

# The Climate Emergency and the University of Bristol

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# Climate Emergency

1. Sustainability at Bristol
2. Context for Climate Emergency
3. What CE achieved
4. Covid
5. Q&A

## Bristol & Sustainability

- Team of 15, Estates, focus on Carbon, Circular Economy and Transport.
- £10mil util budget.
- Carbon footprint = 132,440tonnes
  - 1) Buildings energy = 30%
  - 2) Procurement = 44%
  - 3) Transport = 26%

# Climate Action

## Context – Before Climate Emergency

- Sustainability Policy inc.  
Procurement – 15 areas
- Net zero carbon target since 2015 (scope 1 & 2)
- 10% reduction target for S3
- 8-point carbon plan.
- Investing in carbon reduction (£10M over 10 years).
- Proc – Supplier engagement, Sustainability Impact Assessment

# Climate Emergency

## 8-point plan – S 1 & 2

1. Stop waste
2. Use energy efficiently
3. Space Utilisation
4. Build low energy
5. Low carbon self-generation
6. Connect to low carbon networks
7. Buy renewable energy
8. Carbon off setting

## Climate Emergency

- City Council declares emergency  
Nov 2018
- XR letter to VC Jan 2019
- Student and staff petition to  
Senate March 2019
- Sustainability confirms viability –  
8-point plan
- Senate votes for declaring.
- 1st UK University to declare (by  
a day!). April 2019

# Climate Emergency

What happened after declaring?

- Senior team engage.
- Review of Sustainability Strategy.
- New Sustainability Council.
- Internal/external promotion.
- Continue delivering our 8-point plan.

## What actions is the University taking

- Investing in Energy Efficiency in Buildings.
- Buying renewable energy PPA
- Transport policy and toolkits on flying
- Procurement supply chain/WLC
- Biodiversity
- Sustainable Futures
- Construction – BREEAM +
- Our own offsetting
- Community – Barton Hill



## Action on Sustainability

- £10million on energy efficiency measures like LED lighting, insulation, renewables
- Building Sustainably – 20 projects BREEAM Excellent standard.
- Absolute carbon emissions down 33%
- Disinvestment in fossil fuels
- Less than 1% of the University's waste goes to landfill – the rest is either reused, recycled or composted
- Sustainable Futures on-line course
- Reduced water consumption by 25%
- Green Impact & Be the Change

# Climate Emergency

Genie out of the bottle!

- What carbon – 1,2,3 debate
- Up to this point it had been scopes 1 & 2 focused
- Staff and students want to respond and act.

Leading to;

- Peoples Assembly 700 ideas Oct 2019
- Climate Action Plans (CAPs) January 2020

## Delivery of CAP's

- Aimed to write all CAP's by July 2020.
- Each School and Division is responsible for its own CAP.
- Delivery over next three years. Can start as soon as you want – 2023.
- Head of School and Divisional Directors are responsible for the plans being delivered.
- The CAP Coordinator is the point of contact with Sustainability. Also the main person to use the Planning Tool.
- Should get staff and students involved in writing and delivering plans.  
Academic, Prof staff.

# Climate Action Planning Tool

- **Buildings**

Where and how you use energy, equipment, LEAF, BREEAM, Space..

- **Consumption**

What and how you buy, significant spends, waste, deliveries...

- **Travel**

Business travel, commuting, fleet, students, conferences, flying...

- **Advocacy**

Education, Students, research, living lab, engagement, transparency....

## Impact of Covid

- Capital 'Freeze'
- Refocus on no cost low cost measures
- Still senior commitment – Uni Vision and Strategy – cross cutting theme.
- CAP writing delay until January 2021
- Carbon and Flying – Business travel almost stopped.
- Carbon emissions during 19/20 down to 40%.
- Chance to reduce operation.
- Space optimisation.
- FF&E Policy on its way
- Learnt from covid - Resilience

## Sustainability Summary

- Climate Emergency, has re-invigorated our carbon work.
- Created engagement in both staff and student body.
- Opened new opportunities – CAP's
- Covid has delayed action, but the momentum of CE is still there.
- Procurement is a key part of delivering zero carbon.
- Covid has taught us resilience is key and sustainability is a key measure of that resilience.

# Questions

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