# Letter of Commitment to the Priorities of the Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice

I, Professor Andy Schofield, on behalf of Lancaster University, confirm our commitment to the priority areas outlined in the Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice.

Lancaster University fully supports the priority areas set out in the Concordat. We will deliver against these priorities in practice and recognise our responsibilities as a signatory.

As signatories of the Concordat, we realise the urgent need to transform how research and innovation are conducted, embedding sustainability principles across all activities. We commit to continuing action to reduce harmful environmental impacts and practices, and through our campus operations, research, and teaching, support and be advocates of a sustainable transition.

Lancaster University is one of the highest producers of renewable energy within the UK Higher Education sector. In 2021, we set ourselves the ambitious target of becoming Net Zero carbon from Scope 1 and 2 sources by 2030, and, through the combination of our new solar farm and the electrification of our campus-wide heat network, we will almost eliminate the consumption of natural gas on campus.

We are also embedding sustainability into our research culture through projects spanning climate change, ecosystems, low-carbon technologies, and social transformation. Our Global Challenges Research Fund and involvement in interdisciplinary centres such as the Centre for Global Eco-Innovation and the Pentland Centre for Sustainability in Business underline our commitment to using research and innovation to address pressing environmental issues.

Prompted by the research within our university, we recognize that meaningful sustainability progress requires collaborative agency. Therefore, we are committed to amplifying the voices of staff, students, and community members, highlighting the role of our people in driving sustainability changes.

By becoming a signatory to the Concordat, we reaffirm our dedication to sustainable research and innovation practices and strengthen our collaboration with academic, industry, and community partners to drive lasting positive change.

Signed



Professor Andy Schofield

Vice-Chancellor

Lancaster University 13th May 2025