

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
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Members of the STARS Steering Committee

The University of Tasmania is pleased to present our second Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) submission for rating consideration and associated reporting.

The University of Tasmania is committed to operating and focusing on sustainable outcomes for ourselves, our surrounding communities and the world. Respecting the traditional owners and their deep history with these lands and waters, we will strive to act in the best interests of not only the current generation but generations yet to come. We will holistically embed this in the ethos of our operating model, our teaching, learning and research activities, and through engagement with our partners and stakeholders.

The *University of Tasmania Strategic Plan 2019-2024* identifies the contributions we wish to make for Tasmania, nationally and globally, across key outcome areas: education, health, culture, social, economy and environment.

Our *Strategic Framework for Sustainability* provides a collective focus on activities in and for sustainability across the University and in so doing encapsulates our commitment across four areas:

- Goal 1: A leader in sustainability governance and implementation.
- Goal 2: A leader in sustainability education and research.
- Goal 3: Partnerships and engagement activities deliver sustainability outcomes.
- Goal 4: A University committed to sustainability in its facilities and operations management.

Achievement of these goals are guided by whole of institution aspirational, absolute and continuous improvement targets. Progress to attainment is framed through our contribution areas and aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2020, we established sustainability as one of our key mission areas, supporting this with additional staffing, funding, and institutional focus through a new principles-based Sustainability Policy and embedding into organisational strategies across all academic and operational portfolios.

The University of Tasmania has been delivering on our sustainability goals in several ways,

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including world leading research in marine and Antarctic science, public health, agriculture and aquaculture, and geology to name a few. As part of our Talloires Declaration commitment in 2009, we have instituted a number of sustainability-focused degrees, including a Certificate in Sustainability, a Diploma of Sustainable Living, and a Major in Sustainability alongside our expanding inclusion of sustainability across the curriculum.

We also focus on environmental sustainability and social responsibility within a number of other portfolio areas, including our student experience Communities Model, our Education for Sustainability Community of Practice of both academic and professional staff, and our Sustainability Integration Program for Students (SIPS), which is an international Green Gown Award Australasia winning program that engages students to participate in and deliver operational sustainability outcomes.

The University also focuses on operational sustainability, including being certified carbon neutral since 2016, a signatory to the Race to Zero commitments, and maintaining a concerted sustainability focus across all operational areas, including transport, procurement, energy, biodiversity, water and waste with a circular economy lens.

Broader community engagement is also important to us, including our participation as a core member of Education for Sustainability Tasmania: a United Nations-recognised Regional Centre of Expertise, which received an International Green Gown Award in 2018, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals collaborative group from across Tasmanian education, business and government.

The University's Sustainability Team is the primary contact for any questions or feedback regarding our initiatives and STARS reporting and they can be reached at sustainability.utas@utas.edu.au.

Yours sincerely



Professor Rufus Black
Vice-Chancellor

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Office of the Vice-Chancellor