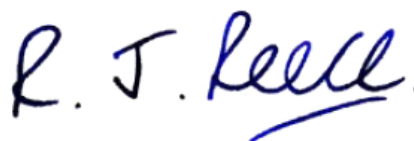


University of Kent – Carbon Management Plan 2021

Following approval of the Net Zero Emissions Target agreed by the University's Executive group in February, a full Carbon Management Plan for the period 2020-2040 is under development and will be published in stages from 2021/22 onwards. This statement sets out the vision and baseline for our net zero carbon targets, details the reporting and responsibilities for delivery and summarises our approach to addressing the climate challenge.



Prof Karen Cox
President and Vice-Chancellor



Prof Richard Reece
Deputy Vice-Chancellor and
Chair of Sustainability Steering Group

Our Vision

We will exemplify a progressive culture which puts the climate challenge at the forefront of our strategic decision making. Leading from the top we will develop governance and accountability structures that drive carbon reduction allowing us to reduce energy consumption, develop infrastructure for renewable energy generation and identify opportunities to reduce indirect emissions.

Our Baseline

Our previous Carbon Management Plan (2010-20) saw emissions fall by 29.4% compared to the baseline year of 2005. This exceeded our target of 23% despite significant growth both in terms of the estate and staff and student numbers over that period.

The end of the current plan provided us the opportunity to reset our baseline year in order to focus on future emissions rather than rely on previous successes. The baseline year was chosen as 2018/19 as the most recent year for which robust data is available (this year was not affected by the impacts of Covid-19). Total annual scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions for 2018/19 were 12,628 t CO₂

Baseline data for the full range of scope 3 emissions is yet to be established. A summary of available baseline data, scope 3 boundaries and targets can be found in the appendix.

Our Target

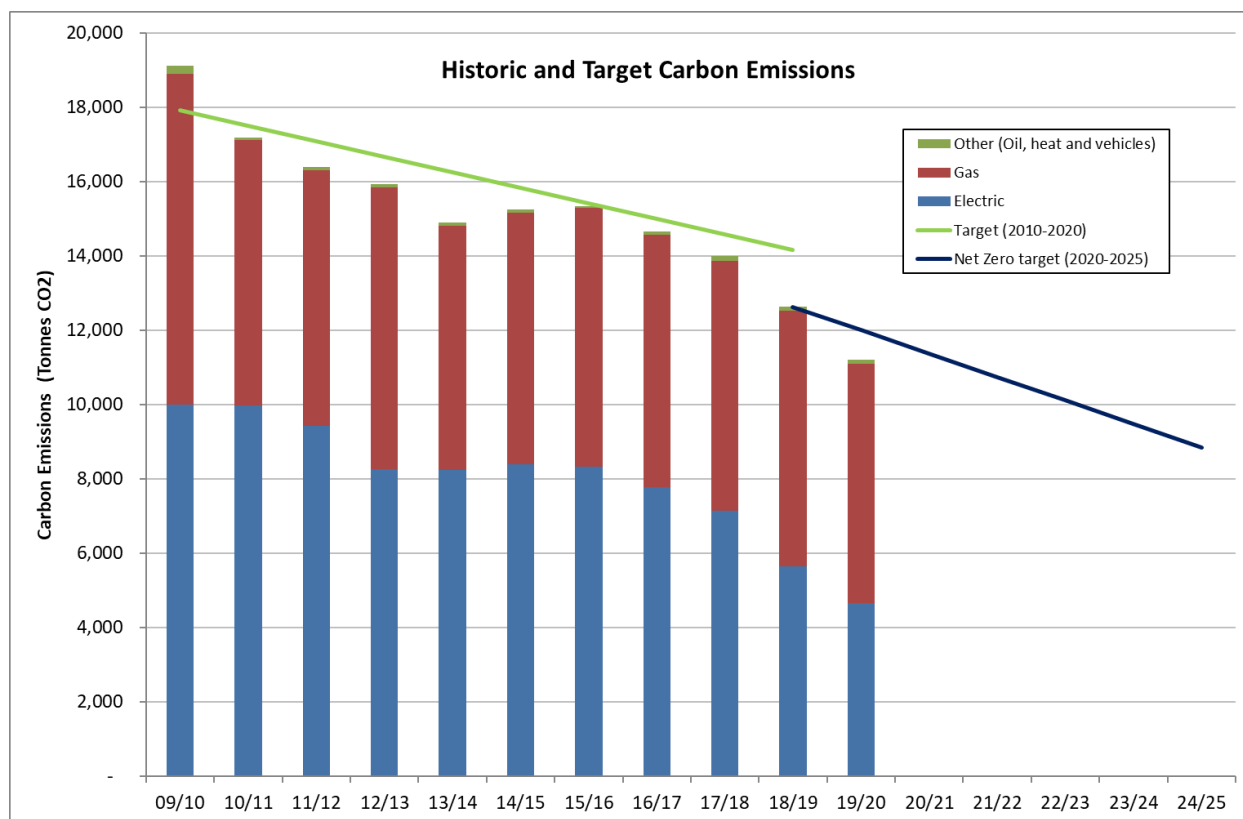
In February 2021 the University of Kent Executive Group agreed on an ambitious yet achievable target of reducing scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2040 and scope 3 emissions to net zero by 2050. Our aim is that emissions will be reduced by at least 50% by 2030 compared to the baseline year of 2018/19.

By 2025 – We will reduce our scope 1 and 2 emissions by 25% compared to the 2018/19 baseline year. We will establish the baseline for scope 3 emissions and set interim targets toward achieving net zero scope 3 by 2050.

By 2030 – We will reduce our Scope 1 and 2 emissions of carbon by 50% compared to the 2018 baseline year.

By 2040 – We will achieve net zero carbon for Scope 1 and 2 emissions

By 2050 – We will achieve zero carbon across scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions



Our Approach

Achieving net zero will require collaboration and participation from across the institution to embed carbon reduction and place it at the heart of decision making. Responsibility cannot be held by any one individual or department but rather action be led by and supported from the university’s leadership. We aim to deliver against our commitment through four key areas of responsibility:

Leadership and Governance

Driven by the Sustainability Steering group, the University Executive Group will act as leaders driving forward the changes required across the organisation to achieve net zero. We will ensure that our governance and accountability structures drive carbon reduction and that strategic decision making incorporates climate change risk and adaptation.

Learning, Teaching and Research & Innovation

We will take action to enable all students graduate equipped with the skills and knowledge to work in addressing the climate and ecological emergency and to drive sustainability and climate related research through existing and new focuses for research.

Society, Partnerships and Engagement

We will support, empower and encourage our staff and students to be responsible global citizens. We will use our influence locally, nationally and globally to act as leaders to drive climate action and to develop partnerships to contribute towards city- and region-wide bodies aligned to this challenge.

Campus Operations

We will ensure that our estate is fit for the future through adopting zero carbon building standards thus reducing our energy demand. We will ensure that energy is used efficiently and that positive environmental behaviours are encouraged, and we will invest in renewable energy and low carbon technologies. Our Estate strategy will support and underpin this work to deliver a carbon resilient estate.

Our Reporting

Progress towards achieving our net zero targets will be monitored by the Estates Department. Scope 1 and 2 emissions will be calculated directly by the Estates department using existing mechanisms. Scope 3 emissions will be calculated using a combination of existing and newly developed mechanisms requiring input from other areas of the University, primarily procurement and finance.

Responsibility: John Kingsland (Energy Engineer, Estates) – Collation and processing of data



Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions data and progress towards overall and interim reduction targets will be reported by the Estates Department at least annually to the Environmental Management System (EMS) team as part of the ISO14001 management review process.

Responsibility : Jim Bloor (Head of Safety, Health & Environment) – EMS Team Chair
Catherine Morris (Environmental Adviser: Safety, Health and Environment) – EMS Lead



Overall progress against the net zero emissions target will be reported to the Sustainability Steering Group (SSG) annually. The SSG will also monitor wider progress against the carbon management plan including the areas of leadership, curriculum, research and partnerships.

Responsibility: Richard Reece (Deputy Vice Chancellor Education and Student Experience) – Sustainability Steering Group Chair

Our Resourcing

The University is committed to achieving its Net Zero target and acknowledges that this will require significant financial investment over the target period.

Each year the Estates Department will update its rolling 2-year energy management and water action plan (EMWAP) setting out the short term objectives, critical steps and time frame for projects to deliver our carbon reduction targets. Across 2019/20 and 2021/21 the EMWAP details 21 projects with a total budget of over £500,000.

Budgets for future projects will be assessed, including the development of a Business Case for each Project. Depending on the type and value of each project, funding will be sought from one of the following options:

- The University of Kent Salix revolving fund total value £400,000
- Small projects funded from existing revenue budgets
- Requests for grant funding will be submitted where the project meets the criteria of the scheme.
- Large capital projects funding would be allocated by the University's Finance and Resources committee dependant on the Project's business case being approved.

Other funding opportunities including partnerships with external companies is being explored.

Based on the above options the University of Kent will resource the work required to achieving net zero carbon emissions in line with the Target.

Appendix – Scope 3

Baselines, boundaries and interim targets for scope 3 are subject to ongoing review as the collecting of scope 3 data has been significantly impacted by Covid-19. The baseline year of 2018/19 remains the most recent year unaffected by the pandemic and will therefore be used for a baseline until more robust data can be collected over the next few years.

Subject to ongoing review, we propose that scope 3 emissions are included/excluded from emissions data reporting and targeting as follows. Where excluded, emissions should be measured (where possible) but not included in target setting and/or reporting. Inclusion of some areas within the target boundary will be determined based on the ability to collect robust baseline data over the next few years.

All scope 3 emissions included in the target boundary will be subject to the Net Zero by 2050 target. Interim targets for each category of scope 3 emissions will be determined no later than 2025.

Scope 3 Emission	2018/19 Baseline	Included in target boundary
Business travel	3,166.648 t CO ₂ e	Yes
Waste	31.327 t CO ₂ e	Yes
Water (supply and wastewater)	255.019 t CO ₂ e	Yes
Staff commuting (Cars)	1,601.95 t CO ₂ e	Yes
Student commuting – day to day (Cars)	1,549.79 t CO ₂	Yes
Student commuting – beginning and end of term	No baseline data available	tbc
Procurement (excl. Construction & refurbishment)	7,295.595 t CO ₂ (2017/18 data)	Yes
Construction & Refurbishment	8,526.851 t CO ₂ (2017/18 data)	Yes
Tenants (Farmland, Coop, Kent Union)	No baseline data available	No
Home working	No baseline data available	tbc