

ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2014 - 15



This is the seventh Sustainability Report for the University of Worcester. It describes the institution's most significant environmental aspects and how these are managed and mitigated in order to fulfil our commitment to continuous environmental and sustainability improvement. This year the Sustainability Committee undertook a series of workshops to review our major aspects and materiality to ensure we are concentrating our resources and focus in the areas that are the most significant for the University. We also began a second visioning exercise with governors, students, staff and the community to ensure our strategic aims remain relevant to all our stakeholders across the three areas of campus, community and curriculum.

1. Our Commitment

The University has a long-standing commitment to act in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner. The current Strategic Plan (2013-18) includes a commitment to make an outstanding contribution to economic, social and environmental sustainability. 'The University seeks to promote principles of sustainability in their broadest sense. Through its teaching, research and knowledge exchange activities to promote sustainable communities, services, businesses and use of physical resources. ... Sustainability is about the relationship of people with their environment.' This vision encapsulates our overarching aim to fully accept our broad responsibilities to society and develop our physical assets to provide excellent facilities and opportunities for students, staff and the wider community, but in ways which promote and champion environmental sustainability.



The University's Sustainability Policy was adopted in 2007 and is reviewed and updated annually. The policy notes that while responsibility for developing procedures, raising environmental awareness and recommending best practice ultimately rests with management, good sustainability practice is the responsibility of all those who attend the University. The policy's main principles are:

- to integrate environmental management into our day-to-day operations to ensure environmental issues are addressed, whilst providing a quality service to all stakeholders;
- embed inclusion of sustainability principles in the curriculum and support research in relevant areas;

- reuse resources whenever possible rather than dispose of them;
- to control, manage and reduce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions;
- to reduce our use of natural resources and prevent pollution

2. Profile of the University

The University of Worcester has grown rapidly and is based on three primary sites; St John's Campus, City Campus including The Hive joint university and public library and Severn Campus including the Arena. St John's and City Campuses are comprised of student residences, academic and administration space. In addition to these there are a small number of satellite sites including pavilions, playing fields and halls of residence and a storage facility. A development site, University Park makes up the rest of the estate.

The University is organised into six academic institutes:

- Institute of Science and the Environment
- Institute of Humanities and Creative Arts
- Worcester Business School
- Institute of Education
- Institute of Health and Society
- Institute of Sport and Exercise Science

At the end of the 2014/15 academic year the University had just over 1,100 employees and around 11,000 students, the majority are based either at St John's Campus or City Campus.

3. Our Approach

The University established a Sustainability Committee, which includes student representation, in 2005, chaired by the Pro Vice Chancellor Business and Development. The Sustainability Management Team, headed by the Director of Sustainability acts as a focal point for all aspects of sustainability within the University and works to develop local, regional, national and international networks to further the sustainability agenda. The Director of Sustainability is a Sustainability West Midlands Green Leader, a Green Gown sustainability professional finalist and sits on a number of regional and national committees in the sustainability field.



There is a growing consensus that leaders in the 21st century will need a strong moral compass along with a fundamental understanding of sustainability if they are to succeed in a complex and fast changing world. The University of Worcester gives students and staff practical experience both within the curriculum, or department and in the many other schemes and projects on campus encouraging all to develop sustainability skills within their specialisms.

Awards and recognition

- 2nd in People and Planet 'Green League' out of 150 universities;
- Successfully piloted National Union of Students/Student Union-led "Responsible Futures" whole institution audit of commitment to social responsibility, environmental sustainability and creating a culture for it to thrive. Score of 234.5 of possible 300 against threshold of 130.

- Finalist for a Green Gown award in the sustainability professional category in 2015, and in 6 categories in 2014, winning for the Bike loan scheme;
- International Student Collaborations with Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts, who will now be setting up a permanent centre at the University of Worcester. They have 46 centres around the world and consider this new partnership to be an important new development.
- Re-accreditation of Platinum EcoCampus standard for a fifth consecutive year, which includes ISO14001 accreditation;
- Second 'World Café' visioning event held with Governors, students, staff and expert practitioners to help focus the strategic direction for the University under campus, community and curriculum headings.
- Halls' behaviour change, our students won the NUS pan European SAVES winner for energy reduction, a two-year joint programme, where Teme hall saved the most energy across all the UK and European partners winning 400 Euros.

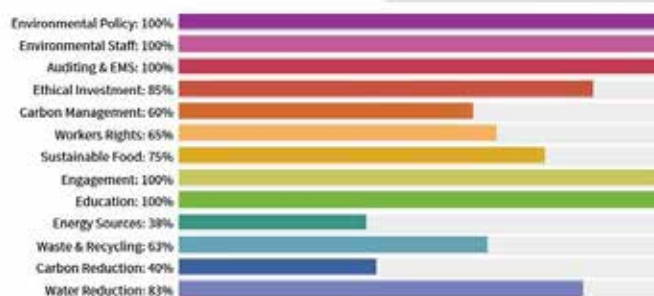
4. Community

The Guardian People and Planet Green University League

Since 2007, UW has established a national reputation in the field of sustainability and innovation, and has received numerous awards and external recognition of its success. The University has topped the People and Planet University 'Green League' table achieving a first class honours classification for the last seven years, and is currently **2nd out of 151** universities. The Green University League is a league table demonstrating the sustainability performance of Britain's universities. These stand above placements of many other and often more established universities in the region.

Projects that earned the University the top national accolade included supporting student extra curricula sustainability skills development, significant and innovative sustainable transport initiatives, many energy efficiency projects, and a significant new build and refurbishment programme which takes derelict or unused buildings bringing them back into use and creating vibrant spaces enjoyed by users. Retrofitting renewable energy projects and engagement and close working with students. The University has a clear vision and effective management across all aspects of sustainability including the curriculum and research.

2 University of Worcester
Rank: 2 Total score: 76.7%



FairTrade

We are delighted that our FairTrade status was renewed in June 2014 until 2016, and especially pleased with the acknowledgement that we had upheld and surpassed all 5 goals. Particularly pleasing were their comments on incorporating FairTrade themes into our educational work - something that FairTrade strongly encourage, which they commented 'we excelled at'. Setting assignments around issues related to FairTrade has the potential to trigger some good discussions and raise understanding of FairTrade among students. Some key projects this year have been FairTrade sales, FairTrade producer visits, talks and film screenings. A particularly successful project was the Rice Challenge; universities were invited to sell 90kg of rice, this being the amount a farmer in Malawi would need to sell to pay for a child to attend secondary school for a year. We easily achieved this goal.

Food and Healthy Eating

Aramark the University caterers have successfully been accredited with the Bronze Food for Life accreditation for the dining room where 70% of food is sold on campus. Around 75% of all food sold in the dining hall is freshly prepared and great emphasis is placed on the reduction of trans fats, food additives and reducing salt and sugar intake. New information boards have gone up to help people learn good eating habits and describe the myriad of initiatives and healthy campaigns. This compliments the Worcestershire Works Well campaigns where the University has now reached level two and is working towards level three, the highest accreditation.

Students led on a new University branded 'cup for life' campaign conducting research and promoting the colourful reusable cups, which have proven to be very popular with staff and students alike. A washing up facility was provided in the Students' Union to assist this initiative so that everyone has easy access to washing up facilities. The discount offered by bringing your own mug means students can save significant amounts throughout their years of study. The mugs were so popular a second order to restock was placed within weeks of them going on sale.

Student Switch Off

This is a national behaviour change programme led by the National Union of Students encouraging responsible electricity use in students' halls of residence. Saved 30,753 kWh between October and March 2014-15 – 6.5% reduction (compared to a baseline from 2013), £3,075 financial equivalent saved (assuming 10p/kWh), this equates to 17 tonnes of CO2 saved. 234 students signed up to our email list – receiving regular communications with energy saving tips and opportunities to enter competitions which is 23% of our eligible students. 239 students took part in the Climate Change Quiz. The table shows how this has developed over the years.

	2009-10	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Students on mailing list	116	190	187	291	234
Students on Facebook page	96	53	72	36	53
Energy saving (kWh)	35,778	unavailable	unavailable	unavailable	30,753

Last year we became part of a pan-European inter halls real-time energy dashboard approach to encouraging responsible electricity use by students in halls, project called SAVES. We are one of 6 UK universities assisting with this 2 year pilot. We were thrilled to find out that our students living in Teme Hall won the overall competition in its first year coming away with 400 euros. Here's a blog from one of the students in the winning hall. <http://saves.unioncloud.org/groups/blog/articles/the-ice-cream-tasted-like-victory>

Green Impact

Green Impact is a staff behaviour change continuous improvement programme which uses students both as paid 'earn as you learn' sustainability mentors, and volunteer auditors to audit each team at the end of the year providing great employability experience. Last year 16 teams totalling 550 staff took part resulting in 478 actions being completed over the course of the year, 439 of which were as a result of the Green Impact. 13 auditors received Institute Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA) training to audit departments and we employed 12 student Green Impact Project Assistants. The table overleaf summarises the past few years of the scheme.

Year	Number of staff in teams (total staff on GI committee)	Reach of teams (total number of staff touched by GI committees)	Number of actions	Number of actions as a result of GI	Accreditations achieved (e.g. 4 WT, 3 Bronze, 6 Silver, 2 Gold)	Student involvement (number of project assistants, student auditors or other)
10-11	130	262	-	-	10 Bronze, 2 Silver, 1 Gold	20 Student auditors
11-12	284	548	-	215	11 Bronze, 4 Silver, 2 Gold	30 Student auditors
12-13	170	475	497	335	4 Silver, 3 Gold	9 GIPAs, 9 Student auditors
13-14	231	321	560	342	2 Bronze, 3 Silver, 6 Gold	9 GIPAs, 9 Student auditors
14-15	550	162	478	439	11 Bronze, 5 Gold	12 GIPAs, 13 Student auditors

Go Green Week

Go Green Week is a weeklong series of planned activities (day and evening) on sustainability and themed around nature, food and healthy eating, transport, re-use and energy held in February 2015. The organisation of this awareness-raising week is led by first year sustainability elective students and forms part of their summative assessments. Initially a challenge but over 90% of the feedback is overwhelmingly positive. Comments included 'I thoroughly enjoyed Go Green Week, which really inspired me to continue with the module next year. It grabbed my interest and enthused me to look at different areas and opened my mind to the application of the subject. Additionally I love the relation to employability and the skills I have gained and experiences to add to my CV. Thank you.' More information including videos can be found at <http://www.worc.ac.uk/discover/go-green-week-event-organisers.html>

Green Gown Awards

The depth and breadth of our innovative work in sustainability has been recognised by being a finalist for six Green Gown Awards in 2014, ultimately winning the Facilities and Services award for our Bike Loan on a shoe string scheme. This year we were finalists in the sustainability professional category.



International Perspectives

This was the second year of our cross Atlantic collaboration with students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) Massachusetts who worked on two community projects, establishing additional Repair Cafés in Worcestershire and supporting Energize Worcester. WPI have project centres in 46 locations worldwide and they were particularly pleased with our collaboration that they decided to make Worcester a new centre. Students work with their academics and host communities to conduct research and develop solutions to real problems around the world. Worcester Polytechnic Institute is a leader in international project-based education and we are particularly pleased to host one of their centres to develop further academic programmes. WPI is one of the top 10 engineering universities in the US - <http://www.wpi.edu/news/20156/3newproj.html> This project arose from a twinning visit from Lord Faulkner, who also arranged for the visiting students to get a tour of the House of Lords.



WPI students and Lord Faulkner

Re-use scheme

The University offers students the opportunity to donate any items they do not want to take home at the end of the year to British Heart Foundation (BHF). Every student is provided with a BHF collection sack, which can be left in collection banks situated around campus. The campaign received a total of 394 donated bags, 3.152 tonnes which would have yielded the BHF charity an estimated £7,880 in revenue, an increase of 88% from last year. Toner cartridge recycling raised an additional £12,016 for charities with Greensource Solutions. We also trialled for the first time a Repair Café on campus using the expert repairers from Malvern Hills Repair Café. Students and staff brought electrical items such as hoovers and kettles plus computers to be shown how to repair these standard household items. Really popular especially amongst students were the sewing repairing team, including our own staff, these repairs were so popular that they had to continue way past the allotted time.



Energize Worcester

The Students' Union itself has an excellent reputation within the national student movement for sustainability and volunteering. This was the second year of the HEFCE/NUS Student Green Fund project Energize Worcester - energy issues in the private student housing sector. To test replicability the project worked in a second location, with the University of Birmingham and the Birmingham Guild of Students as well as continuing in Worcester. The learning from the first year of the project includes working with the National Landlords Association to encourage student landlords to undertake retrofit measures to improve the thermal efficiency of their properties alongside educating and supporting students in gaining good energy habits at home.

The project has managed to engage over 3,000 students and 750 student households across the two universities. Over 25 students were recruited who have gained practical energy engagement experience, which has shaped many of their aspirations following graduation. A key learning point from the project is that students are not aware of the energy efficiency of the student houses they choose. They choose student houses based on their location and rental price, while not considering the energy efficiency of the property and its impact on their cost of living. Landlords do not feel they have an incentive to improve the energy efficiency of their stock as students do not value energy efficiency. Landlords feel that students should be educated to be better tenants and made aware of how to manage their energy consumption and help keep their properties in good condition avoiding condensation.



University of Birmingham energy advocate students

Skills for tomorrow

Held over two days this Institute of Education led annual event, brings employers including Rotary and HW Chamber of Commerce and schoolchildren together through interactive workshops. These are led by members of the University community, education and sustainability students and academic staff. This award-winning event gives around 300 school students the opportunity to explore the challenges and career opportunities in sustainability. Demonstrating how sustainability at the University of Worcester cuts across the campus, is firmly out in the community and is embedded within the curriculum.



5. Campus

At the end of the heating season a major investment of over £1 million has been made in new energy efficient gas fired boilers and preparatory infrastructure work to the electrical systems in the Edward Elgar buildings. These improvements should assist the University in reducing the energy consumption.

The University ring-fenced budgets specifically for investing in energy efficiency retrofit projects on campus, Revolving Green Fund and Salix. A summary of Salix projects is shown below.

Project Type	Projects	Loan Amount (£)	Annual Financial Savings (£)	Lifetime Savings (£)
Boilers	4	109,886	23,171	334,591
LED Lighting	4	40,799	9,654	241,346
Lighting - Controls	4	35,557	10,462	81,372
Insulation - Building Fabric	4	26,636	9,925	264,493
Cooling	1	20,479	16,221	221,897
Computers and IT	1	17,467	14,385	43,154
Hand Driers	1	8,261	4,491	18,771
Insulation - Pipework	1	3,138	1,543	30,851
Grand Total	20	262,222	89,850	1,236,475

Environmental Management System

In 2007, the University was one of ten pilot institutions that signed up to EcoCampus, a national Environmental Management System (EMS) designed specifically for the higher education sector. EcoCampus provides a framework for managing our environmental responsibilities efficiently in a way that is integrated into all operations and activities.



The University achieved the Bronze and Silver Awards in 2008, and Gold in November

2009. It was the first university in England to attain the Platinum Award in May 2010. In May 2015 the University achieved re-accreditation for a fifth time and also achieved ISO14001 accreditation for its entire estate and operations. We continue to use a reciprocal internal auditing arrangement with other local universities, again auditing Aston this year.



The benefits of an EMS are that it provides the University with a structured, long-term approach to managing and reducing its impact on the environment and establishing ways of continually improving its performance. The University sets annual quantitative and qualitative targets, monitors and reports publically on scopes 1, 2 and 3 emissions; and biodiversity and food.

Carbon Management

The University Board undertook a major review of its Carbon Management Strategy in April 2014. This strategy outlines:

- Drivers for reducing carbon emissions
- Details of the current carbon footprint
- Target reductions
- Strategies for reducing emissions

[http://www.worc.ac.uk/documents/Carbon_Management_Strategy_approved_23_April_2014__\(1\)_\(3\).docx](http://www.worc.ac.uk/documents/Carbon_Management_Strategy_approved_23_April_2014__(1)_(3).docx)

The University uses standardised World Resource Institute classification of carbon emissions sources around 3 scopes. Scope 1 are direct emissions from the combustion in owned boilers and vehicles (fleet), scope 2 accounts for emissions from the generation of purchased electricity consumed by the organisation, and scope 3 is all the other indirect emissions which are a consequence of the activity of the University, for example procurement and commuting. Throughout each reporting year relevant data such as utility consumption, student numbers, fleet vehicle mileage and staff/student commuting distances are gathered. Each 'fuel source' has a carbon factor – the amount of carbon per unit utilised. Carbon factors are updated regularly and issued by the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs.

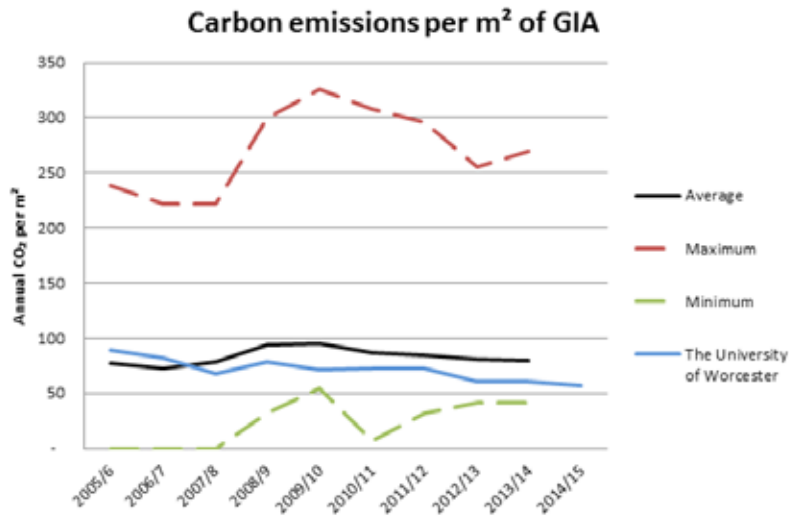
In 2014/15, the University produced 4,408 tonnes of carbon dioxide through scope 1 and 2 emissions and approximately 16,605 tonnes of carbon dioxide through scope 3 emissions. The University aims to reduce these emissions by 40% by 2020 and the strategy outlines how the University aims to achieve this.

The University measures and reports on carbon emissions in three ways:

- In absolute terms
- In relation to the number of students and staff at the University
- In relation to the size of the University's estate (Gross Internal Area of buildings)

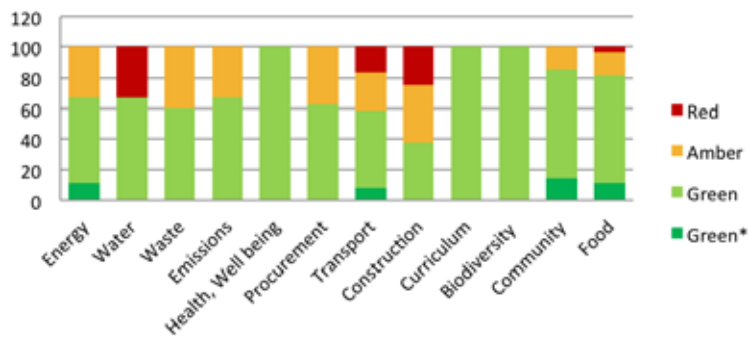
Full details can be found here and is summarised below: [http://www.worcester.ac.uk/documents/carbon_targets_progress_\(2014-15\).docx](http://www.worcester.ac.uk/documents/carbon_targets_progress_(2014-15).docx)

A method of gaining perspective of the University's carbon emissions is through direct comparison with other universities. The diagrams overleaf show the annual energy carbon emissions per m² of the GIA. The graphs show the maximum, minimum and average consumption of all Higher Education Institutions in the UK and how the University's consumption compares.



It is pleasing to report that the University continues to perform well in achieving policy and behaviour change actions and this is a very important part of our carbon reduction strategy.

Progress against qualitative environmental targets and objectives 2014-15



We can report that **scope 1 & 2 total GHG emissions decreased 5.35%** between 2013/14 and 2014/15 but it should be noted there was no change in the size of the estate numbers of people using the buildings decreased by 3%. When we compare to the baseline and look at absolute carbon emissions changes we have increased our carbon for scopes 1 & 2 by 17.3%. In the latest sector data the University is in the bottom quartile for the sector, 124 out of 127 universities, where our carbon has increased by 31.9% from sector 2005 baseline. This increase is against sector where 91 universities have managed to reduce their scope 1 & 2 emissions from 2005, the highest reduction being 51%. However if we factor in our growth again using last year's sector figures we have reduced our scope 1 & 2 carbon emissions from 2005 by 22% which is just below the top quartile for the sector.

Scopes 1 & 2 Emissions

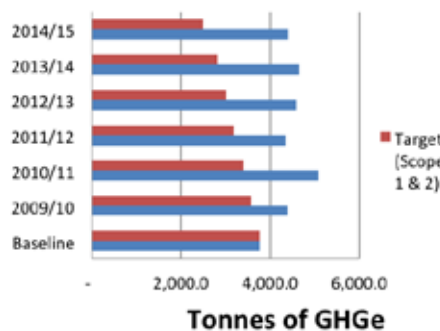


Figure 1.2 graphically represents the progress against targets for Scope 1 & 2 emissions.

In more detail for 2014 – 15 scopes 1 & 2 direct emissions **electricity decreased 7.96%** during the period. Actual electricity consumed reduced by 2% primarily due to commissioning plant at the Arena. Gas emissions decreased by 2% even though average temperatures were colder than the previous year, due to careful monitoring and management of heating times. Our fleet emissions increased by 120% due to an increase in both the number of vehicles and their engine size.

Scope 3 emissions increased 16.84% between 2013/14 and 2014/15.

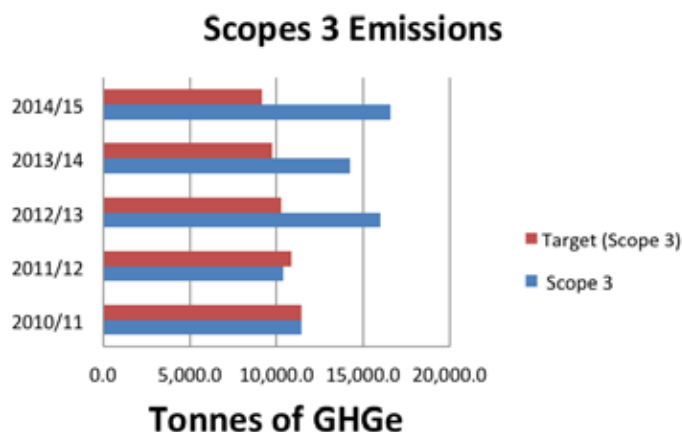


Figure 1.3 graphically represents the progress against targets for Scope 3 emissions.

Data gathering for a number of these categories is still in its infancy, especially with regard to procurement and grey fleet, our two highest increasing areas, by 31.43% and 344% respectively. Year on year comparisons may not give a true picture. Emissions resulting from commuting have decreased by 2.4%. These figures are based on the methodologies using travel survey data which includes modes of travel and size of vehicle engines. GHG emissions resulting from taxi travel decreased from 4.5 to 2.8 tonnes, rail travel increased from 13.1 to 16.1 tonnes. There was a 17.25% increase in air travel during the year.

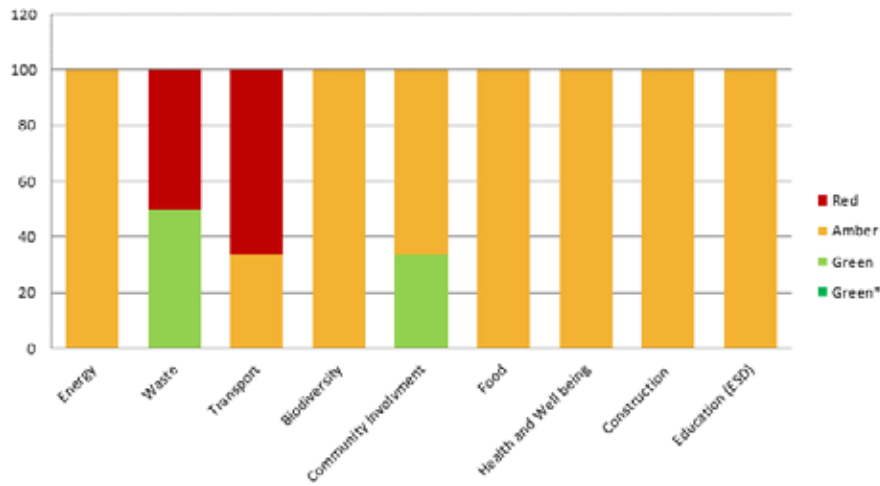
Water consumption at St John’s Campus has decreased by 3.78%. However, GHG emissions from water increased by 20% because we now have water consumption billing data for City Campus. Waste GHG emissions decreased 45.29% as our waste contractor managed to stabilised recycling rates, following two fires in the plant during the previous year. There has been an increase in re-use donations of 540% against 2013-14 rates as result of a substantial increase in furniture donations being made to local social enterprises.

GHG procurement increased 31.43% against the previous reporting period, this was a consequence of a large spend increasing from £15,184,229 to £17,679,231 with more monies being spent on building and manufactured products, construction and information technology categories.

Non carbon related quantitative targets are also set and reported on. Details can be found here, and are summarised in the graphic overleaf:

http://www.worcester.ac.uk/documents/Progress_Quantative_Targets2014-5v1.docx

Progress against quantitative environmental targets and objectives
2014-15



6. Curriculum

Sustainability can be studied in detail by all single honours students at both level 4 and 5, and is taught in 34% of other modules in discipline specific subjects. There are many opportunities for all students to gain sustainability skills which are sought after by employers, during their time studying at Worcester. Our sustainability teaching has been recognised as being 'a creatively devised programme taking an enquiry based approach to delivery, involving key partners'.

The sustainability electives provide multiple social and environmental benefits to students, staff, campus life and the broader community.

These include:

- Raises awareness of the delicate interaction between social, environmental and economic sustainability and engages students in some of the key debates
- Provides students with practical skills for leading a more sustainable lifestyle
- Facilitates students learning to interact and communicate with students from disparate academic backgrounds – "Me and my peers were all studying different subjects. This definitely stimulated discussions and different considerations, which all helped to build up and enhance my point of view".
- 100% of disciplines within the University were represented via internal guest speakers
- "I was really happy to have been given such a brilliant opportunity and feel as though it could be a start to tackling my own individual impact."
- "The elective has changed my view on an individual's contribution to sustainability, showing that a change no matter how small can make a difference especially if the effort is a collective one. This message was something we aimed to advocate during Go Green Week to both the University and wider community." (Extract from student journal)



The first firing up of the University's new sustainable cob oven, built by third year Graphic Design students in late 2015.

Learning for Sustainable Futures

Learning for Sustainable Futures is a joint initiative between The Education Quality Unit and the Sustainability department exploring and developing the connections between two areas of strategic importance for teaching and learning at the University:

- Through our curricula we will discuss and promote ethical practices, social responsibility, academic integrity and academic standards.
- Provide opportunities for students to learn and engage with the issue of sustainability.

The awards provide the opportunity for colleagues to carry out projects that bring pedagogic innovation into the curriculum or that extend learning support and education practice outside the formal curriculum, showing how our approach to sustainability connects with our education and learning activities. Two calls for projects have taken place and there are projects covering all Institutes each being awarded between £2,500 and £3,000 to develop up to 2 year action inquiry projects leading to changes in curriculum and learning practice, rather than formal research processes.

Research

Sustainability is one of four Areas of Distinction for the University and a conference was held in January 2015 to bring together academics from across the organisation to share their research projects and establish new collaborations. Diverse topics such as Managing Operations, Risk and Sustainability and Complex Customer Interactions Cluster from the Business School and Children's Literature and the Environment and Predictive forecasting of disease risk to minimise the need for pesticide intervention were showcased. A new research group has been established chaired by Dr Alan Dixon to ensure continued focus in this important area.

The Bulmer Foundation UW partners who deliver postgraduate sustainability courses launched Herefordshire Route Map at a lecture delivered on its behalf by Jonathon Porritt in May 2014. The project seeks to develop a shared evidence base and reconcile the county's existing policy framework with the requirements needed for sustainable development. Key stakeholders have been engaged throughout the county who, in the years to come, will make the Route Map a reality include Professor Nigel Shadbolt. The Route Map will be a key policy driver for the county and will be supported by a comprehensive evidence base and develop a set of accessible county wide indicators by which to monitor progress and develop appropriate action plans for change.

The Green Voices Research Group continues to be active and provides a focus for the study of 'green culture', and a forum and catalyst for the discussion of broader 'green'/ ecological issues based in the Institute of Humanities & Creative Arts. It also actively seeks to develop interdisciplinary links with scholars across the University and beyond.

Universities across the globe are giving increasing priority to the challenges of sustainability, encouraged by a variety of drivers including international and national policy, student and societal pressures. Many extant initiatives focus on a narrow set of activities including curriculum design and operational efficiency, and overlook the importance of cultural change in embedding sustainability. Conceiving a culture for sustainability as one in which organisational members hold shared



Dr Duncan Westbury with Emily Jordan Foundation Twigs students

assumptions and beliefs about the importance of balancing economic efficiency, social equity and environmental accountability and its attainment as a 'wicked problem'. University of Michigan and University of Worcester, with support from NUS, are developing survey instruments to measure sustainability culture and to capture its full social process and patterns of change over time.

Societal impacts of research can be demonstrated in a colourful array of wildflowers thanks to the efforts of a local charity. Young people from the Kidderminster-based Emily Jordan Foundation have spent time growing and nurturing hundreds of seedlings, which they have now planted at the University. Dr Duncan Westbury, Senior Lecturer in Ecology and Environmental Management, who has been instrumental in increasing campus biodiversity with a wildflower garden in 2012 in collaboration with the Malvern Hills Conservators, using green hay from Malvern Common. Three years on, we have further enriched the area using plants grown from seed collected once again from Malvern Common. The Emily Jordan Foundation helps individuals with moderate learning and physical difficulties to lead fulfilled lives. As well as its TWIGS gardening project, cultivating wildflowers, the Foundation also works with the University through its SPOKES project, supplying and maintaining bicycles for university students.

7. The Future

The publication of this seventh Annual Sustainability Report demonstrates a commitment to openness in reporting progress against challenging targets and is part of the annual management review of the University's environmental management system, and the accuracy of the data collected by the department is increasing significantly.

We will continue to drive improvements in performance across the institution, and aim to retain our EcoCampus Platinum ISO 14001 accreditation with a robust, long-term measurement and monitoring regime. EcoCampus is incorporated in all the new sites as we acquire, build and occupy them.

As it can be seen in the first six annual sustainability reports, the University of Worcester has concentrated in areas of campus improvement and its work in engaging with the community. Its journey on embedding sustainability in the curriculum has begun well and it is important to continue developing this further. Reducing carbon emissions remains a very significant challenge to us as we continue to be one of the fastest growing universities in the UK. The University recognises the need to educate students in the importance of environmental, social and economic sustainability and we will continue to strive to be at the forefront of developments in this growing area.

Over the next academic year the sustainability web pages and www.susthingout.com communications will continue to be revised and evaluated to ensure we are fulfilling our vision to make an outstanding contribution to economic, social and environmental sustainability through our teaching, research and knowledge exchange activities and to promote sustainable communities, services, businesses and use of physical resources. We also plan to review the format and presentation of the information presented in this document, hopefully as a student led project.



University
of Worcester

www.susthingsout.com

www.worcester.ac.uk/discover/sustainability