

24 January 2025

Letter of commitment to the priorities of the Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice

I, Professor Neil Hall, on behalf of the Earlham Institute, confirm our commitment to the priority areas outlined in the Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice hosted by the Wellcome Trust (<https://wellcome.org/who-we-are/positions-and-statements/environmental-sustainability-concordat#about-the-concordat-ac54>).

The Earlham Institute recognises the urgency of the climate crisis and fully supports the priority areas outlined in the Concordat. We will deliver against all the priorities and recognise our responsibilities as a signatory, as set out in the Concordat.

By signing this Concordat, we formally recognise the need to change how we conduct research and innovation, as well as promote wider solutions. We also agree to take shared action now, and into the future, to reduce and eliminate our own environmental impacts and emissions and achieve the transition to sustainable practices.

The priority areas outlined in the Concordat closely align with the Earlham Institute's Environmental policy and the Norwich Bioscience Institutes' Sustainability Strategy. Our joint mission being to reduce our emissions to net zero by 2040 and reduce the impact of our research and operations, to contribute to a sustainable future.

Scientific research is an energy and resource intensive endeavour; however, it is imperative that we take action to improve the long-term sustainability of the Institute's facilities and working practices. Our strategy covers actions, objectives, and targets, across a range of areas including carbon footprint, energy, waste, water, procurement, biodiversity, sustainable science, research impact, travel, engagement, and governance.

We are committed to minimising adverse environmental impacts from our research and operational activities and have been pleased to work alongside our Norwich Bioscience Institute partners to promote environmental initiatives and sustainable practices across the Norwich Research Park.

Signing this Concordat represents an important milestone in ensuring our own research practices are conducted as sustainably as possible, whilst contributing to delivering solutions needed to address global challenges around sustainable agriculture, food, nutrition, and health.

We look forward to continuing to support world-class science in an environmentally responsible way.

Yours sincerely,

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Professor Neil Hall
Director