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UWE Bristol statement on carbon emissions reduction

UWE Bristol are building on successes of significant carbon emissions reduction pre-2008/9 of 27% reduction over the 2005/6 HEFCE baseline. Since 2008/9 UWE Bristol have made further savings even during a period of significant new acquisitions and construction.

Brite Green have ranked UWE Bristol for percentage reduction in absolute carbon emissions from 2005 to 2014/15 as follows:

Absolute Carbon Reduction percentage reduction from 2005 to 2014/15	121 / 126
Emissions Intensity by Income (kgCO ₂ e/£), percentage reduction from 2008/9 to 2014/15	115 / 120
Emissions Intensity by Floor Area (kgCO ₂ e/m ²), percentage reduction from 2008/9 to 2014/15	93 / 120

These rankings are based on percentage changes and not the absolute figures themselves. If the figures were based on the absolute figures, then for the emissions intensity by floor area ranking, which already takes into account the differences in sizes of university, then UWE Bristol would be in the higher rankings. In this scenario, UWE Bristol would rank 40 / 120 for emissions intensity by floor area (kgCO₂e/m²).

This statement provides wider context to demonstrate UWE Bristol's commitment to sustainability and carbon reduction.

UWE Bristol have been working hard on carbon reductions for over 10 years now, reflected by the university's low carbon intensity metrics. Significant savings were made between 2005/6 and 2008/9 with a 27% reduction in emissions intensity during this time. These savings in emissions intensity are not reflected in the Brite Green ranking as they are ranked on percentage change in intensity only after 2008/9.

Continuing to reduce carbon reductions on a rapidly expanding campus has been challenging! In 2013/14, the purchase of large ex-manufacturing buildings made a big impact on energy consumption on site. The site continues to expand, with new residential accommodation and students union building 2014/15 and more on the way. Whilst the site is expanding, the refurbishment of the older parts of the university continue.

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Continued development on site has given plenty of opportunity for energy projects, ranging from the installation of CHP and district heating network and [the installation of the largest single solar photovoltaic array in the HEI sector](#); through to using [soft landings on all new developments and refurbishment projects](#); and the development of design guides to ensure energy is considered throughout the design process.

UWE Bristol has full transparency of carbon and energy performance, with regular updates made available on the [UWE sustainability website pages](#), including what is known of scope 1-3 emissions.

UWE Bristol has full support from the Vice Chancellors executive to reduce carbon emissions. Efforts have been recognised locally with the winning of the 2015 Go Green business award for “most improved energy & efficiency” for the significant reductions made to carbon emissions.