

## Environmental Sustainability Action Plan 2023-2024

The below table details our 2023/24 action plan on our journey to net zero, which is an annual action plan, completing in July 24. The detail provided is high level and includes the priority areas of focus to reduce our environmental impact and carbon emissions along with increasing biodiversity and engaging the university community. Each priority has a headline commitment for carbon reduction and sustainable development. The targets and KPIs will help monitor our progress. The key delivery actions are those to be completed over the next year to work towards our headline commitment. These key delivery actions will be updated annually as we move closer to achieving our headline commitments. The supporting policies/plans/strategies are linked within the action plan and provide more local detail of the activities being undertaken in these areas.

Priority	Headline commitment	Targets	KPIs	Key Delivery Actions	Supporting policy/ plan/ strategy	Target Date	Responsible Lead/ Department	Link to SDG
Learning and Teaching	Engage with Learning and Teaching to improve the visibility of education for sustainable development	Using the campus as living lab wherever possible	Number of CU campus (And Cardiff City region) based living lab projects (#)	Design processes by which Education, city & Campus PS teams are enabled to identify and plan for living lab activity for 2024-25.	Environmental Management System	July 24	ESD Lead / Campus based PS teams /	SDG 4 SDG 13 SDG 16 SDG17
		Training and induction for all staff about sustainability.	Percentage of staff trained and inducted (%)	Secure funding for and develop training for staff on Sustainability and the climate emergency.		July 24	Academic Lead for ESD / ESS Research Rep / EMS Lead	
Research	Support the University Research Integrity Action Plan: Pillar 2 Guidance and Resources	Develop guidance or tools for the research community on 'environmental protection', 'environmental impact' and 'sustainability' and considerations/expectations in these areas.	KPIs for this priority are developed within the Net Zero Innovation Institute. Current KPIs can be found in the supporting document.	Delivery actions for this priority are agreed within the Net Zero Innovation Institute.	<a href="#">Net Zero Innovation Institute</a>	July 24	ESS Championed by Research Rep and Academic Lead for ESD	SDG 4 SDG 8 SDG 9 SDG 11 SDG 12 SDG 13 SDG 14
Investments	To hold a carbon net zero investment portfolio by 2050	To hold an investment portfolio which:	<b>The MSCI ESG Quality Score</b> measures the ability of underlying holdings to manage key medium to long-term risks and opportunities arising from environmental, social, and governance factors.  <b>ESG Ratings Distribution</b> represents the percentage of a portfolio's market value coming from holdings classified as ESG	To agree suitable benchmark scores for ESG Quality and ratings distribution	Treasury Management Policy  Socially Responsible Investing Policy	July 2024	Treasury Team (Finance)	SDG 8 SDG 9 SDG 12
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieves an ESG Quality score below benchmark</li> <li>Achieves an ESG ratings distribution below benchmark</li> </ol>		To develop the Socially Responsible Investment policy and Treasury Management policy to reflect the University's commitments to net zero.		July 2024	Treasury Team (Finance)	

			Ratings Leaders (AAA and AA), Average (A, BBB, and BB), and Laggards (B and CCC).					
Procurement	To be carbon net zero for Scope 3 in relation to purchased goods and services by 2050	Determine the tonnes of carbon created by our supply chain using the HESCET tool  Work with our highest emitting categories	Carbon emissions from supply chain (tonnes)	Develop a Sustainable Procurement Policy	Sustainable Procurement Policy  Environmental Management System	Feb 24	Procurement Department	SDG 12 SDG 13
				Establish method of identifying our highest emitting suppliers per category to then monitor their approach for a carbon reduction plan		Aug 24	Procurement Department	
				Measure Scope 3 emissions and develop appropriate metrics to monitor these		Jul 24	Procurement Department	
Travel	Minimise the emissions associated with transport across the university	Develop carbon reduction targets for business travel, staff commuting and business travel, fleet, and student travel.	Carbon emissions from business travel (tonnes)	Work through the short-term actions of the university's Travel Plan	Environmental Management System  Travel Plan	Jul 24	Sustainable Travel and Transport Steering Board	SDG 11 SDG 13
			Carbon emissions from staff commuting (tonnes)	Develop an EV Strategy		Jul 24	Travel Transport and Parking Services Manager	
			Carbon emissions from fleet (tonnes)	Baseline our travel carbon emissions		Mar 24	Travel Transport and Parking Services Manager	
			Carbon emissions from student travel (tonnes)	Define what is included within student travel emissions		Jul 24	Travel Transport and Parking Services Manager	
Energy and Carbon	To be carbon net zero for Scope 1 and 2 by 2030	Reduce carbon emissions from energy use by 30% against 2006 baseline (currently at 24% reduction)	Carbon emissions from energy use (tonnes)	Develop a net zero roadmap for Scope 1 and 2	Net Zero Roadmap	Jul 24	Net Zero Programme Manger	SDG 7 SDG 9 SDG 11 SDG 13
			Carbon emissions from energy per Gross Internal Area (tonnes/m2)	Install priority sub metering across campus	<u>Heating and Cooling Responsibilities</u>	Jul 24	Net Zero Programme Manger	
			Carbon emissions from energy use per staff and student FTE (tonnes/FTE)	Engagement officer and energy policy in place	Environmental Management System	Jul 24	Net Zero Programme Manger	
			Carbon emissions from energy per total income (tonnes/£)	Agree a carbon reporting framework and create an annual carbon reporting process for this.	<u>Transitional Estates Strategy</u>	Dec 23	Net Zero Programme Manger	

			Percentage of energy generated by onsite renewables (%)			July 24	Net Zero Programme Manager & Service Manager, Research (IT)	
			Carbon emissions from Scope 3 (tonnes)	Better understand our homeworking emissions				
			Carbon emissions from Scope 3 per staff and student FTE (tonnes/FTE)	Investigate effective and appropriate carbon offsetting schemes that balance environmental, social, and economic factors.		Jul 24	Net Zero Programme Manger	
			Carbon emissions from Scope 3 per total income (tonnes/£)					
Waste	Minimise waste and increase recycling participation across the university in line with the Welsh Government's circular economy strategy	Achieve the Welsh Government recycling target of 70% by 2024/25 across all academic and residential buildings.  Reduce our waste sent to EfW to no more than 30% (exc. Hazardous waste)  Increase the number of items reused around the university.  Capture waste created from capital projects and refurbishments  Reduce our hazardous waste created through single use plastic sharps boxes	Volume of academic building waste sent to recycling (% and tonnage)	Develop a Waste Minimisation Strategy	Waste Minimisation Strategy  Environmental Management System  Annual carbon reporting	Jul 24	Waste Minimisation Manager	SDG 12
			Volume of building waste sent to recycling (% and tonnage)	Develop a reuse network across the university using Warp It		Jul 24	Waste Minimisation Manager	
			Volume of academic building waste sent to EfW (% and tonnage)	Require contractors delivering major capital projects and refurbishments to consider the waste hierarchy, with an emphasis on reduction, recycling and reuse when developing their waste management plans and to report back on their performance		Jul 24	Waste Minimisation Manager  Senior Project manager(s)	
			Volume of residential building waste sent to EfW (% and tonnage)					
			Volume of furniture/goods reused (% and tonnage)					
			Tonnes of waste created from capital projects (tonnes)					
			Percentage reduction in number of single use plastic sharps boxes (%)	Introduce a trial of Biosystems (reusable sharps boxes) to reduce single use plastic		April 24	SWELL	
Water	Effectively manage our water resources	Better understand and manage our water consumption	Water consumption (m3)	Upgrade unmetered supplies to water meters.	Environmental Management System	July 24	Net Zero Programme Manger	SDG 6 SDG 13
			Water consumption per Gross Internal Area (m3/m2)					
			Water consumption per staff and student FTE (m3/FTE)	Create a process to monitor water data		Dec 23	Net Zero Programme Manger	

Construction and Refurbishments	Reduce the environmental impact of our development and maintenance activities	Ensure all new buildings achieve net zero in operation (and construction over £10m).	Percentage of new buildings with EPC A rating (%)	Develop a policy/project guide for environmental considerations to be included in Estates construction, refurbishment, and new builds. This will include a requirement for business cases to have options for environmental work for cost consideration at UEB/F&RC/Council.	Estates Standard Requirements Document  <u>Transitional Estates Strategy</u>	July 24	Net Zero Programme Manager, Deputy Director of Development & Deputy Director of Operations	SDG 7 SDG 9 SDG 11 SDG 13
		Undertake a carbon cost-benefit analysis for all major refurbishments (>£1m)		Reporting of savings made against business case anticipated savings.		Update Estates Standard Requirements Document to include carbon reduction, sustainability and energy efficiency requirements. Include examples of where considerations should be given for example, re-roofing works could include additional insulation and structural improvements to allow for future PV installation.		
Estate Size	Reduce the estate area per staff and student FTE	Improve PS space utilisation.	Utilisation factor (teaching space)	Baseline space utilisation for teaching and professional service spaces	EMR data	July 24	Head of Space and Asset Management	SDG 7 SDG 12 SDG 13
		Improve BLS college space utilisation.	Frequency rate of availability of teaching space	Gather data on student growth	Space utilisation data surveys	July 24	Head of Space and Asset Management	
		Improve teaching space utilisation up to 30%	Office space / staff FTE (m2)	Align space size to university strategy	Space management policy	July 24	Head of Space and Asset Management	
			Total Floor area / staff and student FTE (m2)	Planning size of estate for student and staff numbers		July 24	Head of Space and Asset Management	
Partnerships, Engagement and Behaviour Change	Engage and collaborate with the university community to develop	Maintain ISO 14001 Accreditation	ISO 14001 audit outcome (pass)	Recruit Sustainability Engagement Officer	Environmental Management System	Mar 24	Net Zero Programme Manger	SDG 3 SDG 4 SDG 13 SDG 16
		Run 4 programmes of engagement with ECOs.	ECO engagement programmes (#)	Maintain LEAF and increase participation		Attendees at sustainability week (#)	Dec 23	

	knowledge and encourage sustainability in all processes and activities	Hold the annual university sustainability week.					Environmental Safety Adviser	
				Publish annual SDG Summary Report		Dec 23	Academic Lead ESD & Environmental Safety Adviser	
				Facilitate quarterly ECO meetings. Develop annual calendar of sustainability events.		July 24	Net Zero Programme Manger & Environmental Safety Adviser	
Biodiversity	We will enhance the biodiversity and natural ecosystems on our estate	Map the hectares of land and type of land use across our green estate.  Increase the number of biodiversity hubs across campus.	Percentage of estate mapped (%)	Update the Ecosystem Resilience and Biodiversity Action Plan (ERBAP) and work through the actions	<u>Ecosystem Resilience and Biodiversity Action Plan (ERBAP)</u>  Environmental Management System	Dec 23	ERBAP Steering Group	SDG 3 SDG 11 SDG 13 SDG 15
			Hectares of green space for each type of land use (ha)	Maintain Hedgehog Friendly Campus Accreditation and strive for Gold Accreditation		Jul 24	ERBAP Steering Group	
			Number of wildlife hubs across campus (#)	Comply with Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty		Jul 24	ERBAP Steering Group	
			Number of biodiversity initiatives (#)	Seek opportunities to benefit biodiversity and carbon offsetting through tree planting and onsite land opportunities		Jul 24	ERBAP Steering Com Group	