Commercial Services (CS) provides a range of facilities and service to the University of Leeds community and beyond that include sport and physical activity, catering, conference and events. CS recognises and accepts its responsibility to seek to achieve high standards of sustainability across all its activities. This policy supports CS aim to become a ‘Sustainable, Efficient and Effective Organisation’ that

“….will carefully consider the impact of our activities, seeking to minimise our energy consumption and ensuring we are utilising sustainable sources for our products.”

Sustainable food plays a key role in achieving this aim, and this will be achieved through the following objectives:

- To source food and other products locally and seasonally where possible in order to sustain the local economy and reduce environmental impacts. By 2014 we will have reviewed all our menus against seasonal and geographical criteria.
- To ensure that local and smaller suppliers are not discriminated against in the procurement process and encourage them to participate in tendering opportunities.
- To ensure that animal welfare standards are adhered to for any animal produce purchased and to insist on red tractor standards as a minimum where applicable. Where relevant, we will source to red tractor standard by 2013.
- To endeavour to respond to dietary requirements, in consultation with individuals, in our catering outlets.
- To exclude fish species identified as most at risk by the Marine Conservation Society, and only choose fish from sustainable sources, such as those accredited by the Marine Stewardship Council.
- To communicate to customers, staff and suppliers our commitment to serving sustainable food.
- To promote health and well-being through our menu selection and communications.
- To reduce our environmental impacts associated with waste. By 2015 we will have reviewed all of our waste procedures and identified measures to reduce our impacts.
- To purchase and sell where appropriate Fair Trade products. By 2013 we will maintain our Fair Trade accreditation status.
- To ensure, by 2013, that only free-range eggs are used in all freshly made food in our outlets.
- To monitor and report this policy, and associated action plan, through the Commercial Services Sustainability Steering Group and the University’s Sustainable Development Steering Group.
- To support the University’s sustainability journey and the implementation of other related policies.