



Benefiting Your Institution



Learning in Future
Environments (LiFE) is a
comprehensive
performance improvement
and benchmarking system
developed specifically to
help colleges and universities to manage, measure,
improve and promote their
social responsibility and
sustainability performance.

LiFE has been developed with generous support from our funding partners Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW), Scottish Funding Council (SFC) and the Department for Employement and Learning in Northern Ireland (DELNI), as well as direct input from people across the sector.

Benefiting Your Institution

We understand that, now more than ever, universities and colleges are facing new and difficult challenges. We also know that that the sector can't afford to ignore the sustainability and social responsibility agendas.

The feedback we have had from across the sector has been clear there is a defined need for a sector-specific system that will help institutions manage this transition, not just act as another league table or reporting device.

We have created LiFE to bring significant and direct benefits to your institution, including:

- Student Recruitment
- Making Efficiency Savings
- Responding to Legislative Drivers
- Raising Your Profile
- Managing Improvement

STUDENT RECRUITMENT

Prospective students are becoming more socially aware, which is increasingly becoming an influencing factor in their choice of institution.

In addition, the recent focus on rising student fees has meant that, more and more, prospective students are looking ensure that they leave higher and further education with enhanced employability skills that will be relevant to the green economy of the future.

LiFE will help you embed social responsibility and sustainability into your curriculum development. It will also help you to showcase your commitment to your students and their future employment prospects. With the current student unrest around fees, it has never been a more crucial time to highlight these commitments.

EFFICIENCY AND SAVINGS

Recent restructuring to the way the government funds the sector means that it has never been more important for UK universities and colleges to secure their future. One of the first steps to doing this is to become a more efficient institution.

LiFE helps you embed sustainability throughout all areas of your institution, which has a direct impact on your overall operating costs. We have spoken with some institutions who saw an overall reduction in spending by over £500K.

LEGISLATIVE DRIVERS

The sector is under ongoing pressure to implement legislative policies and directives relating to social responsibility and sustainability. These include the UK Government Climate Change Act 2008 and the UK Government Equality Act 2010, as well as a number of other regional initiatives.

Complying with these directives can often be a minefield of information, targets and reporting requirements. LiFE has been designed to streamline this process. By using LiFE you can easily manage all of the activities required of you and store all the necessary documentation in one easy-toaccess place.



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RAISING YOUR PROFILE

As the UK moves towards the green economy, there is an increasing demand

from the private sector for green technology to be developed. This presents a significant opportunity for colleges and universities to engage with the wider business community, whether through innovation and research, or excellent community outreach work.

Each year participating institutions will have the opportunity to have their performance assessed by our independent accreditation team who will provide verification of your performance, as well as feedback and an accreditation award. These results will be published nationally.

Unlike some current league tables, this is not about naming-and-shaming. Instead you can use your award to positively promote your capabilities to the wider community, benchmarking your success against the sector, both nationally and internationally.

MANAGING IMPROVEMENT

One of the biggest challenges that institutions face as they try to embed sustainability and social responsibility across their organisations is the relative difficulty in managing such a wide range of activities and responsibilities.

LiFE has been designed to be an efficient and streamlined management system. It is a multi-user system which you can use to engage with as many colleagues as you need to from across your institution.

LiFE also makes it easy to see how you're performing. You can assess your performance across each section of your institution and see how that performance improves over time. It is the most intuitive and easy-to-use system available for the sector.

An Introduction to LiFE Priority Areas & Frameworks Integrating with Your Institution Promoting Your Efforts Investing in LiFE

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