings amongst staff and students.

Cross Unit collaboration has been a significant feature of the success of our sustainable development to date including collaboration with research and academic areas of the University as well as professional staff.