

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

LANCASTER & MORECAMBE COLLEGE

March 2022

The
Hexagon
Student & Learning Centre



Lancaster &
Morecambe
College

Policy name: SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Policy Owner:	Director HR Strategy & Support
Date of Review:	February 2022
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Responsibility for Review:	Director HR Strategy & Support
Policy Review Frequency:	Annual Review of KPIs; Full Strategy review due 2026
Applicable to staff:	Yes/ No
Applicable to students:	Yes/ No
Published on website:	Yes/ No
Published on intranet:	Yes/ No
Notes:	

LMC PURPOSE STATEMENT:

Creating opportunities and building partnerships across our community; empowering individuals, business and the environment to thrive.

CORE DNA: LMC VALUES:

Community – caring, collaborative and inclusive

Opportunity – accessible, aspirational and transformative

INTRODUCTION TO SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY:

Statement of intent

This *Sustainability Strategy* is closely aligned to the *Climate Action Roadmap for Further Education Colleges*, produced by the Climate Commission for Higher and Further Education Students and Leaders, in partnership with the EAUC (the Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education) and management consultancy, Nous Group. It outlines clear, feasible and cost-effective actions a college can take to advance sustainability across estates, governance, teaching and engagement, and respond impactfully to the climate emergency.

The College's aim is to attain carbon net zero by 2050 in line with the Universities & Colleges "Race to Zero" and predicated on the expectation that new technologies will, by then, have advanced sufficiently to make this feasible. A shorter-term goal on route to this aim is to reduce current *Scope 1* emissions by at least 15% by 2030, and to have significantly reduced wider environmental impact and local influence in the meantime in relation to *Scope 2 and 3* emissions

Scopes 1, 2, and 3 are different categories of emissions. *Scope 1* emissions are those directly under a college's control (e.g. from cars owned by the college). *Scope 2* are indirect emissions (meaning the college does not directly control them) from electricity purchased by the college. *Scope 3* emissions are all other indirect emissions from activities of the college, including travel to and from college, emissions from waste and water, and emissions from investments. *Scope 3* is usually the largest category of emissions.

The principal barrier to further reducing *Scope 1* emissions is the College's existing reliance on relatively new gas boilers to heat campus buildings, and the expense and complexity involved in establishing alternative suitable heating sources (see *Appendix 1: LMC calculated carbon emissions*). To achieve a 15% reduction by 2030, the College will focus on those buildings with boilers approaching end of life, with a view, if possible, to identify low carbon alternatives, and on its transport emissions which also fall within *Scope 1*.

A further avenue for exploration within the lifetime of this strategy will be the extent to which sourcing of green electricity (already part of the College's strategy), and the use of carbon off-setting, can mitigate the College's use of damaging fossil fuels.

It is intended that added impetus for a drive towards carbon net zero will derive from involvement in innovative government-funded projects within a collaborative network of Lancashire partner colleges.

Our *Sustainability Strategy* will focus on the following key areas of activity. We must do so in the context of a *Whole College Strategy* geared for sustainable growth, and for delivering relevant, future-proofed skills' development to our region's workforce.

An annual operational plan with measurable outcomes will be developed, to drive systematic improvement in identified priorities for each area.



Area 1: LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

- Gathering College views
- Establish Sustainability Committee / Working Group
- Establish ring-fenced budget, including identifying external funding / bid opportunities for environmental projects
- Develop climate risk management approach
- Incorporate sustainability into governance arrangements
- Embed climate responsibility into staff development

Area 2: TEACHING, LEARNING & RESEARCH

- Deliver carbon literacy training to staff and students
- Audit curriculum against the Sustainable Development Goals using Responsible Futures framework, identifying gaps and opportunities, in order to further embed environmental awareness; responsible stewardship; and awareness of related issues such as loss of biodiversity and habitat, across the curriculum
- Develop an employee informed curriculum to address skills gaps in relation to sustainable technologies, behaviours and practices
- Provide training, development and resources to teaching staff to support them to incorporate these topics into all courses and to deliver specialist training in specific areas (e.g. development of training in *Nuclear Behaviours* and *Eden Values*)
- Establish an on-site facility to support training in low carbon technologies such as electric charging points, solar panels, air to water heat pumps and clean energy

Area 3: ESTATES & OPERATIONS

- Modify and develop the College's *Property Strategy* in line with net zero target
- Implement policies to reduce energy use and implement renewable energy on a part of / all the estate
- Update plan for management of green spaces on the estate to increase biodiversity; positively offset carbon emissions; and increase in-house food production

- Set and implement targets to significantly reduce waste on campus and provide recycling / appropriate signage in each building to support this
- Implement travel policy to reduce long distance / aviation travel
- Identify ways to reduce emissions from commuting to/from campus, including a plan to meet future demand for electric vehicle charge points on campus
- Complete sustainability impact assessment on all building and refurbishment works

Area 4: PARTNERSHIPS & ENGAGEMENT

- Negotiate with food and other suppliers for sustainable options
- Establish climate action network and partnership with local council
- Develop fossil fuel divestment plan
- Work with local community, council and businesses to improve local biodiversity
- Participate in and lead on local environmental projects and support opportunities for staff and students to be involved in these initiatives
- Collaborate with other Lancashire FE Colleges to create an effective network for the delivery of low carbon energy and manufacture training and upskilling across the region
- Develop training in renewable technology to support the training and development needs of local employers

Area 5: DATA COLLECTION

- Upskill in measuring Scope 1 and 2 emissions
- Measure College carbon footprint using existing data
- A range of measures associated with funded projects
- Develop and implement a plan to measure Scope 3 emissions (indirect emissions from College activities – usually largest category of emissions)

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2021/22

KPI	Measure	Reporting
Robust data collection and methodology in place to accurately identify and measure Scope 1 and 2 emissions in line with 'Streamlined Energy & Carbon Reporting' (SECR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The College is able to accurately report Scope 1 & 2 emissions in line with SECR reporting requirements 	SMT to Board
Develop a data collection; methodology; and timescale for measuring and reducing Scope 3 emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initially able to accurately measure and report simpler scope 3 emissions such as: waste; business travel; employee commuting • In the longer term, able to accurately measure and report other scope 3 emissions arising from products and services used 	SMT to Board
Develop a Carbon Reduction Action Plan in consultation with an external specialist consultant to achieve 15% Scope 1 carbon reduction by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with carbon consultant to support action plan development • The College is working towards a measurable, achievable plan 	SMT to Board
Set up Sustainability Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steering committee, with governor and staff/student forum representation is established with clear remit, terms of reference and meeting schedule in place. 	SMT to Board

Set up a staff and student forum for environmental issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forum established, with clear purpose and aims • Forum advertised and meeting schedule in place • Leadership of group confirmed, including representation on the Steering Committee 	designated forum leadership reporting to Steering Committee and SMT
Introduce new curriculum to deliver training in low carbon technologies and sustainable practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop hydrogen-ready learning facilities, installation and heat pump centre and sustainable energy pump • Develop 5 new courses to deliver employer identified • Train 7 staff to deliver low-carbon and sustainable curriculum • Deliver training to 300 learners and 100 staff in low-carbon and sustainable knowledge and skills • Deliver tutorial sessions to all 16-18 learners on environmental awareness • Engage in a network with other FE colleges to design, develop and deliver training in low carbon and sustainability, particularly in the energy sector 	Principal
Embed awareness raising and basic training about climate change and sustainable living for all staff and the majority of students via ongoing training opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide minimum 2 electric charging points on campus through SDF project, and identify funding opportunities for more • Appropriate training for different groups has been identified and programmes to continue delivery initially provided via the SDF project above are in place 	Principal