

Office of the Vice-Chancellor

Professor Georgina Randsley de Moura

Acting Vice-Chancellor and President

T: +44 (0)1227 823695

E: vicechancellor@kent.ac.uk

www.kent.ac.uk/ovc/vc

17 April 2025

To whom it may concern

Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of R&I Practice

On behalf of the University of Kent, I am pleased to confirm our commitment to the priority areas outlined in the Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation (R&I) Practice.

This important framework outlines a series of commitments that will support the University of Kent in its pursuit of ensuring that research and innovation activities are conducted in a manner that minimises environmental impact while fostering a culture of sustainability. Specifically, the Concordat emphasises:

- Embedding environmental sustainability into our research culture and decision-making processes.
- Reducing carbon emissions and resource consumption associated with our research activities.
- Encouraging responsible procurement, waste reduction, and sustainable infrastructure.
- Enhancing knowledge-sharing and collaboration to drive environmental best practices.
- Supporting our staff and students in making sustainable choices in research and innovation.

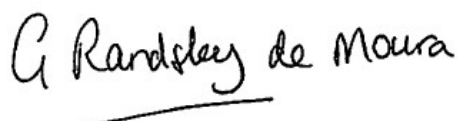
We recognise the need to change how we conduct research and innovation, as well as promote wider solutions. The principles align closely with the University of Kent's Sustainability Strategy and ISO14001 certified Environmental Management System. Our commitment to achieving net zero is an important facet of our institutional mission, and we are actively implementing measures to enhance the environmental sustainability of our teaching and research environments. This includes our participation in the LEAF (Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework) accreditation, which aims to improve sustainability across our teaching and research laboratories. Additionally, we are making significant infrastructure advancements, working in partnership with Siemens, to upgrade lighting, building management systems and metering alongside the installation of photovoltaic panels.

Beyond our sustainability commitments, becoming a signatory to the Concordat is also in line with our research ambitions. Environment and Sustainability is one of University of Kent's Priority Research Areas, reflecting our dedication to advancing knowledge and solutions that contribute to a more sustainable future. Our research spans key areas such as the built environment; conservation and ecology; food and energy security; and green supply chains ensuring that we address pressing environmental global challenges through interdisciplinary collaboration.

As an anchor institution within Kent and Medway, the University of Kent also plays a pivotal role in promoting the sustainability, health, wellbeing and prosperity of the region. The University is actively seeking to benefit society through its 'Right to Food' initiative, a flagship project aimed at tackling food insecurity through education and research by advocating for fair access to nutritious food, supporting local communities and influencing policy to ensure that food is recognised as a fundamental human right. We are also dedicated to collaborating with communities to support sustainable future place-shaping and addressing the climate and biodiversity crisis through important projects such as the creation of a 'River of Vegetation' on our Canterbury campus.

We therefore look forward to working collaboratively with our partners across the sector to drive forward this important agenda.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "G Randsley de Moura". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Georgina Randsley de Moura
Acting Vice-Chancellor and President