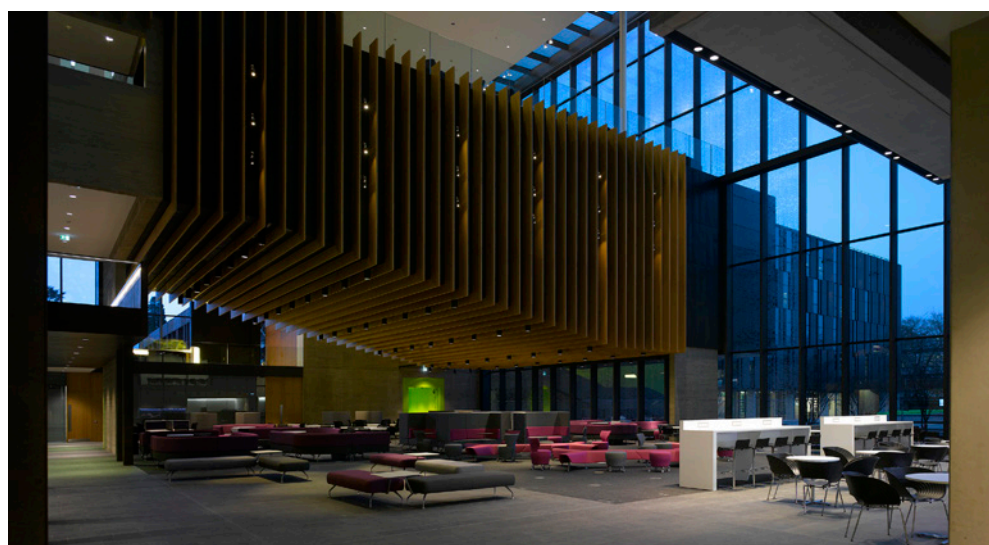


SUSTAINABILITY REPORT AUTUMN 2012 TO AUTUMN 2013

An update on the progress of the corporate responsibility programme



RIBA SOUTH SUSTAINABILITY AWARD 2014: WINNING JOHN HENRY BROOKES BUILDING.

Each year we report on how Oxford Brookes is continuing to improve its sustainability. In our fifth report we celebrate our award-winning new sustainable projects and the progress we are making to change our campuses. This report outlines our big achievements and how we are advancing in 10 key areas of the University's work.

Sustainability remains the defining issue of our generation. Universities throughout the world compete to raise their sustainability

performance which remains a key component of the student experience.

Oxford Brookes continues to lead with Net Positive Impact which allows us to:

- reduce the impact of our operations and business
- Promote sustainability by embedding sustainability into our courses and by building relationships with our communities, local businesses, and other organisations.

HEADLINES

- The Car Club was launched with the first electric car club car in a university at Headington Hill Site. The vehicle was featured on a screen in Times Square, New York.
- The Bike Doctor service continues to be successful at all sites.
- Over 9000 students have received free BROOKESbus passes.
- Brookes was 7th in the People and Planet Green League 2013, retaining our First Class award.
- A bee hive has been installed at Headington Hill Hall.
- The new BROOKESbus will have the first Gyro Drive Systems.
- University staff and students took part in numerous community engagement projects.
- The University recorded increases in carbon emission and water usage. Both areas are now the subject of revised plans to reduce their impact.

“ The Net Positive Impact scheme influences the changes around Brookes University, some which aren't immediately obvious. Environmental, social and ethical changes are made and encourage staff and students to think about the larger picture.

Jay Quayle, Student Union
Environmental Officer



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE | Gold



“ The Award winning John Henry Brookes Building demonstrates how sustainability continues to be key to the University ethos. The environmental credentials of the building are intrinsic to the values that inspire our outstanding student experience, teaching and research.

Janet Beer, Vice Chancellor

SUSTAINABILITY WEEK



Oxford Brookes University held its first Sustainability Week this year, combining all its sustainability engagement into one week of events and engaging students and staff with Net Positive Impact.

Talks, debates, workshops and documentaries were on offer over the week, which focused on a different topic each day, including water, transport and energy.

More than 1000 people engaged with Sustainability Week and the event will be held annually from now on.

TRANSPORT

This year has been a year of firsts with the county’s first electric car club car in a University (Sign up here) and the installation of the first Gyro Drive Systems in the new BROOKESbus fleet this coming September.

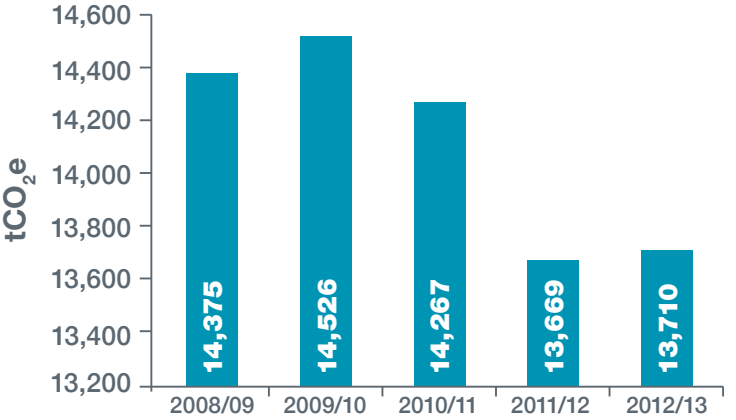
Our new Transport Solutions Manager, James Gagg, is working to bring all transport issues together under one team. The aim is to improve the development and delivery of the University Transport Strategy. James will work to reduce the 17,267 tonnes of CO₂ eq. that is produced each year by student and staff commuting and business travel.

To find out more about the improvements in transport made this year, click here for: Transport in depth.

CARBON REDUCTION

The opening of the JHBB has increased the size of the University estate. Consequently, a revised Low Carbon Transition Plan is currently being put together to ensure that the University meets its 50% carbon reduction target by 2020.

Figure 1: Total carbon emissions from gas and electricity consumption in Oxford Brookes University from 2008-09 to 2012-13 in tCO₂e.



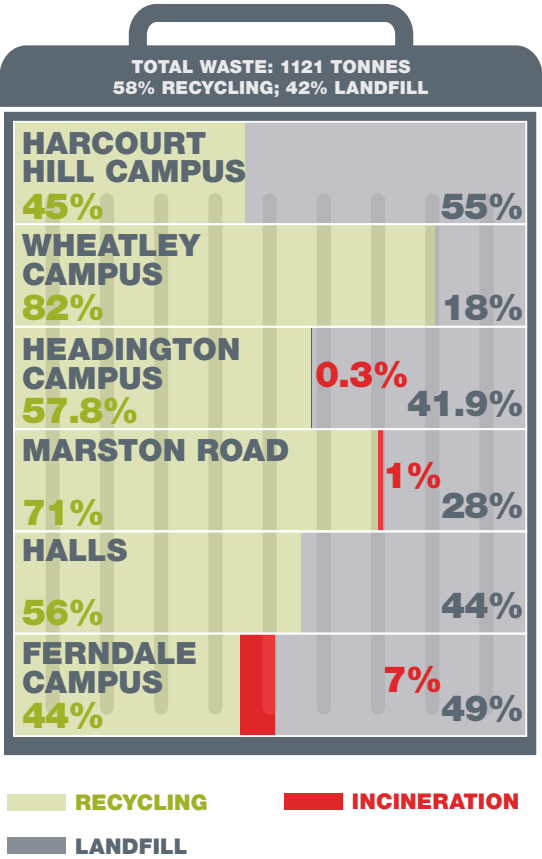
The Westminster Halls opened in 2012. They have been designed to keep their carbon footprint to a minimum, with sedum plant roofs, a centralised energy system and smart meters.



WASTE MANAGEMENT

Brookes produced a total of 1121 tonnes of waste this year, with 58 per cent being recycled. This is the first year in which all waste data had been reported from all student accommodations including the Clive Booth Student Village Postgraduate Centre. Although the recycling rate reported has dropped as a result, this gives a good baseline for planning the waste strategy.

14 tonnes of material have been reused across all sites this year through the envforum (furniture reuse network), BHF donations and the onsite charity shops.



Students’ in halls and in the community have raised over £12,000 for the British Heart Foundation by donating items at the end of the academic year.

BIODIVERSITY

All three of Oxford Brookes’ campuses now hold Green Flag awards, a national award given to the best green spaces, more than anyone else in the sector.

The new John Henry Brookes Building has raised the University’s total of green roofs to 26 and also has a brown roof, allowing natural ecosystems to develop from an initial bed of soil.

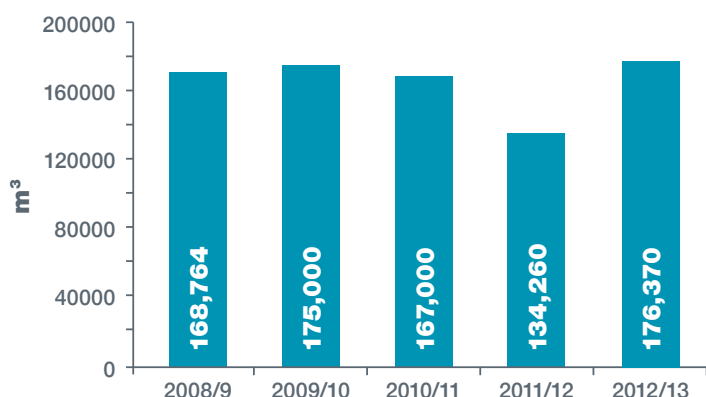
Click here for: Biodiversity in depth.



WATER MANAGEMENT

The reported water usage has increased significantly since the year before due to challenges with accuracy of water meter readings. A programme of monitoring these measures has been initiated to ensure that readings are accurate moving forward.

Figure 3: Total Oxford Brookes University water usage in m³ from 2008/09 to 2012/13



Almost 1 per cent of the University's water use came from captured rainwater this year.

STAFF WELFARE

This year Brookes staff have joined the Global Corporate Challenge, which has been developed to improve the health and performance of employees around the world. A total of 399 staff in 57 teams are competing against each other and teams around the world to maximise their activity and improve their health.

www.gettheworldmoving.com/

The University introduces its first set of **Guiding Principles**. These will be the foundation of a future staff recognition scheme.

CONSTRUCTION AND REFURBISHMENT

The new John Henry Brookes building has received a National RIBA award, the RIBA South Sustainability Award 2014, and the South Building of the Year Award 2014. The building is nominated for a Sterling Prize.



All waste timber from construction this year was given to Oxford Wood Recycling.

All existing buildings at the University over 500m² have Energy Certificates displayed so you can see how each building performs.

[Click here for: Construction and refurbishment in depth.](#)

EMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES

This year the University has run an environmental major incident exercise. This tested the ability of the University to prevent pollution from emergencies.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



Oxford Brookes University has a strong and valuable presence within the community, with students and staff involved in a number of different programmes and initiatives.

Student Community Wardens were recruited again to build and strengthen relationships between students and the wider community. There were 30% fewer complaints from residents to Brookes about its students in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12.

For more examples of Community Involvement at Oxford Brookes University, click here for: Community involvement in depth.

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

The Procurement Team has been restricted this year with a category approach to procurement.

The University also celebrated its 10th year of being the world's first Fairtrade University this year with a world record breaking attempt: dipping as many strawberries into chocolate as possible within a minute.

Click here for: Sustainable Procurement, Ethical Investment and Food in depth.

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Oxford Brookes University recently won two proposals for funding to establish a regional hub to support aspiring social entrepreneurs – the Oxfordshire Social Entrepreneurship Partnership (OSEP).

The sustainability team offer assistance with integrating sustainability into the curriculum. This year work has been done in the School of Planning and the Pathways area to increase sustainability within the curriculum.

In 2012-2013, 321 staff and students received sustainability training, up from the 228 people the year before.

Email sustainability@brookes.ac.uk for further details.

Click here for: Education for Sustainable Development in depth.