

Sustainability Plan 2020

Positive Footprint Phase 2.1

Mid-Point Refresh

University of the West of England, Bristol

May 2017



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ISO 14001:2004



Executive Summary

Sustainability Plan 2020 Positive Footprint Phase 2.1

The Sustainability Plan presents and codifies a wide range of university policy, practice and ambition relating to the environmental, social, economic and cultural components of sustainable development. The Sustainability Plan draws its authority from and is subordinate to Strategy 2020 and is designed to support attainment of the objectives of that Strategy in the most sustainable manner possible.

The award-winning Sustainability Plan 2013 -2020, Positive Footprint 2, has been refreshed and updated in this revised Sustainability Plan 2020 Positive Footprint 2.1. It now contains a suite of new and continuing actions for implementation by the end of Academic Year 2020.

The original 11 Themes of the Sustainability Plan have been updated to provide new targets and two new themes have been added, Sustainable Food and Adaptation to Climate Change. The refreshed plan has been developed by members of the Sustainability Board and the action groups managing implementation of the themes. An open meeting was held in the SU in Green Week 2016 to present initial ideas and to hear ideas, opportunities and challenges from staff and students. Students of MSc Sustainable Development in Practice and MSc Environmental Management critiqued the existing plan and advised on the issues and priorities of the refreshed plan. These students have provided a new foreword for the plan.

The thirteen themes of the plan follow a similar structure setting out the purpose and aim of each theme and sets out the post 2020 ambition. The Sustainability Plan is accompanied by a Sustainability Implementation Plan (SIP) that sets out the intention, means, dependencies and responsible party for meeting the 2020 ambition of each theme. The contribution of each theme to meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals is also documented. Sustainability risks are considered in the plan which is designed to support the university in avoiding avoidable sustainability risks and mitigating the impact of unavoidable risks. The overall purpose of the plan is to support the delivery of the ambitions set out in Strategy 2020 in the most sustainable manner possible.

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Final approval 12th October 2017

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Foreword from Students Studying MSc Sustainable Development in Practice and MSc Environmental Management

“Do better, do more and do it quicker!!!”

We are in no doubt that human activity over the next 60 years will determine whether people will be able to thrive, and even survive, on the earth. All of our dreams, hopes and futures take place within a physical environment which nourishes and provides.... but not infinitely.

60 years corresponds to the length of time our students will live once they have left UWE. As educators, the university plays an important role in developing these individuals. We aim to inspire each and every one of them to go out in to their fields and find the ways and do the things, that will change the direction of the ship we are currently on. All allusions to the Titanic are intended!

We think it can be done and we are excited by the challenge. We wish to work with our neighbours, partners and peers to develop a sustainable future in which humanity and nature flourishes.

Society faces a set of profound sustainability challenges as the population inexorably grows towards a total of 10 billion people – a grossly unequal global society, an industrial system in urgent need of de-carbonisation, a rapid decline of biodiversity, an increasing problem of air pollution and a global society living beyond planetary boundaries. These are the systemic realities of an unsustainable model of development. The Sustainable Development Goals represent society’s best hope for avoiding catastrophic change. Education must and will play a leading role in plotting the route to a sustainable future and guiding society’s adaptation to living sustainably within the limits of the planet.

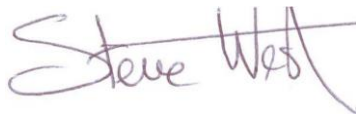
The University of the West of England is determined to play its part in that transition and calls upon its students, alumni, staff and partners to work together to achieve the goal of a truly sustainable society.

Foreword by the Chair of the Board of Governors, Vice-Chancellor and the President of the UWE Bristol Students' Union

UWE Bristol is committed to addressing the issues arising from the imperative for sustainable development. Simply put, this means playing our part in ensuring we support the global sustainability agenda for a strong, healthy and just society living within environmental limits. We have developed policies, plans and strategy to support sustainable development and implemented these into the business of the University both in our educational role and in the management of our estate. This is overseen by the Sustainability Board with action devolved to Services and Faculties to embed sustainable development into business decision making. This isn't easy, it's a change management process but we are making progress. We have been addressing this challenge since the early 1990s. Our actions and ambitions were formerly expressed in the UWE Bristol Sustainability Strategy 2007–2012 and refined and restated in the Sustainability Plan 2013–2020. This refreshed Plan, Positive Footprint 2.1 reaffirms our commitment to ensure that we manage the university's business in the most sustainable manner.

We are committed to ensuring our students - future graduates - are exposed to and can engage with the ideas of sustainable development in their programme of study. In our view, it is important that sustainable development is contextualised within the discipline the student is studying. We also provide opportunities for the informal curricula of volunteering and public engagement to embrace the sustainable development agenda. For us education for sustainable development is about the contribution that can be made to sustainable development through learning and teaching. Key to this is the development of skills, knowledge and values that promote behaviour and approaches that support the goal of reconciling human needs with the environmental limits of the planet.

There is much more to do and we are progressively setting ourselves more ambitious targets. We report publicly on progress and you will see a large amount of information and data on our web pages. The University is also committed to sharing its practices and the challenges we face within the sector. We are active in a range of organisations promoting and supporting sustainable development policy and practices and our goal here is to support mainstreaming in the HE sector. The university's Master Plan is investing nearly £300 million in the development of the Frenchay, City and Glenside campuses. We are committed to ensuring that the investment in new facilities and buildings continues to bring long term sustainability gains. Above all, the purpose of this plan is to ensure that the University of the West of England delivers a student and staff experience within an environment and culture incorporating the principles of sustainable development. All UWE Bristol student and staff members will have the opportunity to live, study and work in a sustainable environment as well as develop and use the skills and understanding required to contribute to global sustainability throughout their careers. Through the actions presented in this refreshed Sustainability Plan we reaffirm our commitment to prepare our students for the sustainable development challenges of the 21st century.



Vice-Chancellor



Chair of the Board of Governors



President of the Students' Union

1 Purpose of the UWE Bristol Sustainability Plan

The Sustainability Plan presents and codifies a wide range of university policy, practice and ambition relating to the environmental, social, economic and cultural components of sustainable development. The Sustainability Plan draws its authority from and is subordinate to Strategy 2020 and is designed to support attainment of the objectives of that Strategy in the most sustainable manner possible.

Our ambition to be a ground-breaking example of a sustainable university was first set out in Positive Footprint 2 covering the period from 2013 onwards. The Plan and our progress towards meeting its aims won the prestigious EAUC Green Gown in 2016 for Continuous Improvement – Institutional Change (see <http://www.greengownawards.org/2016-winners1>). This refreshed and revised Plan, Positive Footprint 2.1, sets out our plans to realise that ambition by academic year 2020. In refreshing the plan the opportunity has been taken to demonstrate more explicitly the contribution of the university's Sustainability Plan to meeting the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, see <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>).

Our continuing aim is to ensure that the delivery of Strategy 2020 is achieved in such a way that sustainability becomes embedded in everything that the university does. The Sustainability Plan consists of 13 interdependent themes covering all aspects of sustainability at UWE. Each theme is supported by its own action plan. Two new themes have been added to the plan, Sustainable Food and Climate Change Adaptation. A revised structure for each theme has been introduced. The contribution to the global effort that each theme of the plan will make to achieve one or more of the SDGs is identified. Progress with meeting the overall aim of the plan and ensuring integration of the work of the 13 themes continues to rest with the Sustainability Board.

In the period from 2013 the university has made enormous progress towards achieving the aim of the Sustainability Plan but substantial effort is still required to drive forward positive change and to fully embed a culture and practice of sustainability within the business operations and educational offerings of the university. This refreshed Plan is designed to provide that impetus and to ensure that UWE Bristol achieves its goal of becoming a truly sustainable institution for the benefit of current and future students, its staff and the city region. This refreshed plan will run until the end of Academic Year 2020. In Academic Year 2018/19 the university will begin developing the successor to Positive Footprint 2.1.

The key audiences for this plan are current and future students, current and future staff, and our city, regional, national and international partners including those in the university supply chain.

The university is a major employer with over 3700 staff, it educates a student population exceeding 27000 from 140 different countries (<http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/factsandfigures/studentandstaffnumbers.aspx>). The university alumni population is approximately 250 000 with UWE graduates living and working across the world. In 2015/16 the university had an annual turnover of £238 million (<http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/factsandfigures/financialinformation.aspx>).

Through its operations, the university has considerable negative and positive sustainability impacts. The purpose of this plan is to reduce the negative impacts and to enhance the reach and magnitude of the positive impacts. The largest sustainability impact of the university is through the activities of its graduates. Each year some 7000 new graduates leave UWE Bristol. According to actuary tables each one of these graduates may have as much as 60 years of life after graduation. The knowledge, skills and personal attributes gained whilst a student at UWE will prepare the graduate for the challenges of the 21st century. Through demonstrating the sustainability of the university as a business and by providing an education for sustainable development within the delivery of every discipline the university aims to ensure a UWE graduate is able to make a positive sustainability impact in their professional and private life. The UWE Graduate Attributes

(<http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/ourstory/learningandteaching/work-integratedlearning.aspx>) define a sustainability literate individual able to work within the ambiguity and challenge provided by the 21st century.

The University has been recognised by its peers for its commitment to sustainable development, both in the management of its estate and through the education of its students. This plan is designed to ensure that UWE maintains its position in the vanguard of UK HEIs responding to the challenge of sustainable development.

2 Governance, Scrutiny and Reporting

In late 2013 and early 2014 the University, Board of Governors and the Students' Union approved the Sustainability Plan 2013 – 2020. The Plan takes its authority from Strategy 2020 and is designed to ensure that the aims of that strategy are achieved in the most sustainable manner possible. Overall responsibility for delivery of the aims of the plan rests with the Vice-Chancellor, the Chair of the Board of Governors and the President of the Students' Union. Implementation of the plan is monitored by the Sustainability Board, which reports to the Directorate, Board of Governors and Academic Board.

Leadership of the Sustainability Plan is delegated to the Assistant Vice Chancellor, Environment and Sustainability, and through that role to the teams that will deliver the aims of the plan. The Sustainability Plan is divided into thematic areas with an implementation plan for each of the thematic areas detailing the actions that will be delivered and mechanisms to be followed to meet the overall aims of the plan. The Sustainability Board is comprised of senior academic and professional staff who lead delivery elements of the Sustainability Plan or who act as critical friends to enhance performance and ambition. The President, the Vice President Societies and Communication, the Sustainability Officer and the Green Team co-ordinator represent the Students' Union on the Board. Progress with each theme of the Plan is reviewed at each meeting of the Board and an annual report on progress is published.

Each thematic area has a project group and these groups report on a quarterly basis to the Sustainability Board. An Operations Sub Group meets regularly to share information about the themes contributing to resource efficiency and to ensure questions of interdependence are quickly addressed. The Education for Sustainable Development theme is managed via the cross-university Knowledge Exchange for Sustainability Education group and integration with the learning and teaching approach of the university is secured via regular reporting to the Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee. The Health and Wellbeing theme is managed through the operation of the cross-university Healthy University Group.

The University is accredited to the ISO14001 Environmental Management System (EMS) and the NUS Responsible Futures mark and these are used to ensure management systems are in place to deliver high quality environmental outcomes. The EMS is audited annually by an external party whilst Responsible Futures is audited at 18 months and subject to recertification at 36 months. A risk description and assessment process is applied to each theme to support integration with the EMS, identify priorities and to guide action. The EMS is thus a mechanism through which scrutiny is applied to the progress being reported on these objectives. The objectives in turn form our compliance obligations under the EMS.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is embedded in the annual reporting requirements of the Quality Management and Enhancement Framework (QMEF). Module, Programme and Department annual reports, new curriculum development proposals and Academic Reviews must all consider and report on ESD. Guidance documents make explicit the expectations and these are supported by guidance on how to interpret reports in relation to UWE's expectations. The outcomes of the ESD specific reporting in the QMEF feeds into compliance reporting for accreditation to ISO 14001 and Responsible Futures.

3 Development of the Plan

The refresh of the Plan has been undertaken by the Sustainability Board (see Appendix 1 for details). In developing the plan an open consultation event was held in the Students' Union during Green Week in Autumn 2016. This was attended by a large number of students and staff and provided valuable insights about concerns and opportunities for further progress. The framing of the refreshed plan benefits considerably from a live brief undertaken by students from the MSc Sustainable Development in Practice and MSc Environmental Management studying the Sustainable Development: Principles and Practice Module in October 2016. Students studying this module critically evaluated the existing plan and provided advice on the priorities for a refreshed plan, the overall direction of the plan, its communication to student, staff and other stakeholder audiences and generated specific recommendations for action. The individual students undertaking the live brief are acknowledged in Appendix 1.2.

The refreshed Sustainability Plan, Positive Footprint 2.1

- Outlines the University's sustainability aims for the period to 2020
- Defines the mechanisms by which sustainability is embedded within the University's day to day operation and effective decision making
- Contributes to UWE Bristol's 2020 Strategy ambition by advancing the health and sustainability of our locality and region
- Contributes to UWE Bristol's 2020 Strategy priorities through the delivery of ready and able, sustainability literate graduates
- Guides the development of a sustainable estate infrastructure.

4 Why we need a Sustainability Plan

The future is unknown but certain trends and potential risks from a changing global environment can be identified and their potential impact on the operation and development of the university assessed. The Sustainability Plan is designed to prepare the university to avoid avoidable sustainability risks and to mitigate the impact of unavoidable risks.

Students

Students believe their University should be responsible for actively incorporating and promoting sustainable development to prepare them for graduate employment and the challenges of the future. Students believe sustainability skills will be central to their future working lives and that universities should reflect this in the content of degree programmes. The Green Team in the Students' Union is now the largest society in the union with over 1300 members.

Risk

Unsustainable organisations will find it difficult to compete in the future. Failure to adapt to the challenges presented by sustainable development will result in a financially inefficient organisation out of touch with its customers and partners and unable to compete with its sustainable competitors. UWE Bristol as a modern university must be sustainable.

Values

Sustainability is a strategic priority of UWE Bristol and drives us to develop and utilise innovation to improve how we operate as a business and collaborate and engage with our students, employees, partners and society. As a large and respected employer, education provider and partner within our community we are morally driven to lead by example.

Demand

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The importance of social and environmental values and the transparency of reporting are becoming increasingly mainstreamed in society. The preference for strong social and environmental performance is important amongst potential students and employees. A sustainable and healthy University contributes towards staff and student satisfaction helping recruitment and retention. Over the last 6 years the NUS and HEA have conducted an annual survey of student attitudes to sustainable development and their expectation of HEIs. This survey consistently finds that more than 80% of students surveyed believe sustainable development should be actively promoted and incorporated into teaching by UK universities, a belief which increases as they progress through their studies. The recent reports strengthen the conclusion of the previous reports, showing that interest in sustainable development remains strong among students throughout their university careers.

Adaptation

Rising energy and resource costs resulting from population growth, demographic change, resource scarcity and the global economic crisis drive us to adapt to conditions which will only become more challenging as energy supply challenges and climate change further affect costs and disrupt the availability of resources and business continuity.

Policy

The HE sector is taking positive steps to improve its sustainability performance. There is a range of national policy and legislation designed to drive performance improvement. The Government's guiding principles for sustainable development underpin HEFCE's Sustainable Development Framework in achieving the following:

- living within environmental limits
- ensuring a strong, healthy and just society
- achieving a sustainable economy
- using sound science responsibly
- promoting good governance.

In line with national targets and UN obligations HEFCE have set individual carbon reduction targets for universities whilst its 2014 Framework for sustainable development sets out the funding council's expectations for the sector. The extent to which these roles will be incorporated into the remit of the Office for Students is unknown. In 2014 the QAA and the HEA published important guidance on implementing ESD in the sector. The QAA Quality Code for HE makes direct reference to Education for Sustainable Development in Chapter B3: Learning and Teaching. The National Union of Students is increasingly vocal about the opportunities and requirements to adopt more sustainable development pathways in higher education and has developed the Responsible Futures Accreditation system to promote good practice in this area.

Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations has adopted a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. These goals build on the Millennium Development Goals and seek to complete what they did not achieve. The UN has adopted 17 goals each with specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years. The background and full explanation is available in the Resolution Adopted by The General Assembly available at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>. The SDGs provide an agenda for sustainable development that will stimulate collective action to address areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet. Increasingly these goals will be used as organising principles for enterprises of all sorts, including universities, and reputational damage will accrue to those who are unable or unwilling to demonstrate their engagement in a shared global endeavour.

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The Sustainability Plan is designed to respond to these drivers and to maintain UWE in the leading group of UK HEIs engaged with the challenges posed by sustainable development. A particular risk that the Plan seeks to minimise is that of student attitudes and expectations. Failing to respond to these external and internal drivers puts at risk the overall ambitions of Strategy 2020.

5 Recent Achievements

The university has been recognised for its commitment to sustainability by a range of awarding bodies including the Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges, People and Planet, the National Union of Students, Earth Champions Foundation, Soil Association and Go Green amongst others. A full list of Sustainability awards and can be viewed at

<http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/corporateinformation/sustainability/awards.aspx>

International Green Gown Winner 2016

Continuous Improvement – Institutional Change

Student Engagement (with Bristol University)

UK and Ireland Green Gown Winner 2016

Continuous Improvement – Institutional Change

Leadership

Learning and Skills

Student Engagement (with Bristol University)

Green Gown Highly Commended 2016

Student Engagement (SU@UWE)

Built Environment

Green Gown Finalist 2016

Community

Green Gown Finalist 2015

Learning and Skills

Student Engagement

Green Gown Highly Commended 2014

Research

Green Gown Finalist 2014

Leadership

Outstanding Earth Champion 2015

People and Planet 1st Class Award 2016

Go Green Prove It 2015

Go Green Energy Award 2015

Bristol Green Volunteers Awards:

Spirit of 2015

Student Volunteer of the Year 2015

Soil Association Food for Life Silver Award 2015

6 Understanding the Sustainability Plan

Through implementation of this plan we will use resources more effectively as we develop to meet the expectations of students and partners. Through our actions, we will create a positive footprint by decoupling the development of the University from increasing resource inputs, enabling us to enhance the student experience, educational offer and research innovation whilst improving our sustainability performance. By understanding how the many inputs, processes and outputs of the University are interrelated we will manage them more effectively, achieving integrated resource management. The aims outlined below are located within thematic areas but are applied systemically across all themes to deliver integrated resource management.

Full details are provided in the Sustainability Implementation Plan and the following section outlines the purpose and aim of each of the thirteen themes within the Sustainability Plan.

7 Health and Wellbeing

Introduction / Purpose

UWE is committed to a whole university approach to health and wellbeing. We have already achieved a great deal in creating and ensuring a health and sustainable environment for UWE Bristol students, staff and our wider community. We have a strong commitment to health promotion and have raised awareness of health and wellbeing services, increased opportunities to participate in physical activity, increased options for healthier and sustainably sourced food on all campuses. Our Healthy University Action Plan, along with other supporting plans including the Travel Plan have established the conditions to enable students and staff to easily participate in health and wellbeing enhancing choices while studying and working at UWE.

Aim

UWE Bristol aims to provide a positive and enjoyable student, staff and visitor experience. It aims to enhance everyone's health and wellbeing by creating and promoting healthier working, learning, living and social environments.

Post 2020 Ambition

A university renowned for and proud of its commitment to promoting health and wellbeing with clear impacts on student and staff health, wellbeing and experience.

Enhance social engagement and create a supportive culture of belonging and feeling connected and decrease the need for wellbeing services.

8 Engagement

Introduction / Purpose

Sustainability is embedded in the Ambitions, Strengths and Values of our UWE Bristol Strategy 2020 and further amplified within our four key priorities for action: in particular that Graduates 'be ...primed to play their part in developing a sustainable global society and knowledge economy'; and further emphasised within the Graduate Attribute framework, that they be 'globally responsible and future-facing.'

As such UWE Bristol is committed to enabling students and staff to make a positive difference in the world and to be active agents in our future. Inspiring and supporting people to do this is central to our approach to sustainability both within the University and the wider local and global community.

Aims

Central to our ethos of active citizenship and working in partnership with The Student Union, we aim to:

- provide and facilitate wide-ranging opportunities for all students and staff to engage in sustainability as a key part of their experience at the University, whether it be through the curriculum and extra-curricular activities, the physical environment, such as the workplace, university grounds and student accommodation, internal networks, or community and public engagement, both on and off campus;
- raise awareness of best sustainable practice and inspire staff students and partners to make sustainable choices;
- develop the skills and knowledge of staff and students to actively contribute to a sustainable world.

Post 2020 ambition

UWE Bristol to be recognised as a leader and innovators in sustainability engagement within the University and by the local community and beyond.

9 Education for Sustainable Development

Introduction / Purpose

Strategy 2020 commits UWE to ensuring that our graduates are well equipped to make a positive contribution to society and their chosen field of work or further study; and primed to play their part in developing a sustainable global society and knowledge economy. In order to achieve this we must foster a culture that encourages our students, staff and partners to co-develop knowledge and skills and demonstrate behaviours that support the goal of reconciling human needs and aspirations with the environmental limits of the planet, as articulated in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

Aim

To ensure that a sustainability culture permeates our curriculum, research and the knowledge base and behaviour of our staff and students, evidenced by the ability of staff and students to articulate links between sustainable development and their discipline and by accreditation of our ESD provision within the university's ISO14001 EMS accreditation and by the NUS Responsible Futures accreditation scheme.

Post 2020 Ambition

UWE states that it is ambitious and not afraid to shape, challenge and tackle the big issues. A key challenge to deep and meaningful ESD provision in HE is the 'siloed' nature of programmes and academic management structures. If UWE is to maintain its current status as a leading UK HEI in the context of ESD, it should look to open out the curriculum to enable development of a set interdisciplinary (issues-based project) modules, which are open to all disciplines and taught by interdisciplinary teaching teams. This vision is in line with the expectation of the NUS Responsible Futures criteria and the QAA-HEA ESD Guidance.

10 Sustainable Procurement

Introduction / Purpose

In 2015/16 UWE Bristol procured in excess of £110 million of goods and services (including construction). We continuously improve the sustainability of UWE Bristol and its wider supply chain by working collaboratively with other public sector partners and factoring into procurement environmental protection, the pursuit of

social and corporate objectives as well as economic efficiency. We strive to reduce whole life costs and minimise our exposure to supply chain risk.

Aim

To maximise the opportunity provided by procurement to improve the sustainability of the UWE Bristol purchasing decisions and the wider supply chain.

Post 2020 Ambition

An established trust in a transparent sustainable and socially responsible UWE Bristol supply chain.

11 Energy and Carbon Management

Introduction / Purpose

The 2008 Climate Change Act commits the UK to a carbon reduction target of 80% by 2050 (1990 base), with an interim target of 34% by 2020 set in the 2009 budget. The Committee on Climate Change has recommended the 2020 target be raised to 42%. Since 2011 HEFCE capital allocations have been linked to scope 1 and 2 carbon reduction, and UWE has been set a target by HEFCE of 22.5% absolute reduction by 2020 (2005 base). South Gloucestershire Council has set renewable energy targets for the equivalent of 7.5% of South Gloucestershire's total energy demand (or 508GWh) to be generated from renewable energy installations located within South Gloucestershire by 2020 in line with the UK Target. This is equal to 23% of electricity and 8% of heat. To support the UK aims to decarbonise the grid, the University recognises the need to reduce peak demands as much as possible. This can be achieved using demand management technology, battery storage, and behaviour change. The Carbon Management Plan sets targets for demand management. Our approach to carbon management includes scope 3 emissions (CO₂ emissions from water use, waste management, business and commuter travel and procurement) in addition to scope 1 (emissions from the burning of fuels on site) and scope 2 (emissions from the generation of purchased electricity). This will ensure that carbon is included in the management of all of these key areas, encouraging greater integrated resource management. The University's estate is growing and as such, we recognise the importance of reporting the absolute carbon emissions of the university, alongside benchmarked figures with respect to key metrics including: floor area, weather adjustments and FTE students. We believe that the absolute values allows us to demonstrate our contributions to the UK's carbon reduction target, whilst continuing to be a growing University; furthermore the benchmarked figure (kWh/m², kWh/FTEstudent) allows us to demonstrate that we are operating efficiently for the building types on the estate. This will be particularly important when assessing efficiency use of space, room booking and managing areas with 24-hr access. The University is committed to on-site energy generation where possible, to reduce carbon footprint and increase security of supply. A target for on, or near site, generation has been set based on a percentage of total energy consumption.

Aim

Continually reduce absolute and relative energy and water consumption in line with the University's Carbon Management Plan.

Adhere to the Strategic Objectives in the Energy and Water Policy 2016.

Post 2020 Ambition

From 2020/21, UWE Faculties and services to operate a carbon budget and fully understand their impact on scope 1&2 carbon emissions.

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From 2020/21, to be developing a robust plan for managing energy demand using smart controls on site including turning off equipment during peak demands, and storing energy generated in off-peak times to be used during peak times.

By 2040, for UWE campuses to be “off-grid capable”, using onsite generation, demand control technologies and battery storage.

Or where this is not possible, for that campus to be net carbon neutral across a year (Aug-July) based on scope 1 & 2 emissions.

12 Campus Development

Introduction / Purpose

During the life of the Sustainability Plan the University will progress with the development and delivery of campus master planning. Sustainable campus development is critical to the long-term sustainability performance of the University. All of the aims and KPIs associated with this Plan will support sustainable campus development. Described below are construction and refurbishment specific aims and KPIs.

Aim

Sustainability will be included from the outset in all construction, refurbishment and landscaping projects utilising smart design, innovation and procurement to address all relevant aspects of sustainability described within this Plan and in particular human and social impacts, climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Post 2020 Ambition

Towards and beyond 2020,

Campus Developments aim to:

- deliver at least one new zero carbon building.
- report on the embodied carbon of all major projects
- Incorporate more SUDs and create a climate resilient campus

13 Waste Emissions and Discharges

Introduction / Purpose

How we use natural resources and discard of materials has significant direct and indirect sustainability impacts, and how we manage waste and resources in our operations can have an impact on student and staff experience of our estate - from the convenience and clarity of recycling facilities through to the visual impact of bins around external areas. Managing resources responsibly by following the waste hierarchy (prevention > reuse > recycling > energy recovery > landfill) is also usually the cheaper option. Furthermore, UWE is keen to bring about benefits to the local social economy through participation in sharing and reuse networks.

Aim

To reduce the quantity and hazardousness of our waste materials and to manage waste in ways that bring about financial, environmental and social benefits. The university will continue striving to manage material resources more efficiently. We will follow the waste hierarchy principle and continue finding ways of

supporting a more circular economy. We wish to use materials in a way that maximises their value to the university, and to the wider economy once they are discarded. Students and staff come to the university from all over the world, so our recycling system needs to be simple, clear and well communicated. UWE will work to raise awareness of responsible waste management amongst our students. We will also work to prevent uncontrolled emissions and discharges to the natural environment.

Post 2020 Ambition

To consider the impact of all the materials used in university operations – in the construction and furnishing of our buildings, the feeding of our staff and students, the packaging, clothing, technology, paper and general “stuff” of the day-to-day running of the institution - and to systematically find ways of supporting wider efforts towards a circular economy:

- by returning our discarded items and materials into economic use,
- by specifying for the inclusion of secondary materials where appropriate
- by specifying for ease of recycling and reuse at the end-of-life
- and by educating our students to be ready and able to partake in a circular economy when they enter employment.

14 Water Management

Introduction / Purpose

Water shortage due to falling water reserves and higher demand, the carbon footprint of water supply and the social and economic impacts associated with water supply all require UWE to take action to reduce the consumption of supplied water. By using less water UWE will save money on water supply costs, on wastewater disposal charges, and the energy used to heat hot water that may be wasted.

Aim

Continually reduce absolute and relative water consumption in line with the University's Water Management Plan.

Adhere to the Strategic Objectives in the Energy and Water Policy 2016.

Post 2020 Ambition

2020/21 all Master Planning maximises the opportunity for sustainable urban drainage system management of water, including full adoption of rainwater harvesting, grey water systems and habitat creation.

15 Green IT

Introduction / Purpose

IT plays a significant role in the sustainability of UWE Bristol in many ways including data centre energy use, the life cycle of hardware materials, enabling e-learning and working, operation of campus buildings and delivery of services.

Aim

To continually improve the sustainability of the IT infrastructure whilst maximising the wider social and environmental benefits enabled by IT.

Post 2020 Ambition

To fully understand the sustainability benefits to UWE of utilising cloud solutions and/or shared datacentres to provide IT services.

16 Smarter Travel

Introduction / Purpose

Travel and Transport are major contributory factors to the overall carbon emissions of the university both in terms of daily commuting and also its operations and business travel. The university is also required to comply with planning regulations imposed as a result of campus 2020 and the future development of the university whilst taking into account both our own and wider regional growth projections. Solid progress has already been made with regard to reducing reliance on car travel and we have already removed circa 1000 single occupancy daily return commuter trips following the full implementation of the UWE travel smart programme. This has removed the equivalent of around 5 miles of standing traffic and its associated pollution from Bristol's road network, many more if the traffic is flowing. One other benefit of this reduction has also been in financial terms as the university has saved around £6m resulting from not re-provisioning additional car parking spaces to meet this demand.

Aim

To promote and embed active and smart travel choices as the natural choice of travel at the university.

To minimise unnecessary travel through the promotion of alternatives. For example, adoption of agile working practices, use of IT systems (Skype, Video Conferencing, Webinars).

To reduce the impact of business travel, fleet and service vehicles.

To reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality through promotion of sustainable working practices and encouraging the uptake of ultra-low emission transport (ULEV).

Post 2020 Ambition

- 80% of all daily commute journeys are made by sustainable modes of travel
- To create low emission zones on all large campus sites.
- Increase use of ULEVs in fleet to over 50%

17 Biodiversity

Introduction / Purpose

UWE Bristol campuses cover an area of 150ha, with large areas of Glenside and Bower Ashton campuses designated a conservation area. The embedding management of biodiversity into the University vision will enhance the natural environment in which to live, study and work in.

UWE Bristol campuses are continuously evolving through construction, refurbishment and changes in land use. UWE Bristol is committed to encouraging and enhancing biodiversity across all of its campuses. UWE Bristol recognises the need to develop the campuses but maintain a high level of biodiversity with in new projects and external refurbishment. The management of our estate for the benefit of Biodiversity encourages more people to build a relationship with these spaces and gain appreciation for the external environment.

Aim

- To increase and enhance Biodiversity across all campuses including measures to create; enhance and manage habitats, with improved access to campus green spaces for students and staff.
- Encourage engagement with biodiversity on our campuses

Post 2020 Ambition

To have an increased level Biodiversity across all campuses and a high level of engagement for students and staff with biodiversity.

18 Sustainable Food

Introduction / Purpose

UWE Bristol Hospitality Services provides catering to over 28,000 staff and students, as well as external organisations, through a range of facilities across our three campuses. This section outlines our commitment to provide sustainable and healthy food at all of our outlets in support of the delivery of the University's Sustainability Plan 2013-2020.

Aim

In the delivery of our Service we aim:

- to provide food which is local, seasonal, ethical, organic, fresh and healthy.
- to inform and engage our students staff and visitors in issues of food production and procurement so as to enable them to make sustainable food choices.

Post 2020 Ambition

For UWE to be recognised as a provider of sustainable Hospitality Services within the city region and beyond.

19 Climate Change Adaptation

Introduction / Purpose

With the internationally recognised United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Climate Change Adaptation is now a vital aspect of any sustainability plan and business resilience strategy. The changing climate is expected to increasingly impact on services from both extreme weather events, and long-term gradual changes. Therefore, 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. This is a new theme to the Sustainability Plan introduced at the mid-point review to reflect the importance of the theme. The Bristol City Council Core Strategy Adopted June 2011 states that "mitigating and adapting to climate change is [...] an overarching principle of the Core Strategy" and the South Gloucestershire Council have a Climate Change Strategy adopted in 2015. The new ISO14001 also requires organisations to consider not only their impact on the environment, but also how the environment impacts on the organisation, for example, adaptation to a changing climate.

The University's priorities for action are:

- Carry out an independent risk assessment of expected impacts of Climate Change on the University's estates and operations.

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- Ensure revised flood risk assessments are carried out for all campuses particularly City Campus and Alexander Warehouse, which have already been highlighted as being at risk of flooding, and the Frenchay Campus which has expanded into new land and new buildings.
- Use future weather tapes in assessing resilience of new buildings and refurbishments.
- Enable staff, students and local community to adopt healthy lifestyles as the climate changes, for example, provisions for cycling to work in all weathers.
- Embed climate change awareness in all student, staff and contractor training to ensure all learners can be responsible citizens and globally aware.

The above priorities reflect that although the University has done some work to incorporate climate change awareness into our operations and services, we are at the early stages of truly understanding the impact that this changing climate will have on the University. Following the risk assessment stages, further targets post 2020 will be set to monitor and report progress against adapting to a changing climate. The scope for this plan is the University's UK estate only, and therefore would not assess need for climate change adaptation at partner institutions. However, a target is included to share knowledge and expertise with partner institutions globally for example, Maldives, Nepal, Hong Kong, Nigeria, Vietnam and Finland. Currently, the best sector-recognised metrics for appraising baseline and performance against climate change adaptation issues is from the AUDE Green Scorecard. This scorecard was first introduced in Spring 2016 and therefore the first assessment that the University of the West of England completed was based on the 2015-16 performance. The Green Scorecard is auto-populated from the HESA EMR annual data, and has additional, voluntary, self-assessing credits. The results are benchmarked against all other Universities included in the HESA EMR data return.

The six criteria of Adaptation in the AUDE Green Score card are as follows:

A1 - Climate change risk assessment

An appraisal of the use and maturity of a climate change risk assessment for a university's buildings and operations. This should be used to inform policy.

A2 - Flood risk - existing campus

An appraisal of the degree of understanding of flood risk issues within existing buildings on campus

A3 - Flood risk - new projects

An appraisal of the degree to which new building projects are informed by potential future flooding issues

A4 - Overheating - existing campus

An appraisal of the degree of understanding of overheating issues within existing buildings on campus

A5 - Overheating - new projects

An appraisal of the degree to which new building projects are informed by potential overheating issues

A6 - Adaptation Policy

A clear policy relating to the incorporation of climate change adaptation issues into future development including soft and hard landscaping and operational issues, based on an assessment of the risks. These six criteria are the basis of the baseline and targets in this 2020 Plan.

Following the completion of the risk assessment, further targets should be considered that pick up Ecosystem Services, Water scarcity and other issues relating to Climate Change Adaption.

Aim

Ensure the risks of climate change at all campuses are fully understood and are well integrated in to operations, services and future developments.

Post 2020 Ambition

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- By 2025, 100% students, staff and contractors informed on climate change impacts on their personal lives, and their impact on climate change; and for them to be able to make informed decisions on a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.
- By 2030, operate a robust University facility in the event of severe weather and long-term changes to the climate.

20 Wider Corporate Social Responsibilities

The individual themes of the Sustainability Plan each have one or more underpinning policies and implementation plans which are documented in the relevant section of each theme in the Sustainability Implementation Plan.

The implementation of Strategy 2020 and its subordinate Sustainability Plan is supported by a wide range of relevant institutional policies. These are detailed on the Corporate Policies section of the university website. See <http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/corporateinformation/policies.aspx>

These policies and procedures set the organisational parameters and direction of travel for the Sustainability Plan.

The University's Ethical Investment Policy is available at <http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/corporateinformation/sustainability/policiesplansandtargets.aspx>

This Policy commits the University to the following

- Promotion of human rights, including but not limited to the equality of gender, race, sexuality, religion and age;
- Promotion of good business ethics and good employment practices;
- Protection of the global environment, its climate and its biodiversity;
- Promotion of community investment;
- Promotion of international co-operation and an end to international conflict;
- Sustainable provision and procurement of essential resources and services.

The Policy is kept under review by the Sustainability Board to maintain currency and effectiveness of the policy.

21 Conclusions

Comparing the 2016/17 position with the sustainability performance of the university at the start of Positive Footprint in 2013 it is clear that UWE has significantly developed in every facet of its sustainability journey. The organisation and culture of engagement is fundamentally different, both deeper and broader in its scale, more engaged in understanding the meaning of sustainability and actively aware of sustainability's place within the decision-making processes. Positive Footprints 2 represented a step change for UWE and external recognition through ISO1401, Responsible Futures Accreditation - achieving the highest score ever under the scheme, adoption of the principles of PRME, designation as an Outstanding Earth Champion is testament to the scale of this change.

The Sustainability Plan and evidence of our progress towards meeting its aims won the prestigious EAUC Green Gown in 2016 for Continuous Improvement – Institutional Change (see <http://www.greengownawards.org/2016-winners1>). This refreshed and revised Plan, Positive Footprint 2.1, and the accompanying SIP sets out our plans to continue our sustainability journey with ambitious targets set for academic year 2020. In refreshing the plan opportunity has been taken to demonstrate more explicitly the contribution of the university's Sustainability Plan to meeting the global Sustainable Development Goals (see <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>).

Our continuing aim is to ensure that the delivery of Strategy 2020 is achieved in such a way that sustainability becomes embedded in everything that the university does. The Sustainability Plan's 13 interdependent themes covering all aspects of sustainability at UWE set out the means by which that ambition will be realised.

In the period from 2013 the university has made enormous progress towards achieving the aim of the Sustainability Plan but substantial effort is still required to drive forward positive change and to fully embed a culture and practice of sustainability within the business operations and educational offerings of the university. This refreshed Plan is designed to provide that impetus and to ensure that UWE, Bristol achieves its goal of becoming a truly sustainable institution for the benefit of current and future students, its staff and the city region.

This refreshed plan will run until the end of Academic Year 2020. In Academic Year 2018/19 the university will begin developing the successor to Positive Footprint 2.1.

Appendix 1.1 List of contributors to the refresh of the Sustainability Plan

Adam Jones	Kirsti Norris
Ahmd Emara, SU President	Louise Davis
Chris Abbott	Martin Bigg
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Georgina Gough	Rachel Mylrea
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Helen Baker	Robin Holloway
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James Longhurst	Susan Levick
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Keith Hicks	Tom Ball, SU Green Team Coordinator
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Appendix 1.2

MSc Sustainable Development in Practice and MSc Environmental Management contributors to Positive Footprint live brief.

Sustainable Development: Principles and Practice Module. October 30th 2016

Students studying this module undertook a live brief to evaluate the Sustainability Plan and advise on its updating. The Sustainability Board would like to thank Dr Sarah Hills, Programme Leader, and the following students for their wholehearted engagement in the exercise and for their critical commentary, insights and passion for the subject.

Amitha Jagannath	Kaitlin Dodman
Cait Daniels	Katri Hastings
Catherine Camara	Matthew Hamza
Deb Joffe	Paul Mundy
Felicity Mugenge	Rebecca Bradley
Gemma Regnierz	Riana Neis
Grace Browne	Simon Bates
Heather Parris	Sophie Ball
James Turner	Sophie Hill
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Joe Hall	Viral Patel
Johnny Harris	

The output of the live brief has provided a unique contribution from engaged students. In turn this allowed a greater alignment of the Plan with current student concerns and helped frame the refresh of the Sustainability Plan.

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Appendix 2

Sustainability Plan 2020 Contribution of the themes to meeting the global Sustainable Development Goals

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Engagement in the Sustainability Journey Education for Sustainable Development Sustainable Procurement
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	Engagement in the Sustainability Journey Education for Sustainable Development Sustainable procurement Sustainable Food
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	Engagement in the Sustainability Journey Education for Sustainable Development
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	Engagement in the Sustainability Journey Education for Sustainable Development
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	Engagement in the Sustainability Journey Education for Sustainable Development
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	Education for Sustainable development Water Management
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	Education for Sustainable Development Energy/Carbon Management
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	Engagement in the Sustainability Journey Education for Sustainable Development Sustainable Procurement Campus Development
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	Education for Sustainable Development Sustainable Procurement Campus Development Green IT Energy/Carbon Management Smarter Travel Climate Change Adaptation
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries	Education for Sustainable Development
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	Education for Sustainable Development Energy/Carbon Management Campus Development Green IT Smarter Travel Climate Change Adaptation
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	Education for Sustainable Development Sustainable Procurement Waste, Emissions and Discharges Green IT

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	Smarter Travel Sustainable Food
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	Education for Sustainable Development Sustainable Procurement Energy/Carbon Management Waste, Emissions and Discharges Campus Development Climate Change Adaptation
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	Education for Sustainable Development Sustainable Food Sustainable Procurement
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	Education for Sustainable Development Biodiversity Sustainable Food
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	Engagement in the Sustainability Journey Education for Sustainable Development
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	Engagement in the Sustainability Journey Education for Sustainable Development