



Sustainability what we do





Carbon, Energy and Water Management

We spend £10 million on energy and water annually, equating to 42,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide, or 10,000 households.

The biggest use for energy is in laboratories which require large amounts of heated and chilled air with closely controlled humidity. However, heating, lighting, and IT equipment are also large users.

The University is aiming to be carbon neutral by 2030 and has to date invested £10million in energy saving technologies saving £2million a year, including 500kW of solar power. We buy green electricity too!

To become truly sustainable we need your help by;

- Switching off lights and equipment when not needed
- Becoming a Lab Sustainability Champion
- Joining the Green Impact scheme, for offices or labs

Find out more at www.bristol.ac.uk/green/doing/energy-carbon-water.



Circular Economy

The University of Bristol is adopting a Circular Economy approach to managing its resources which includes waste, moving away from the 'make, purchase, use and dispose' approach to materials. The University's aim is to encourage prevention and reduction in the use of materials, through lean design, remanufacturing and the reuse of resources prior to recycling or disposal realising its value and joining with procurement activities to ensure assets are used to their fullest extent.

While we have good recycling rates of over 83%, we are producing more waste each year (2,000 tonnes) and increasing our individual waste disposal amounts, up 8% last year.

We will all need to work together to make smart purchasing decisions, reducing the waste associated with goods and services and ensuring we buy products that are well designed durable, have recycled content and that can be reused or remanufactured. Find out more at www.bristol.ac.uk/green/doing/waste.



Wider Sustainability Activity:

- Building and refurbishing to high environmental standards, saving energy, reducing waste and improving health and wellbeing.
- Reducing our £1million a year water bill.
- Bristol Futures, including sustainability in our teaching and learning.
- Maintaining and increasing our native ecosystems and Living Estate.
- Ensuring we comply with environmental legislation using our Environmental Management System.
- Procuring goods and services to ensure they not only reduce our environmental impact but meet high social standards.
- Offering staff and students ethical and sustainable options when it comes to catering.
- Making sure we utilise our estate to its fullest extent, so all space is well used.
- Developing responsible principles for our investments.
- Engage with our communities, enhancing the local economy, building resilient partnerships.

Transport

Safe, reliable and affordable transport options are essential for the thousands of students and staff needing to travel to work and study every day.

At the same time, the University needs to manage the environmental and social impacts of this transport demand, in particular traffic congestion, air pollution and carbon emissions.

The University's sustainability policy sets a series of ambitious targets for increasing use of sustainable travel modes by staff and students.

Recent initiatives such as a student bus service, new cycling infrastructure and an electric vehicle fleet have helped achieve significant progress towards these goals. All staff are strongly encouraged to explore sustainable transport when commuting or travelling on University business. Further information is available at: www.bristol.ac.uk/transportplan/transport.



Contacts



Contacting the Sustainability team

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Circular Economy

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Sustainability is part of everything we do: our research, our curricula, our buildings and the student experience. Sustainability is one of the central strands shaping the University's Vision and Strategy.

We have bold plans, to be carbon neutral, eliminate waste, reduce transport congestion, enhance our living campus leading to the University being one of the most responsible organisations in the sector and region.

The University has a Sustainability team that helps deliver Sustainability actions and you can find out more about what they are doing and what you can do within this leaflet.