DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY LEICESTER

# SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2023/24

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# CONTENTS

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Within the field of sustainability and within this document there are a number of technical terms and expressions which require definition. This glossary of terms aims to define these expressions within the context of the University's Sustainability Report.**

## BREEAM

Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) is a standard for sustainable construction.

For more information: www.breeam.com

## British Standard BS8555

BS 8555 is the British Standard for EMS and helps organisations improve their environmental performance by providing a standard process to build an EMS in five phased stages.

For more information: www.serenscheme.com

## Carbon Dioxide (CO2)

The most significant long lived greenhouse gas in Earth's atmosphere.

For further information: science.nasa.gov/climate-change/causes/

## Carbon Equivalent (CO2e)

CO2 equivalent (CO2e) is the concentration of CO2 that would cause the same level of radiative forcing or warming as a given type and concentration of greenhouse gas. When carbon is discussed in this document it relates to carbon dioxide equivalents.

## Carbon Literacy Training

Carbon Literacy: "An awareness of the carbon dioxide costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis."

For further information : www.carbonliteracy.com

## Carbon Management

The process of managing activities and the delivery of services to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide.

Webpage for more information: www.dmu.ac.uk/about-dmu/sustainability/sustainable-campus/carbon-management.aspx

## Methane

A greenhouse gas with a warming potential 21 times greater than carbon dioxide but is much less abundant in the Earth's atmosphere.

Webpage for more information: science.nasa.gov/climate-change/causes/

## Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

An initiative to enable and inspire students, staff and DMU's wider community to collectively learn about and act on sustainable development and the SDGs, inspiring action now and in the future, professionally and through active citizenship.

Webpage for further information: www.esdg.our.dmu.ac.uk/about/dmu-esd-project

## Environmental Management System (EMS)

An EMS is a structured process to enable an organisation to reduce its environmental impacts, meet it legal requirements and demonstrate continual environmental improvement.

## Greenhouse Gases

Certain gases in the atmosphere block heat from escaping. These are known as greenhouse gases.

For more information: science.nasa.gov/climate-change/causes/

## Responsible Futures

The Responsible Futures programme, run by the NUS, is an externally-assessed accreditation mark to assist all institutions in helping students to gain the skills and experience they need to thrive as global citizens.

Webpage for further information: www.responsiblefutures.org.uk/

## SKA

An environmental assessment method, benchmark and standard for non-domestic fit-outs, led and owned by RICS.

Webpage for further information: www.rics.org/uk/about-rics/responsible-business/ska-rating

## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The SDGs are a global agenda, adopted by countries in 2015, with a vision of ending poverty, protecting the planet and ensuring that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Webpage for further information: www.globalgoals.org

## SDG Teach In

The 'SDG Teach In' is a campaign to put the SDGs at the heart of education. The Teach In calls upon educators to pledge to include the SDGs within their teaching, learning, and assessments.

Webpage for further information: sos-uk.org/programme/sdg-teach-in/

## Students Organising for Sustainability (SOS-UK)

SOS-UK is an education charity created by the student movement in 2019 in response to the climate emergency and ecological crisis. The organisation is a student led charity which focuses on sustainability. SOS run a number of engagement programmes which DMU participates in www.sos-uk.org

## Student Switch Off

Student Switch Off (SSO) is an energy saving competition between halls of residences ran nationally by the NUS, and at DMU.

Webpage for further information: www.studentswitchoff.org

## Sustainable Construction

A way of building which aims to reduce negative health and environmental impacts caused by the construction process or by buildings or by the built-up environment.

## Sustainability Skills Survey

Annual survey of student attitudes towards learning for sustainable development by the NUS.

Webpage for further information: sos-uk.org/research/sustainability-skills-survey/

## The University

De Montfort University, including senior management, staff and students.

Webpage for further information: www.dmu.ac.uk/sustainability

## Times Higher Impact Rankings

The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations' SDGs.

For further information: www.timeshighereducation.com/rankings/impact/2020/overall

## University League

People & Planet's University League is an independent league table of UK universities ranked by environmental and ethical performance. It is compiled annually by the UK's largest student campaigning network, People & Planet.

For further information: www.peopleandplanet.org/University-league

# INTRODUCTION

**De Montfort University is committed to addressing sustainability across all its operations and activities. The university strives to embed sustainability into all forms of teaching and learning, how we manage and run our campus and also how we engage with our local and international partners.**

Sustainability and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been identified as a key cross cutting theme in the university's Empowering University strategy which sets the strategic direction for the institution over the next few years.

It is our commitment that students and staff will be empowered to work collectively towards the UN SDGs through embedded education for sustainable development across all forms of learning alongside rigorous environmental management of our campus.

In 1987, the United Nations Brundtland Commission defined sustainability as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." This concept aimed to deliver growth and prosperity while at the same time protecting the planet and ensuring health and well being for all. Today these aims are being delivered through the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This sustainability report for 2023/24 highlights our progress against our sustainability targets and the progress that we have made in many areas of our work throughout the year. For the reporting period of this document DMU was the global hub for SDG16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and is the only UK university to receive this accolade. In 2025 DMU was awarded the global hub status for SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities.

The publication of this annual report provides an opportunity for staff, students and other stakeholders to assess our sustainability performance. This is a key element of our environmental management system and sustainability reporting. As well as reporting progress against our key objectives and targets within this document we also publish the data to support our progress on sustainability.

We welcome feedback from our staff and students on this report and on areas where we can improve our sustainability performance.

# THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**De Montfort University is committed to supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), or Global Goals, to ensure all people enjoy peace and prosperity while protecting our planet from global threats such as climate change. The 17 SDGs aim to improve a broad range of ecological and humanitarian issues including poverty, hunger, health, education, climate change and social justice by 2030.**

The SDGs were agreed by all nations of the UN, both developing and developed, as an urgent call for action to address many of the global issues that we face. DMU has been identified as having a special global role in this work as the Academic Impact Hub for SDG16, which focuses on peace, justice and strong institutions – the only one of its kind in the UK.

To emphasis our commitment to the SDGs we will highlight where our work contributes to the Global Goals throughout this report.

# MAKING AN IMPACT

## Staff and student engagement

The university has continued to deliver its Carbon Literacy training for staff and students in 2023/24, as part of its approach to engaging staff and student on sustainability and climate issues. Carbon Literacy is an awareness of the carbon costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis. Carbon Literacy is an assessed course comprising of eight hours of learning with a submission of an evidence form to demonstrate participants learning about climate change and the inclusion of two significant pledges to reduce their individual and community carbon footprints.

Carbon Literacy was also delivered through our Trans National Educational partners including Asia Pacific University (APU) Malaysia, Skills College of Technology (ScOT) in Sri Lanka, Niels Brock Copenhagen and to colleagues in Kazakhstan. The training also formed a key part of the TNE summer school with 60 people joining the training in July 2024. Throughout 2023/24 the Carbon Literacy training was delivered to 237 people.

In 2023/24 DMU continued to deliver the Green Impact project engaging both staff and students in more sustainable behaviours. The project is run nationally by SOS-UK and brings staff and students together to address sustainability right across the institution.

We also have dedicated social media channels focusing on the sustainability work at DMU. These channels are on Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram and Tik Tok. The sustainability team also provided placement opportunities within the team for students through the DMU Frontrunners scheme and through an internship to obtain first-hand experience of delivering sustainability in a large organisation.

# OUR TARGETS

Deliver at least one project per year to change students' environmental behaviour until 2025/26

Deliver at least one project per year to change staff environmental behaviour until 2025/26



# OUR PROGRESS

- DMU ran the SOS-UK Green Impact behaviour change project for staff and students to encourage more sustainable behaviours at DMU
- The DMU Sustainability Team gave guest lectures to students on environmental management, corporate social responsibility and the work of the team
- Students and staff receive information about the University's sustainability work in their induction
- Student and staff receive Carbon Literacy training

# ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

**DMU has an Environmental Management System (EMS) to manage its environmental impacts. An EMS is a set of processes and practices that enable an organisation to manage and reduce its environmental impacts, increase its operating efficiencies, and ensure it meets it legal obligations. Our EMS is assessed annually by external auditors against the requirements of the British Standard (BS8555) for environmental management systems.**

**This annual sustainability report is a key part of the EMS in terms of publicly reporting progress in meetings our sustainability objectives and targets**

# BRITISH STANDARD BS8555 PHASES

## Phase

1. **Commitment and establishing the baseline – Achieved**
2. **Identifying and ensuring compliance with legal and other requirements – Achieved**
3. **Developing objectives, targets and programmes – Achieved**
4. **Operation and implementation of the EMS – Achieved**
5. **Checking, environmental audits and reviews – In progress**
6. **Transition to international EMS standard ISO14001:2015 – Not started**

# OUR TARGETS

Implement an environmental management system (EMS) for the whole campus and gain external certification for the system

Complete environmental legislative audits on air emissions, waste storage, disposal and discharges annually



# OUR PROGRESS

- [x] External audit completed and retained BS 8555 Phases 1 – 4 standard for DMU
- [x] Complied with environmental legislation
- [x] Legislative audits completed for EMS

# TEACHING AND RESEARCH

**Embedding sustainability into all forms of learning is a key element of being a truly sustainable university. DMU has committed to embed education for sustainable development (ESD) into all courses and modules so that all students will leave the institution having learnt about sustainability.**

Progress against this commitment is measured by an assessment of module, course and programme descriptors to identify if certain sustainability keywords have been included within the descriptors. This type of assessment has been completed for a number of years and in 2023/24 the assessment was amended to provide a more nuanced approach.

Programme description documents were analysed for all DMU courses with data available (594) in sections “Description”, “Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies” and “Assessment”. The analysis searched for lists of keywords in 3 categories:

- **A: CORE CONCEPTS:** Keywords indicative of explicit addressing of the holistic sustainability/ sustainable development agenda (i.e. in more than one of economic/ social/environmental dimensions). Examples: Sustainable, Responsible, Sustainability, SDGs, Regenerative. 10 terms used.
- **B: RELATED CONCEPTS:** Keywords indicating some aspects of sustainability/sustainable development (e.g. one of social/ economic/ecological dimensions) Addressing Sustainability or Sustainable Development in some way (Concepts, Pedagogy, Topic and/or Competencies): 96% (574 programmes) being addressed as concepts/principles. Examples: Environmental, Ethical, Justice, Circularity. 81 terms used
- **C: TOPICS, PEDAGOGY and COMPETENCIES:** Keywords suggesting engagement with topics related to sustainability and the SDGs (e.g. Poverty, Carbon), pedagogic approaches (e.g. enquiry-based, experiential, scenario-based) and/or sustainability competencies (e.g. reflective, collaborative, futures). 100+terms used

Results were as follows for DMU programmes running in 2023/24:

- **Explicitly addressing Core Concepts:** 35% (207 programmes)
- **Addressing Core or Related Concepts:** 86% (512 programmes)
- **Addressing Sustainability or Sustainable Development in some way (Concepts, Pedagogy, Topic and/or Competencies):** 96% (574 programmes)

DMU took part in the SDG Teach In which is a campaign to put the SDGs, and therefore sustainability, at the heart of all stages of education, and across all disciplines. The annual campaign, run by SOS-UK, encourages educators to include the SDGs within their teaching, learning, activities and assessment during the campaign which takes place throughout March. DMU was the second highest ranked university in the SDG Teach In for the number of educators taking part in the campaign and the percentage of students engaged.




# OUR PROGRESS

- A total of 432 DMU staff and students have attended the Carbon Literacy training
- Second highest performing university in SDG Teach In 2024 for number of educator participating and the percentage of students engaged
- Enhanced our approach to measuring the number of modules including sustainability through a keyword search of module descriptors

# TRAVEL

**The impact of staff and student commuting to DMU is addressed through the institution's Travel Plan. The Travel Plan, now in its fourth phase, sets out the measures and initiatives to be implemented to reduce single occupancy journeys by staff and the overall carbon emissions from commuting.**

The initiatives in the Travel Plan support more sustainable travel through more provision for cyclists, walkers and users of public transport. As part of this strategic approach DMU is a member of SmartGo Leicester who negotiate discounts on public transport and other sustainable travel programmes on behalf of major employers in the city.

DMU continues to run the Daria Project in conjunction with Leicester City Council. Through the Daria Project free cycle training is offered to DMU staff and students. The project is named after DMU student Daria who was the first student to learn to ride through the project.

Travel behaviours of DMU staff and students is assessed through the annual travel survey. In 2023/24 the results of the survey identified that 44% of staff travel in a single occupied vehicle, 19% of staff travel by public transport and 49% of staff choose a sustainable form of travel for part or all of their journey to DMU. The results of the survey are also used to calculate the carbon impact of staff and student commuting. This showed that staff and student commuting contributed 3,991 tCO2e to the university's carbon footprint.

Distanced travelled on business travel for the university increased in 2023/24. Total air travel was 6,739,476 kms and rail was 348,419 kms contributing 1,320 tCO2e and 12 tCO2e respectively to the institutions carbon footprint.

| | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Domestic Rail (kms)** | 524,185 | 42,201 | 134,050 | 224,474 | 340,500 |
| **International Rail (kms)** | 21,425 | 1,375 | 5,383 | 8,748 | 7,919 |
| **Total Rail (kms)** | 545,610 | 43,576 | 139,433 | 233,222 | 348,419 |
| **Total Air Travel (kms)** | 8,183,431 | 703,898 | 245,776 | 4,445,962 | 6,739,476 |



# OUR TARGETS

Total carbon emissions from commuting to be a three-year average of <2,500 tCO2e by end of 2025

The percentage of staff commuting by sustainable alternatives to be a three year average of 65% by the end of 2023 and 67% by the end of 2025.

Three-year average for staff commuting by single occupancy vehicle to be 33% by the end of 2025

# OUR PROGRESS

**Commuting emissions three-year average for the period 2021-2024 were 2,849 $tCO_2e$**

**Staff commuting by sustainable alternatives was a three-year average of 50% for the period 2021-2024**

**Staff commute by single occupancy vehicle was a three-year average of 46% for the period 2021 – 2024**

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

13 CLIMATE ACTION

# ENERGY AND WATER

**The DMU campus requires energy for lighting, heating and equipment use. Our energy use has an impact through the means to generate the energy we need as well as through the carbon emissions which are released when these fuels are used.**

Total energy use for 2023/24 was 25,736 MWh. Energy use has decreased this reporting year when compared to the previous year. Electricity use accounted for 12,413 MWh and gas was 13,323 MWh. Energy consumption was lower this year and has returned to pre-pandemic levels.

The university has also committed to purchasing electricity from low carbon sources. Approximately 99% of the electricity supplied to campus comes from low carbon and renewable sources. Targets in relation to energy use are reported through the university's carbon reduction targets which are detailed later in this report.

Water use on campus fluctuates from year to year. The consumption for 2023/24 was 66,818 m3 which is lower than the previous year.

# OUR TARGETS

Three per cent reduction in water consumption against the three-year average from 2012 to 2014 (The three-year average is 74,153m3 therefore a 3% reduction is 2,224m3 per year).

# OUR PROGRESS

- [x] Water consumption in 2023/24 was 66,818 $m^3$ which is a 3% reduction compared to the previous year
- [x] Our grid electricity supply comes from 100 per cent renewable and low carbon sources. This includes renewables and nuclear generation



## OUR TARGETS

Recycling 94% of non-residential waste - 2022/23

Recycling 94% of non-residential waste - 2025/26

## OUR PROGRESS

**Recycled over 95% of our non-residential waste in 2023/24**



# WASTE AND RECYCLING

**The university collects and recycles a wide variety of waste materials from campus. Data is provided by the waste contractors on the weights of waste collected and how this waste is disposed of or recycled. This data forms the basis of calculations to determine the overall recycling rate of waste and the carbon emissions associated with the different disposal or recycling routes for the waste.**

The Post and Porterage team based in Estates and Facilities have introduced a furniture reuse scheme whereby redundant furniture is stored until needed by other parts of the university or is donated to local community groups or sold to external groups. Over 430 items of furniture were reused with 126 items sold. The furniture reuse scheme helps to reduce waste at the university and reduce the carbon impact of the university supply chain through avoiding the embedded carbon in new items through reusing existing furniture stock.

The total amount of waste generated in 2023/24 increased from 500 tonnes to 610 tonnes for non-residential waste. Even though the amount of waste produced increased so did the amount recycled. The amount of waste that was recycled increased from 427 tonnes to 573 tonnes with over 95% of non-residential waste was recycled or composted.

The figures for residential waste are based on national data sets for waste produced. Using these figures and the disposal routes published by Leicester City Council it can be calculated that 167 tonnes of waste were produced, of which 33 tonnes were recycled and 61 tonnes were sent for disposal to landfill.

# CARBON EMISSIONS

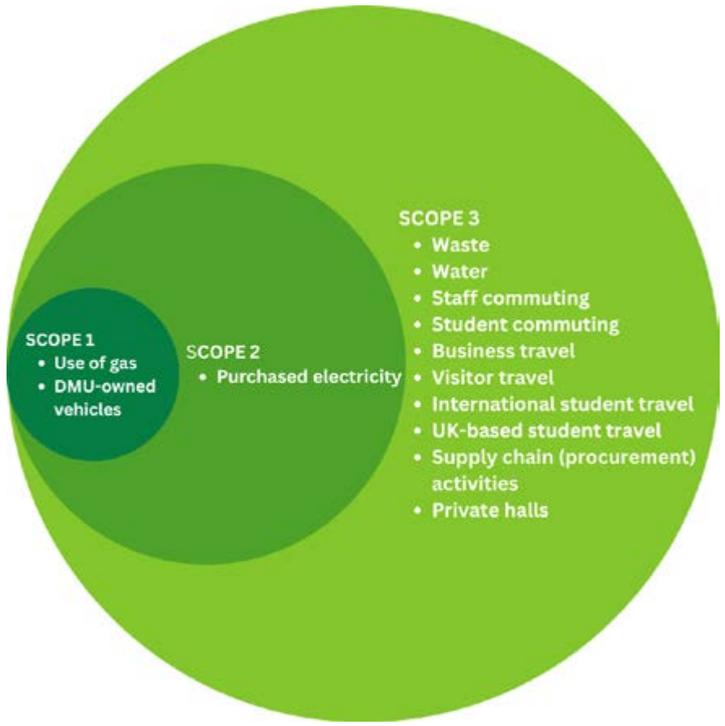
**Carbon emissions from energy use and emissions from DMU owned vehicles in 2023/24 were 5,016 tCO2e which is a reduction of 62% based on the baseline year of 2005/06.**

Our Carbon Plan contains a range of different projects to improve light and heating controls as well as improving the insulation of buildings. The Carbon Plan will be reviewed in 2024/25 to identify further projects to implement to continue to reduce our carbon emissions.

Carbon emissions are classified according to scopes as shown in the diagram below. Scope 1 and 2 emissions have reduced by 62% compared to the baseline year of 2005/06 but emissions from scope 3 sources for the reporting year of 2023/24 have returned to pre-pandemic levels with scope 3 emissions being 61,711 tCO2e.

In the scope 3 category, emissions have increased from UK and international students travelling to study at DMU, business travel and supply chains activities.

## EMISSIONS SOURCES




# OUR TARGETS

Achieve net zero emissions by 2032 for scope 1 and 2 emissions

Achieve net zero emission by 2045 for scope 3 emissions

# OUR PROGRESS

**Emissions from energy use and our own vehicles are 62% below our 2005 baseline year**

**Scope 3 emissions were 41% higher than the 2005 baseline year**

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13 CLIMATE ACTION

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

15 LIFE ON LAND


# INTERNATIONAL AND UK STUDENT TRAVEL EMISSIONS

**The university aims to take a comprehensive approach to measuring and reporting its carbon emissions. This includes the impact of students travelling to DMU to study including both UK students and international students.**

Emissions from international students in 2023/24 were considerably higher than the previous year, having increased from 17,037 tCO2e to 19,679 tCO2e.

Emissions from these sources represent 30% of the total carbon footprint for the university. Assumptions have been made on the number of times that international students travel home during the academic year. These assumptions will be checked for accuracy in the annual travel survey.

Emissions from UK based students travelling to DMU were 554 tCO2e which is a slight decrease on the previous year of 592 tCO2e.

# SUSTAINABLE FOOD

**The university works in partnership with its catering provider, Chartwells, to ensure that sustainability is an essential part of the food provision at DMU. This includes working to reduce food waste and providing awareness raising of the environmental impact and carbon intensity of different foods.**

In 2023/24 DMU and Chartwells joined the Fairtrade University programme with the aim of achieving the Fairtrade University status. The work includes raising awareness of Fairtrade, increasing the Fairtrade products available on campus and working with the DSU on promotions. The results will be reported in 2024/25.

DMU has also identified a space on campus for a staff and student allotment. The allotment has been moved to a new location on campus as the previous site was no longer accessible. The new home for the allotment is to the rear of the Queens Building. The allotment is open to staff and student to grow their own produce.

# OUR PROGRESS

- [x] **DMU and Chartwells achieved two stars in the Food Made Good sustainability assessment**

- [x] **Operation of a 'latte levy' which adds an additional cost for the use of a disposable cup across campus outlets**




# ETHICAL INVESTMENT

**DMU has adopted an ethical investment policy which is reviewed on a regular basis. The ethical investment policy is part of the institutions Investment Policy. DMU works with its ethical fund managers to manage its investments in a socially responsible manner.**

The university has made specific commitments about what it will and will not invest in.

As stated in the Investment Policy the university has stated that it will not invest directly or indirectly in producers of high impact fossil fuels (thermal coal, oil sands, shale oil and shale gas) and manufacturers of civilian firearms, controversial and nuclear weapons and will not invest directly and reasonably minimise indirect investments in:

- **tobacco manufacturers**
- **adult entertainment**
- **alcohol**
- **gambling**



# SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION

**Ensuring that new buildings and refurbishments embrace sustainability principles can reduce the energy demand of buildings thereby reducing energy related carbon emissions.**

Sustainable construction at DMU is guided by the university's energy policy, which includes the use of various assessment protocols depending on the size and budget of the refurbishment or new build project.

## The Energy Policy states that:

"DMU aspires to create sustainable buildings and during any new build, refurbishment, modification, infrastructure renewal or fit-out project, will consider industry recognised sustainability standards such as BREEAM and SKA HE.

The relevant standard(s) to be applied will be defined by the Director of Estates and Facilities on a case by case basis.

Alternative assessment methodologies / standards such as PassivHaus, LEED or the WELL Building standard may be adopted by Estates and Facilities for a project subject to the prior agreement of the Director of Estates and Facilities.

The policy is reviewed on a regular basis."




# OUR ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY

**Engagement at DMU provides support through a range of initiatives that make a positive impact. Our projects are delivered through student learning and experience, through research and engagement and through supporting projects collaboratively within DMU, the local community and beyond.**

DMU Engagement oversees a range of projects that make a positive impact within the local community. Through our work, we aim to enhance the student experience and to support the university's knowledge exchange and real-life learning initiatives through consistent, meaningful engagement.

Our core focus is on supporting projects which address social challenges affecting the community in Leicester, which provide routes into global learning and the sharing of ideas.

The Community Challenge Fund is our flagship programme for community partners. We run two rounds of funding every academic year, with applications opening in August and October. We can award grants to support projects which benefit the community in Leicester, and provide opportunities for student engagement through volunteering and real-life-learning.

De Montfort University (DMU), University of Leicester and Loughborough University have agreed to combine skills, experience and resources to deliver joint projects supporting the local economy, arts and culture, sports and more.

This collaboration, called the Universities Partnership, has been drawn up by the universities together with a number of local authorities: Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council, Oadby and Wigston Borough Council, Rutland County Council, and Charnwood Borough Council.

In working with local authorities across the region in this way, the agreement is a unique collaborative approach which will help direct work carried out into projects which will provide the most benefit to the area.

# BIODIVERSITY

**The DMU campus is a city centre campus which presents many challenges for biodiversity, however there are still many opportunities to enhance biodiversity on the site.**

Through the work of the Estates and Facilities grounds maintenance team an area of campus has been identified for a wildflower meadow. Through careful management by the grounds maintenance team the area has flowered and provided a haven for biodiversity on campus.

The University has participating in the Hedgehog Friendly Campus (HFC) initiative and is working with staff and students to undertake a series of initiatives on campus to support declining hedgehog populations. In 2023/24 DMU was awarded the Gold standard in the HFC initiative.

The activities as part of the HFC initiative have included hedgehog surveys on campus, staff and student litter picks and promoting hedgehog conservation through the sustainableDMU social media channels.





# OUR PROGRESS

- [x] **Achieved Gold Award in the Hedgehog Friendly Campus initiative**
- [x] **Planted a wildflower area on campus to support biodiversity**

# SUSTAINABILITY DATA 2023/24

## GENERAL

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2020/21 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Student numbers** | 26,128 | 23,230 | 25,145 | 21,555 | 21,701 |
| **Staff numbers** | 3,472 | 2,640 | 2,773 | 3,378 | 3,664 |
| **Gross Internal Area (GIA) ($m^2$)** | 180,246 | 180,246 | 180,246 | 177,295 | 178,359 |

## ENERGY AND WATER

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Energy use (*MWh)** | 26,782 | 34,294 | 32,622 | 27,363 | 25,736 |
| **Electricity use (MWh)** | 12,399 | 13,737 | 14,640 | 12,576 | 12,413 |
| **Gas use (MWh)** | 14,383 | 20,557 | 17,951 | 14,787 | 13,323 |
| **Water use ($m^3$)** | 58,034 | 30,687 | 60,891 | 68,766 | 66,818 |
| **Energy generated from renewables (MWh)** | 258 | 183 | 205 | 225 | 213 |
| **Fuel used in DMU vehicles (litres)** | 3,826 | 4,890 | 6,552 | 5,893 | 3,677 |
| **Residential & non-residential Gross Internal Area (GIA) with Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of A–C ($m^2$)** | 168,525 | 177,850 | 145,550 | 164,157 | 177,499 |
| **% residential & non-residential GIA and EPC with display energy certificate rating A–C** | 93% | 98% | 81% | 93% | 99% |
| **Energy and water costs (£'000)** | £2,858 | £2,901 | £4,048 | £4,264 | £5,657 |

*MWh = 1000kWh



## TRANSPORT

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **% Single occupancy car use (staff)** | 39% | 39% | 50% | 45% | 44% |
| **% Single occupancy car use (students)** | 7% | 6% | 8% | 4% | 8% |
| **% Staff travel by public transport** | 27% | 28% | 20% | 20% | 19% |
| **% Staff travel by cycling** | 9% | 9% | 9% | 11% | 12% |
| **% Staff travel by walking/running** | 15% | 15% | 13% | 17% | 18% |

## EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **No. of module descriptions with sustainability key words** | 160* | 132 | 126 | 197 | - |
| **No of programmes explicitly addressing core concepts** | - | - | - | - | 207 |
| **No of programmes addressing core or related concepts** | - | - | - | - | 512 |

*Keywords approach changed in 2023/24 to provide more granular results.

## WASTE AND RECYCLING

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total waste produced – non-residential (tonnes)** | 635 | 485 | 549 | 500 | 610 |
| **Waste recycled – non-residential (tonnes)** | 479 | 277 | 462 | 427 | 573 |
| **Waste to landfill – non-residential (tonnes)** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Waste to Energy from Waste (tonnes)** | 46 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| **Total waste produced – residential (tonnes)*** | 90 | 177 | 177 | 183 | 167 |
| **Waste recycled – residential (tonnes)**** | 19 | 37 | 37 | 36 | 33 |
| **Waste to landfill – residential (tonnes)**** | 26 | 56 | 56 | 74 | 61 |

*Produced from national dataset **Produced from Leicester City Council Waste Disposal Statistics

# SUSTAINABILITY DATA 2023/24

## BUSINESS TRAVEL

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Air travel ($tCO_2e$)** | 1,284 | 116 | 415 | 857 | 1,320 |
| **Rail travel ($tCO_2e$)** | 22 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 12 |
| **Maritime ($tCO_2e$)** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Road travel ($tCO_2e$)** | 206 | 27 | 116 | 90 | 246 |
| **Total emissions ($tCO_2e$)** | 1,513 | 145 | 536 | 955 | 1,579 |

## ACCOMMODATION

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Emissions from DMU owned halls of residences – reported in scope 1 & 2 emission (scope 1 & 2) ($tCO_2e$)** | 152 | 266 | 260 | 272 | 286 |
| **Emissions from DMU owned halls as percentage of total scope 1 and 2 emissions** | 3% | 4% | 4% | 5% | 6% |
| **Emissions from all halls of residences – DMU and private halls ($tCO_2e$) scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions** | 2,253 | 3,057 | 2,739 | 3,139 | 2,163 |
| **Emissions from all halls of residences as percentage of total emission** | 4% | 7% | 7% | 5% | 3% |

## REUSE OF EQUIPMENT

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Surplus furniture items reused (no. of items)** | - | - | - | 425 | 431 |
| **Surplus furniture items sold (no. of items)** | - | - | - | 25 | 126 |
| **IT equipment repurposed and sold (no. of items)** | - | - | - | 1,317 | - |
| **IT equipment recycled (no. of items)** | - | - | - | 742 | - |



## GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

| Indicators/metrics | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Emissions from energy and DMU owned vehicles (scope 1 & 2) ($tCO_2e$)** | 5,545 | 6,694 | 6,130 | 5,280 | 5,016 |
| **Emissions from staff and student commute (scope 3) ($tCO_2e$)** | 2,253 | 442 | 2,431 | 2,127 | 3,991 |
| **Emissions from business travel (scope 3) ($tCO_2e$)** | 1,513 | 145 | 536 | 955 | 1,579 |
| **Emissions from waste and water (scope 3) ($tCO_2e$)** | 638 | 470 | 615 | 611 | 769 |
| **Emissions from international & UK student travel (scope 3) ($tCO_2e$)** | 10,485 | 10,579 | 14,256 | 17,037 | 19,679 |
| **Emissions from private halls of residences (scope 3) ($tCO_2e$)*** | 1,711 | 2,791 | 2,739 | 1,979 | 1,877 |
| **Emissions from procurement activities ($tCO_2e$)** | 33,067 | 22,884 | 27,154 | 26,243 | 33,145 |
| **Emissions from all scope 3 sources ($tCO_2e$)**** | 49,771 | 37,331 | 47,815 | 49,086 | 61,711 |
| **Total emissions - scope 1, 2 & 3 sources ($tCO_2e$)**** | 55,316 | 44,026 | 53,945 | 54,403 | 66,727 |

** amended due to inclusion of private halls data

## GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS TARGETS

| Indicators/metrics | 2005/06 | 2023/24 | 2023/24 interim target reduction | %change | Net zero target |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Emissions from energy and DMU owned vehicles - scope 1 and 2 ($tCO_2e$)** | 13,217 | 5,016 | -60% | -62% | 2032 |
| **Emissions from all scope 3 sources ($tCO_2e$)** | 43,832 | 54,875 | -14% | +41% | 2045 |

# TRENDS AND FUTURE AREAS OF FOCUS

**Overall, the picture in relation to our sustainability performance for 2023/24 has been mixed. There have been successes during the year including reducing our energy related emissions, but other areas including business travel have seen increases in emissions.**

Our plans for the coming year of 2024/25 include making progress on our sustainable food provision through the Food Made Good standard, continuing to progress our biodiversity work through the Hedgehog Friendly Campus initiative and aiming to achieve reaccreditation to the Responsible Futures education for sustainable development assessment.

We will continue to deliver the Carbon Literacy training for our students and staff as a way to educate and engage on the climate crisis and in 2024/25 we will also continue to develop the wildflower areas at DMU to support biodiversity on the campus.

This report details great progress in many areas of sustainability but we will not remain complacent. There are still many areas where more work is needed and we will continue to work towards our targets and objectives and we will engage our staff and students in this process. We will continue to report our progress through report such as this annual sustainability report.

DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY LEICESTER

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