



2020 | Sustainability End of Plan Report

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I'm incredibly proud of the progress UWE Bristol has made through the Sustainability Plan 2020. In so doing we responded to both the climate and ecological emergency and the expectations of our students for sustainability to be embedded into their higher education experience. We will build on this fantastic progress and, over the coming decade, UWE Bristol will continue to play a key role in driving the remarkable transition to a decarbonised and regenerative economy in the west of England and beyond. Our students and our future students will be the generations most affected by the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss, so we must continue to find ways to prepare them for the challenges that lie ahead, and through our outstanding learning, research and enterprise find and demonstrate the socially just solutions to this most fundamental of global challenges.

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and lines, representing the name Steve West.

Professor Steve West
Vice-Chancellor, UWE Bristol

Introduction

For much of the past decade UWE Bristol has been working through the Sustainability Plan 2020 to embed sustainability in every aspect of the University. Each theme within the plan has been supported by an action plan and all support the Strategy 2020 goals:

Outstanding Learning

Ready and Able Graduates

Research with Impact

Strategic Partnerships

The purpose of our Sustainability Plan was to enhance the overall sustainability of the University through reducing the environmental footprint, addressing negative impacts and magnifying positive ones. This report demonstrates how the direct impacts of UWE Bristol's operations have reduced through the actions undertaken. The largest but indirect proportion of our impact is through our graduates' activities; a typical graduate will have sixty years of life post-graduation. Through Education for Sustainable Development in disciplines taught at UWE Bristol, we strive to provide knowledge and skills and to develop attributes that enable our graduates to contribute to a more sustainable society. As we embark upon our 2030 Strategy it is timely to reflect on the enormous progress we have made over the last decade. In this journey The Students' Union has been an important partner, supporting and challenging the University to deliver on the aims of the Sustainability Plan. Whilst there remains much to be done, the great strides made over the last decade provide confidence that the University is willing and capable to address these challenges and to meet the ambitions set out in Strategy 2030 just as in has for those in Strategy 2020.



Health and Wellbeing

Ready and Able Graduates: The University's Mental Wealth First Strategy launched in 2018, which ensured that mental health and wellbeing was a strategic priority for students and staff.

Successful actions bringing the strategy to fruition included: the launch of the Mental Wealth Lab initiative (a scheme to help students and staff take forward ideas and approaches to develop and promote positive mental health and wellbeing); the Living Well programme (social prescribing on referral for those who have mental health concerns); broadening of the 'Feel Good' programme (health and wellbeing initiatives to empower individuals to make healthier choices); the introduction of dedicated Mental Health Nurses at the Health Centre at Frenchay campus; successfully being awarded the NUS SOS-UK Alcohol Impact Accreditation (embedding social norms and creating a more positive culture of responsible drinking on our campuses; impacting student welfare and shaping healthier lifestyles, safer campuses and stronger communities); enabling a stronger student voice in Health and Wellbeing by solidifying links with the The Students' Union and offering an annual Healthy University Intern position.

Strategic Partnerships: UWE Bristol began leading a partnership (Student Mental Health Partnerships Project) across the Higher Education sector to improve care for students in need of mental health support. This was achieved through the development and evaluation of local partnerships between universities, the NHS and Students' Unions, connected via a National Learning Collaborative.

The main challenge faced for this period from a health and wellbeing perspective was effective establishment of a Smokefree campus. Actions to support this goal included: implementing Smokefree clinics for two years; training of Health Psychology students to act as Smokefree advisors, alongside an NHS Smoke Free Lead; implementing smoking shelters across all campuses and the production of regular Smokefree campaigns. Whilst there was reasonable uptake for such support, difficulties were faced ensuring guidance was being adhered to, providing space for one to one clinics and providing resource for bookings and supervision.

Engagement in the Sustainability Journey

Central to the ethos of the 2013 Sustainability Plan and its' 2017 refresh is the notion of inspiring and supporting students and staff to be active agents in their future through offering and embedding engagement opportunities within their work, study and extra curricular activities.

Engagement with the student population has increased year on year. In terms of extra-curricular activities, partnership with The Students' Union and UWE Bristol Green team has flourished and has been central to successful engagement. We have worked together to deliver key sustainability initiatives throughout the years – our annual Green week, Go Green week, Fairtrade Fortnight, the City Nature Challenge, Bristol European Green Capital year in 2015, the Farmers market (now defunct), community garden sessions, campus tours and other smaller initiatives like litter picking. Increasingly we have been working with Healthy University, contributing to Feelgood February and providing weekly campus tours and other wellbeing initiatives.

Another area of expansion has been work in the curriculum which has been central to achieving the 2020 Strategy aims of 'Ready and Able graduates' and 'Outstanding Learning'. With high level support, in 2016 more engagement resources were focused into teaching and learning. We offered a range of opportunities including inductions, tours, seminars and work-based learning placements to students at different stages in their journey from Foundation to Masters level and CPD. The with the result that in 2019 over 650 students were engaged in 31 subject areas, and many more.

In terms of engaging staff, our UWE Bristol staff network has been supplemented with an ongoing programme of climate action cafes (started in 2019) which provide a more strategic and in-depth opportunity for staff to engage in the application of sustainability to their work content and personal behaviours at work and home. There have always been driven and passionate staff and now their numbers are increasing in the face of the climate and ecological crises and our range of opportunities to support them is increasing.

In summary, at the end of the 2020 period our engagement work is more strongly embedded across the university and will provide a strong foundation going forward.

Education for Sustainable Development

At the start of the Sustainability Plan 2013–2020 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) was already recognised as a strength of UWE Bristol’s sustainability work. UWE Bristol set itself some breakthrough indicators to measure progress over the life of the plan. For ESD, they were that:

- Sustainable development formal and informal learning opportunities are available for all students and staff; and,
- In the context of their discipline all students will have the opportunity to explore and put into practice sustainable development concepts.

At the midpoint refresh of the Sustainability Plan, we recognised that we had already met these goals and were able to evidence this through programmes of activity across the institution and The Students’ Union at UWE Bristol, in the formal and informal curriculum and for staff and students. Through multi-stage reviews of module and programme documentation, we knew that students were being given opportunities to explore sustainable development within their curriculum, as part of an outstanding learning experience. Our strategic partnership with The Students’ Union at UWE Bristol has been critical to our successes in ESD, particularly in more recent years of the Sustainability Plan implementation.

Bristol’s year as European Green Capital in 2015 and UWE Bristol’s active role within the city and its sustainability networks have provided fantastic opportunities to accelerate our engagement with sustainable development. We have been able to develop numerous opportunities for our students through our sustainability connections at local, regional, national and international level.

Key successes over the period of the Sustainability Plan have also included an Advance HE Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence (CATE) for our Knowledge Exchange for Sustainability Education group, multiple Green Gown awards for staff, students

and initiatives, Advanced Signatory status and active support for the UN Principles of Responsible Management Education, growing reputation of numerous individual staff members for work on sustainability in the curriculum, leading roles in the development of national ESD policy initiatives, growth of world-leading research with impact on sustainability issues which informs our curriculum and ensures that students can engage with the latest thinking and innovation, and outstanding achievement in our two Responsible Futures accreditation audits. Responsible Futures has enabled us to evidence the breadth and depth of our commitment to and delivery of education for sustainable development, and to demonstrate that UWE Bristol develops ready and able graduates with the capacity and intention to put sustainable development into practice.

We have been challenged to keep up the high standards we have set for ourselves, to continue to increase and deepen staff and student engagement in the context of competing pressures and agendas and to ensure that a sustainability culture truly permeates our curriculum, research and the knowledge base of our staff and students. We will continue to seek more ways to assure ourselves that we are doing all that we can to use our educational purpose to play our role in the creation of a more sustainable society. Our institution-wide programme mapping against the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is one such way we are doing this, and this work has also prompted significant staff capacity building and motivation for the creation and enhancement of a sustainability-driven curriculum.

At the close of the academic year 2019–2020, UWE Bristol’s education for sustainable development work is consistently found to be amongst the best practice in the UK Higher Education sector. We continue to strive for continuous improvement and value the framing and support that Strategy 2030, the UN SDGs and our ISO14001 certified environmental management system give us for this work.



Sustainable Procurement

Sustainability Plan 2013–20 defined the University’s ambition for sustainable procurement as maximising the opportunity provided by procurement to improve the sustainability of UWE Bristol’s purchasing decisions and the wider supply chain.

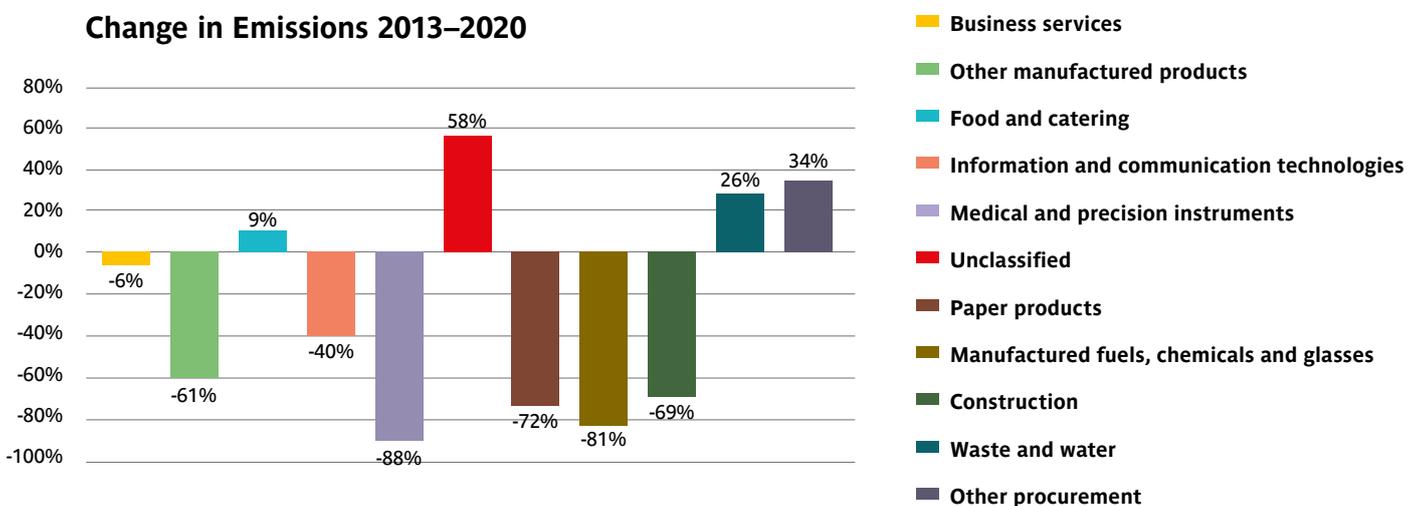
Sustainability continues to be embedded throughout the procurement process. Our strategy is to work towards sustainable, green procurement and where appropriate, tender evaluation criteria shall include sustainability and ethical procurement.

The University has undertaken the following activities in order to develop performance in line with the aims of the 2020 Strategy:

- We continue to look for opportunities to switch to more sustainable products where cost effective and practicable.
- Sustainability continues to be a standard agenda item at contract review meetings, offering regular opportunities to review existing contracts with views for improvement.
- Working with other contracting authorities to assist local SMEs, encouraging local economic development and growth.
- Ensuring that suppliers are treating their workforce in an ethical manner by requesting relevant information as part of the tender process and ongoing contract management.
- Mandating, via a Fair Payment Charter, that all suppliers adopt the University’s policy of prompt payment within their own supply chains.

- Procurement staff ensure that their knowledge is up to date by completing the annual Ethical Procurement e-learning course provided by Chartered Institute for Procurement and Supply, and well as other relevant training and guidance.
- Participation in the National Responsible Procurement working group in collaboration with other institutions.
- Sharing information on the University’s approach to Sustainability within Invitation to Tender documentation and assessing suppliers on their approach to relevant elements of sustainability.
- Assisting with the development and promotion of policies/ guidance on: sustainable palm oil, plastics reduction (including checklist and toolkit), animal-derived products, and the circular economy.
- Procurement are also part of a sector Scope 3 review group looking at ways of updating the existing toolkit for measuring Carbon Reduction.
- In terms of local economic sustainable impact, 54% of our spend (approx. £50m) is within 50 miles of the University. This is instrumental in supporting the 2020 strategy.
- A main aim of this strategy was to achieve a 30% absolute reduction of the carbon footprint of the UWE Bristol supply chain. The data shows an overall total CO_{2e} reduction of 34% from 2013–14.
- Fluctuations in the carbon emissions recorded are generally down to construction spend associated with major projects.

Change in Emissions 2013–2020



Energy and Carbon Management

Despite UWE Bristol estate doubling in size since the 2005 baseline to 2020, absolute carbon emissions have reduced by 51%. Significant work has been done during the last seven years to contribute to this, such as:

- The installation of district heating network on the main Frenchay campus, fed from 2 combined heat and power (CHP) engines using a heat-led strategy to supply heating for around half the campus, using electricity generated on Frenchay campus.
- The purchase of Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) backed renewable electricity across all electricity supplies.
- The purchase of 20% electricity direct from UK-based wind farms on a power purchase agreement.
- The installation of solar photovoltaic arrays on all campuses, including what was at the time the largest single roof mounted array in the UK Higher Education sector on the Robotics Laboratory and University Enterprise Zone.
- Lighting upgrades to low energy LED lighting and smart controls in all university buildings.
- Improved pipework insulation across all buildings, and window draught-proofing at Glenside.
- Working with staff and students to raise awareness of energy use and reduction through consumption data analysis. Activities such as in-Halls competitions and staff Climate Action Cafes have enabled staff and students to act from their place of influence.

Improved energy management provides the backbone of work going forward, with a full review of data collection strategy, recalibration of meters, and a new Energy Management software package which will alert the team to excessive consumption in real time. New controls on accommodation heating allow the University to respond to demand on the grid, managing consumption in peak periods.

Campus Development

UWE Bristol has committed to building sustainable new facilities and refurbishing spaces across its campuses using both SKA and BREEAM Assessment criteria. Each project's contribution to UWE Bristol's Sustainability Policies and Targets is considered from design through to procurement, construction and occupancy. Projects are evaluated to ensure the investment in, and implementation of, more efficient buildings, technologies and practises, contributing to the development of a sustainable campus. The past seven years have been particularly busy for the Estates department with the building of several major new facilities, including Bristol Business School, Bower Ashton Design Studios and Media Studios, The Students' Union at Frenchay, Wallscourt Park student accommodation Phase 2 and the new Engineering facility. The buildings were completed to BREEAM design standards, with UWE Bristol's new state-of-the-art engineering facility incorporating rain water harvesting and Solar PV panels, which will formally be assessed to BREEAM excellent certification standards.

A combined heat and power (CHP)/district heat network (DHN) was completed at the Frenchay Campus as part of the University's Carbon Management Plan, the aim of which is to continually reduce absolute and relative energy consumption. Development of the new dedicated Student Services Centre in B Block at Bower Ashton achieved SKA bronze accreditation in post construction assessment. The creation of the new Vision Clinic and CT Scanning facility within the Blackberry Centre at Glenside Campus aims to achieve SKA Silver certification along with a new facility for the Centre for Fine Print Research at Frenchay Campus. In conjunction with the development of indoor spaces, outdoor areas have been built to sustainable standards. The aim of the Courtyard Improvement Project was to provide an outdoor health and wellbeing space for students. The University teamed up with Bristol Wood Recycling (BWR) to design and supply a variety of bespoke recycled wood products and all redundant wood furniture which had deteriorated beyond use was given to BWR for recycling.



Waste, Emissions and Discharges

During the period covered by the 2020 plan, the emphasis was on following and applying the waste hierarchy. Although recycling our waste material has always been deemed important, greater weight has been given to reuse and waste prevention as time has progressed.

Between 1,200 and 1,900 tonnes of waste is disposed of per year (not including construction waste). The University separates around 30 different waste streams to achieve the most sustainable and financially beneficial outcome for this material. The overall recycling rate has nearly doubled from less than 30% in 2007 to nearly 60% in 2020. As well as the environmental benefits of recycling, this makes good financial sense as recycling costs recycling costs 40% less than general waste disposal.

	Recycling	Total Waste inc CDE	Total Waste exc CDE	Total Waste inc CDE/ FTE Student	FTE
	(%)	(tonnes)	(tonnes)	(kg)	Students
2006/07	29	2,022		79.7	25,385
2007/08	35	1,997		74.2	26,920
2008/09	37	2,081		77.4	26,890
2009/10	43	1,886		68.5	27,510
2010/11	46	1,652	1,582	62.2	26,563
2011/12	51	1,836	1,764	67.2	27,328
2012/13	56.6	1,796	1,642	65.1	27,589
2013/14	60.9	1,882	1,524	66.6	28,245
2014/15	62.2	2,148.5	1,822	77.4	27,751
2015/16	60.6	1,510	1,278	52.5	28,760
2016/17	56.6	3,418	1,493	115.3	29,635
2017/18	68.7	1,375.8	1,258.8	52	26,444
2018/19	55.7	4,225.3	1,756.5	135	31,281
2019/20	57	N/A	1,698	NA	33,111

Several successful interventions have positively impacted how the University manages waste materials up the waste hierarchy:

- All mixed non-recyclable waste sent to a treatment facility instead of to landfill (from 2013)
- Introduction of food waste segregation (2013) with separated food sent to a local anaerobic digestion facility
- Annual student facing Big Give campaign to divert unwanted items to British Heart Foundation (BHF) charity shops
- Introduction of managed furniture reallocation project (from 2013) with around £100,000 savings derived from avoided disposal costs and avoided procurement of new furniture
- Sending redundant IT equipment for an asset management process where equipment is data-cleansed and reused
- Regular Students' Union 'Bring Your Own Bowl' food waste awareness raising events (from 2016)
- First partnership pop-up charity reuse shop between UWE Bristol, BHF and The Students' Union (2019)
- Projects aligning with and supporting circular economy objectives started to be developed and implemented, particularly via the Resource Management Plan 2018–20

Outstanding Learning Waste Management has input to curricula activity and over the life of the plan has increasingly engaged with students e.g. sessions with foundation level students, Circular Economy Level 2 geography lectures.

Ready and Able Graduates A multitude of supported student project work based on University waste/resource management system, including work-based learning projects, hosted placements and dissertation projects.

Strategic Partnerships We have developed good partnerships with the British Heart Foundation and city partners through continued involvement in the annual Bristol Big Give campaign. We are also involved in the Bristol Food Waste Action Group and the Waste and Resources Action Group.

Water Management

Whilst the estate doubled in size, water consumption reduced by 3.4% over the measured period 2011/12–2019/20. Gradual increases were accounted to increased estate, however, an investigation in 2016 identified significant leaks within buildings. Extensive work over the last few years using real-time data and implementing water saving measures has resulted in a 39% reduction since 2016, predominantly on the Frenchay and Bower Ashton sites.

Green IT

Information Technology has undergone some seismic changes in the period between 2013 and 2020. To improve the experience of students and staff, we moved away from IT teams embedded in faculties and services to a centralised service finding innovative solutions for UWE Bristol as a whole.

Many of the University's systems, from our virtual learning environment and website, to the office suite and HR system, have been moved out of the on-site data centres and into the Cloud, providing improved levels of service and greater flexibility. Recent events have shown how important it has been for us to embed video conferencing technology and remote working solutions, and how this will reduce the need to travel in the future.

Advances in technology have enabled UWE Bristol to virtualise devices, reducing hundreds of servers to a handful. This has meant a considerable reduction in the amount of equipment we need in our on-site data centres. Coupled with improvements to the cooling and lighting solutions we have halved the amount of energy used.

The development of the UWE Bristol campuses has been substantial over the past seven years and as such the IT and technology has been incorporated into the buildings and facilities. From cutting edge medical teaching suites and health research labs, to student accommodation and the brand new Engineering building, IT is at the core of operating the buildings efficiently and providing state-of-the-art teaching.



UWE Bristol's award-winning* Sustainability Plan set an ambitious strategic and operational agenda for the University. In this report we set out the achievements and challenges encountered in the period 2013–2020. In each of the organising themes structuring our activities UWE Bristol has made significant progress in enhancing the sustainability of its campus operations, civic engagement, teaching and research. In so doing, UWE Bristol has built a culture of engagement with the sustainability agenda. I would like to commend the efforts of our staff and students who together have made these successes possible. By working in partnership we can have confidence that the University will continue to enhance its sustainability performance for the benefit of all those we educate, employ, engage or work with now and in the future.

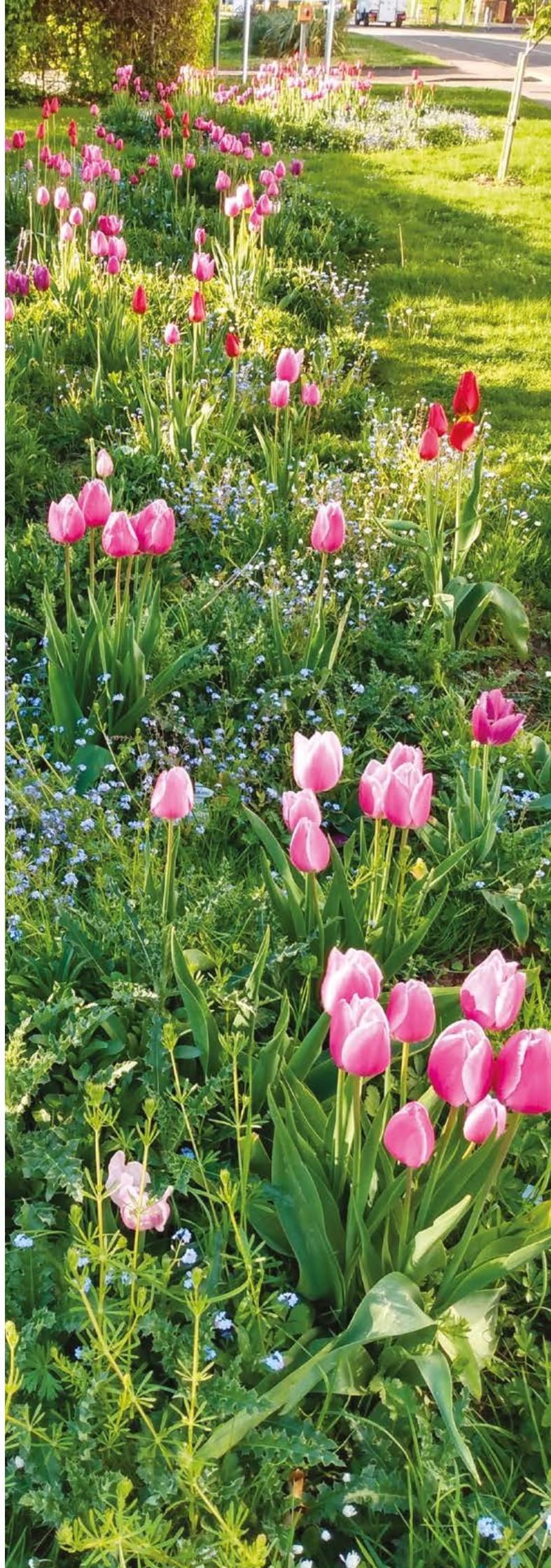
James Longhurst

*UK and Ireland Green Gown winner, International Green Gown winner.

Smarter Travel

Travel and transport were highlighted within Sustainability Plan 2013–2020 as major contributory factors to the emissions of the University. Our ambition was to substantially reduce this impact whilst allowing the redevelopment of our sites and enabling growth. Our key ambition in 2013 was to reduce the mode share of single occupancy car travel from the 2012 level of 40% down to 27% by 2020. To achieve this aim the Travel Smart program was developed that would see the development of strategic partnerships with both public transport operators and local authorities to vastly improve access to alternative modes of travel and the implementation of slightly higher parking charges to discourage car use with the revenue reinvested in sustainable travel measures.

The University launched the Ulink bus service in partnership with commercial operators which quickly grew to a service operating multiple routes and carrying many thousands of users per day. Bus services grew to a commercially viable level and now over 50 services per hour visit our key campus sites. Working closely with our local authorities we have developed car-free walking and cycle routes such as the Frome Valley Greenway, Concorde Way and Festival Way, which link to one another and to Bristol City Centre. We have constructed numerous active travel facilities such as new shower and changing facilities, lockers, cycle maintenance facilities and secure covered cycle parks. We have introduced cycle loan schemes for students and cycle schemes for staff to obtain a tax-free bicycle. To address the impact of our own fleet, the University became early adopters of electric vehicles and quickly grew our fleet of electric vehicles to over 30% of vehicles in use and made electric vehicles available to all car users as an alternative for business travel. These measures have proven to be highly successful achieving our 27% target by 2015 – five years earlier than planned. We have gone on to further reduce our single occupancy car travel to 22% in the last year.



Biodiversity

The 2013–2020 plan aimed to deliver positive gains for biodiversity including measures to create, enhance and manage habitats, with improved access to campus green spaces. Initiatives and changes to the management of the external realm implemented throughout this period should be considered as resounding successes when it comes to assessing progress towards this. The addition to our campuses of an increased variety of nectar rich herbaceous plant species, native and ornamental bulbs, edible planting, succession tree planting, native and near native wildflower meadows as well as the change in management practices to Grassland habitat have resulted in a large increase in species diversity across UWE Bristol land. Habitat diversity has also been increased by the addition of artificial habitats and the creation and encouragement of natural habitats. Native hedgerow planting, managed field margins, meadow grass areas and orchards are some of the areas that have benefitted from expansion or changes in management techniques.

The majority of Key Performance Indicators for the initial plan were either met or exceeded during its life plan. There has been a net increase of native hedgerow delivered that exceeds the 25 metre per annum targets, with some years delivering 75m+ alone. Nectar rich planting and artificial habitat creation have increased year on year at rates exceeding the target, while the extent of wildflower meadows was increased dramatically by working alongside bug life to install new meadow areas at Hillside gardens, Glenside and Frenchay campuses. Although less favourable progress was made with identifying fauna via Bioblitz and an increase in birdsong recorded on campus this was down to difficulties in gaining or coordinating the data. The mid-point review of the plan replaced these metrics with KPIs to measure sustainable plant propagation and to increase the amount of green waste composted and reused on site. The number of plants propagated on site in peat-free mediums has improved by over 10% per year and the amount of green waste required to be removed from campus for processing was dramatically reduced. However, this process has recently been severely impacted by both the school of Engineering project and Covid-19 restrictions, meaning further work is required to get it back to the levels we achieved in 2018.

Frenchay Beeline – The Frenchay Beeline was introduced during 2016/2017 season on the back of an initial edible planting program, UWEat. It was based on the concept of bringing places into the heart of the campus that were beneficial not only to site users but also to pollinators. Based around 10 core edible pollinator plants the popularity and success of the Beeline has grown year on year. In 2019 it received an award from The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) for championing bees and other pollinators and was also a finalist in the campus of the future category at the Green Gown Awards. The framework of the Beeline has been further developed to offer student opportunities to work with promoting pollinators through the Beeline ambassadors and offering engagement and advice through the Beeline clinics and delivery of Vegeboxes to staff and students on site.

Meadowscaping – Although not fully introduced until the 2018/19 grass cutting season, the process was in trial and development many years prior to that. It aims to manage our grassland habitat from a variety of perspectives dependent on requirements, location and potential of the land. All areas of lawn across all campuses were cataloged and assessed for potential recreational usage. A variety of cutting regimes were then allocated to the grass areas, some aimed to improve connectivity and habitat, some aimed to improve species diversity and others to maintain maximum recreational benefit for site users. The project has so far been a great success and anecdotal evidence points to a large increase in pollinators and bird song present across site as well as other wildlife being attracted into the campus more often than before. New plant species have been identified as being present on campus by the grounds team with help from faculty, as wildflowers are given the opportunity to thrive and become established.



Sustainable Food

Over the past five years, UWE Bristol has annually received a silver award from the independently audited, Food for Life programme. The silver level indicates more ethical, environmentally friendly, local ingredients and steps to make healthy eating easier. Unfortunately, our plans to introduce a vegan-only cafe and extend FFL to Glenside this year were delayed due to Covid-19.

UWE Bristol uses sustainable seafood products which have been certified by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). We never use fish from the MSC 'fish to avoid' list.

We use Red Tractor Farm Assured beef, chicken, pork and lamb from John Sheppard Butchers. Some fruit and vegetables are also farm assured, purchased from a few of our other suppliers. By using Red Tractor Farm Assured meat, we can trace all our meat back to independently inspected farms in the UK which must meet safety, hygiene, and animal welfare standards. The auditing of this is tied in with the Food For Life accreditation, also independently. All our fresh milk is organic as standard. Our milk is supplied by a local dairy farm based in Tewkesbury which uses dairy farms within a 30 mile radius of their site.

We achieved awards for the provision and promotion of Fairtrade products across our catering outlets, winning various Fairtrade Awards. For the fifth consecutive year in 2020, the University and The Students' Union at UWE Bristol received several awards in the South West Fairtrade Business awards, including gold for 'Best Fairtrade University'. The South West Fair Trade Business Awards celebrate organisations – no matter their size or industry – that are leading the way in championing Fair Trade in the workplace.

Plastic straws were removed from our supply chain, a year before legislation was introduced. The legislation meant catering establishments such as restaurants, pubs and bars were not able to display plastic straws, automatically hand them out, or offer them at point of sale. Our cup levy helped in the reduction of single use cup usage, saving in the region of 500,000 cups per year.

Climate Change Adaptation

At the mid-point refresh of the plan the need to include adaptation was recognised. Climate Change Adaptation is about how we act now to reduce future risk from adverse climate change in order to protect the health of our staff and students, the financial health of the University and our overall reputation.

The adaptation theme as initially conceived was paused as actions were, with the exception of Campus Management, premature for the University's current capacity and capability. Where appropriate other Themes were encouraged to consider adaptation within their sphere of responsibilities.



Conclusion

Across the lifetime of UWE Bristol's Sustainability Plan the University has made very good progress in reducing its direct environmental impacts and has enhanced its overall contribution to sustainable development. A number of factors have been critical to this success including the support and engagement of students, staff and the senior leadership. The University's strategy has been clear and provided the direction of travel for the institution, demonstrating a willingness to embrace change, sharing of better practices and learning from failure. External certification to ISO14001 and Responsible Futures has played an important part of assuring our actions have the desired impact and are themselves sustainable. Bristol's year as European Green Capital in 2015 played an important part in raising the importance of sustainability amongst the University population and helped develop further the culture of sustainability in UWE Bristol. The University is proud to have won many awards for its sustainability achievements and these are a spur for further action but are not the reason for our actions. The simple reason is that enhancing the sustainability of the University across all spheres of its activity is the right thing to do and in that spirit we shall continue with our sustainability actions under our new Transforming Futures Climate Action and Sustainability Strategy.





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