



**HARPER ADAMS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

**A STATEMENT OF INTENT ON SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT BY UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE  
LEADERS**

**January 2010**

**Board of Governors**

**A statement of intent on sustainable development by university and college leaders**

1. At its meeting in October 2009, Finance and General Purposes Committee expressed its support for a proposal that the University College should indicate that it would be willing to be a signatory to a declaration by heads of UK Higher Education Institutions about the issue of climate change. The Committee asked for confirmation that the University College feels confident in meeting the aims of the statement, including the metrics indicated. Discussion with relevant staff has confirmed that we are confident that the aims are achievable.
2. It was originally hoped that it would be made public before the UN Climate Change Conference to be held in Copenhagen in December 2009. However, discussions continued and the final statement has only recently been circulated by GuildHE and UUK with a request that their members consider formally accepting the statement and publishing it on their web pages.
3. The statement does not, of course, specifically cover the issue of sustainable agriculture. However, Finance and General Purposes Committee agreed that the declaration will serve the purpose of setting out the College's position in common with other like-minded HEIs and that the University College's activities should be directed towards supporting the declaration and setting out what is being done to meet the commitments it contains.
4. The University College's website already contains a series of pages on sustainability, and the Farm page also provides information about its approach towards sustainability, together with further information on the implementation of conservation schemes etc on the Virtual Farm website. Further work will be done to highlight our farming practice as part of a comprehensive approach to sustainable development.
5. The Board is asked to APPROVE the statement of intent and that it should be published on the University College's web pages.

Dr C E Baxter  
January 2010