

# Action Plan – August 2022

## Environmental Sustainability Enabling Strategy 2018-2023 (Recast 2021)

### Underpinning goal - A prosperous University.

- Key priority - To align University targets with Welsh Government proposals to decarbonise public sector bodies by 2030 and to demonstrate significant progress toward these targets.

Key performance indicators / Environmental Sustainability Success Factors	Objectives	Carbon Impact	Priority/ Timescale	Lead area(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To be Carbon net zero for scope 1 and 2 by 2030.</b></li> <li>• <b>We will reduce our scope 1 and 2 emissions by at least 15% by 2023.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hire professional staff in Estates and Sustainability to map carbon accurately; prioritise/develop business cases; stay abreast of best practice, new developments and opportunities; and build strong communications/ campaigns to support behaviour change and adaptation.</li> </ul>	Scope 1 & 2	2021/2022	ES Committee/Estates and Campus Facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement short term, specific building services and systems related carbon reduction activities utilising a wide range of funding sources available to us:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance metering and monitoring infrastructure (initially, pilot in Queens)</li> <li>Lighting energy efficiency – LED replacement programme; automated lighting controls</li> <li>Build envelope thermal insulation across campus</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	Scope 1 & 2		

•	• Develop costed Carbon Management Plan for University estate 2021-2030	Scope 1, 2 & 3	December 2021 HIGH	
•	• Monitor and Track project: to enable review of progress towards carbon net zero by analysis of annual performance trajectories across all scopes. Identify resources and methodologies to improve data gathering processes. Understand and map emissions across all campus facilities for all scopes (baseline, and ongoing reporting) in line with a refreshed Estates Strategy that takes account of building use in a post COVID landscape.	Scope 1, 2 & 3	2021/2022 HIGH	
•	• To ensure renewable sources are adopted for all utilities across all buildings both owned and leased (Electricity consumption – Green tariff; Gas consumption – Green gas; Water consumption)	Scope 1 & 2	Electricity (owned) COMPLETE  Gas and Water 2022/2023	
•	• All refurbishment and new build projects, to follow Standard Building Electrical and Mechanical Requirements (SBEMR). Carbon emissions of a new building in operation to be at least ZERO or positive (i.e., absorbing carbon rather than emitting carbon) over the course of any three-month rolling calendar period but in any case, absorbing in gross term over any annual rolling year.	Scope 1 & 2	2021 HIGH	
• <b>Carbon modelling to establish lifecycle costings for all new buildings and assets based on realistic life expectancy of each asset.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement University policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Carbon offset policy</li> <li>b) Policy ensuring that environmental considerations form a priority in all Estates projects (new builds, refurbishments, maintenance)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All future builds to be zero carbon.</li> <li>• Undertake a carbon review of the master planning of the university estate to inform our longer term understanding of emissions. Develop first draft of a roadmap, including plans and investment required, for the University Estate to meet Carbon Net Zero scopes 1 &amp; 2 by 2030. Explore and secure partnerships, particularly external funding opportunities, to support and bolster the roadmap.</li> </ul>	Scope 1, 2 & 3	2021/2022 a) Options presented, Policy under development	Estates and Campus Facilities/ Finance

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure partnership working with design and construction teams to ensure management of soft landings approach to occupation of new buildings in all new building design briefs for up to 3 years in order to optimise carbon performance of building: <a href="https://ukbimframework.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/GSL_Report_PrintVersion.pdf">https://ukbimframework.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/GSL_Report_PrintVersion.pdf</a></li> </ul>			
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## Underpinning goal - A resilient University.

- Key priority - To enhance the biodiversity of our campus by promoting pollinator planting across our green spaces.

Key performance indicators / Environmental Sustainability Success Factors	Objectives	Carbon impact	Priority/ Timescale	Lead area(s)
<b>We will enhance the University's green infrastructure by ameliorating the environmental conditions of 30% of the green estate by 2023.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Ecosystem Resilience and Biodiversity Action Plan (ERBAP)</li> </ul>	General ES	2020 COMPLETE	Biodiversity Steering Group/ Estates and Campus Facilities/
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointment of a Biodiversity Officer</li> </ul>	General ES	2022 In process	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a full survey of the green estate and commence actions identified in line with the ERBAP. <a href="#">Cardiff-University-ERBAP-November-2020.pdf</a></li> </ul>	General ES	2021/2023 In process	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work in partnership with City and our neighbours to develop ERB corridors.</li> </ul>	General ES	Ongoing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt the Hedgehog Friendly campus accreditation scheme.</li> </ul>	General ES	2021/2022 Achieved Bronze	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commit to the Welsh Government Pollinator friendly initiative across university buildings including creation of wildflower/bee friendly planting and development of community gardens around the University campus.</li> </ul>	General ES	Ongoing	

## Underpinning goal - A healthier University.

- Key priority - To provide staff, student and stakeholders behaviour change programme that promotes sustainability issues and principles.

Key performance indicators / Environmental Sustainability Success Factors	Objectives	Carbon impact	Priority/ Timescale	Lead area(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Roll out a targeted behavioural change programme to all staff and students</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a multi-channel communications plan to support and influence staff and student behaviour to adopt more environmental sustainability, over and above Green Impact.</li> </ul>	Scope 1, 2 & 3	Annual submission	Safety and Staff Wellbeing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and embed environmental sustainability within staff mandatory training including provision of staff and student induction and development of carbon literacy training.</li> </ul>	Scope 1, 2 & 3	2021 HIGH	ES Associate Dean / Safety and Staff Wellbeing / Schools
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Run programme of engagement activities including annual Sustainability week and Sustainability Forum events throughout the year on cross cutting themes.</li> </ul>	Scope 1, 2 & 3	Annual event	ES Dean / Safety and Staff Wellbeing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop a sustainability (full lifecycle) food policy working to the 24 principles of 'Menus of Change'. Consider accreditation such as Sustainable Restaurant Association (SRA) to drive and deliver the University's official food sustainability programme.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	Policy COMPLETE 2019 Amendment 2021	Estates and Campus Facilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choose Fairtrade Certified products for food and drinks imported from poorer countries to ensure a fair deal for disadvantaged producers. Maintain our University Fairtrade accreditation by continuing to offer a comprehensive range of Fairtrade products and raising awareness.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2021	Estates and Campus Facilities

- Key priority - To measure and then reduce carbon emissions from travel by using less polluting modes and promoting technological alternatives.

Key performance indicators / Environmental Sustainability Success Factors	Objectives	Carbon impact	Timescale	Lead area(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>We will lower the environmental impact of the University's business mileage.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appoint Low Carbon Transport, Travel and Parking Services Manager</li> </ul>	Scope 3	HIGH 2021 COMPLETE	Estates and Campus Facilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake review of international and local travel to propose a range of strategic, process and policy proposals to inform a new Travel Strategy, including the adoption of a code of conduct to support a low carbon culture. New Policies to cover Sustainable Staff and Student Travel and to Promote sustainable commuting.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	HIGH 2021  In process alongside carbon offset policy	ES Committee / ES Dean(s)/ Estates and Campus Facilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake a review of university parking to support and better align with the Sustainable Travel Plan including the potential to ringfence parking income to fund sustainable travel initiatives.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2021 COMPLETE	Estates and Campus Facilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the Estates Masterplan (refresh) consider University Travel Plan recommendations.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2021/2022 COMPLETE	Estates Development, Academic Schools and Professional services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will immediately and actively, seek ways to mitigate the carbon emissions of staff and students' overseas flights.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2021/2022 Carbon offsetting policy	ES Committee
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will work with the 'Better Ways of Working' project to support and promote the use of technological alternatives to reduce the need to travel, in support of learning, teaching and collaboration e.g., Microsoft Office 365 collaboration tools and Blackboard Collaborate to support students on placement, online courses for worldwide learners, and Learn Plus for streaming of live events.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2021/2022	Better Ways of Working / University IT

## Underpinning goal - A globally responsible University.

- Key priority - We will reduce our demand for non-sustainable goods and services, whilst minimising waste production

Key performance indicators / Environmental Sustainability Success Factors	Objectives	Carbon impact	Priority/ Timescale	Lead area(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>We will prioritise and phase out the use of single-use plastic and will improve recycling facilities.</b></li> <li>• <b>By following the waste hierarchy, we will work towards achieving the Welsh Government recycling target of 70% by 2024/25.</b></li> <li>• <b>By 2023, we will reduce our waste sent to ERF/RDF to no more than 30% (baseline year 2017/18) in line with Welsh Government targets (does not inc. hazardous and construction waste).</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of 7 stream recycling across academic campus and residences.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2021 COMPLETE	Estates and Campus Facilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a Waste Minimisation Strategy, action and communication plan (including single use plastics)</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2022/2023	Estates and Campus Facilities / Procurement

- Key priority - Source goods and services responsibly, taking into account their impact.
- Number of new and renewed contracts over £25,000 being assessed/sustainability risk assessment and/or Impact assessed.

Key performance indicators / Environmental Sustainability Success Factors	Objectives	Carbon impact	Priority/ Timescale	Lead area(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To be Carbon net zero for scope 3 before 2050.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide more detailed analysis of emissions generated by the supply chain which make up 48% of total emissions inform Scope 3 emissions re-evaluation.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	HIGH 2022/23	ES Committee / Procurement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop and implement a responsible and sustainable procurement framework and policy ensuring that environmental considerations form a priority in all procurement decisions and allows all appropriate procurements to include and evaluate whole life costing, environmental sustainability, and social value award criteria.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2022  Dean of ES now signs off on all procurement >£250,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop and implement a contract management framework that enables the University to deliver the environmental sustainability and social value benefits secured through tendering procedures.</li> </ul>	Scope 3	2023	

- Key priority - We will promote sustainability education and dissemination and enable students and staff to make positive changes to our environmental impact
- Key priority - To ensure the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and environmental sustainability is embedded into all academic and business processes including internal and external events.

Key performance indicators / Environmental Sustainability Success Factors	Objectives	Carbon impact	Priority/ Timescale	Lead area(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will maintain our ISO14001:2015 certification.</li> </ul>	General ES Scopes 1, 2 & 3	Ongoing	Safety and Staff Wellbeing

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>We will rank within the top 50 of the THE Impact Rankings by 2023.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review all academic and business processes to ensure the UN Sustainable Development Goal's (SDGs) and environmental sustainability is included and consulted on with staff and students as a key consideration and is evidenced in all Strategies, Policies and business cases approved at School; College and UEB level.</li> </ul>	General ES Scopes 1, 2 & 3	2021/2022	Strategic planning and Governance/Registrars
<p><b>As signatories of the EAUC Accord, we will continue to submit an annual report on embedding of the SDGs into all University activities.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise The 'Climate Action Toolkit' developed by the Climate Commission for Higher and Further Education Students and Leaders to provide a framework for action: <a href="https://www.eauc.org.uk/climate_action_toolkit">https://www.eauc.org.uk/climate_action_toolkit</a></li> </ul>	General ES Scopes 1, 2 & 3	2021 HIGH	Dean of ES & ES Committee
	<p>We will engage with Learning and teaching to improve the visibility of education for sustainable development through recruitment of ESD champions and utilising the Responsible Futures programme in partnership with the SU.</p>	General ES Scopes 1, 2 & 3	2021/2022	Academic Lead for ESD Academic and Learning and Teaching Academy