

## **Carbon neutral strategy: A Ten-Point Plan for the Planet**

### **Purpose and Context**

In early 2020 the Climate Emergency Steering Group was established at the University to respond to the Climate Emergency. Attended by the Students' Union, researchers in climate change plus representatives from support services including Estates and Facilities Management and chaired by Professor Tim Thornton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the steering group collaborated to produce the Carbon Neutral Strategy: A Ten Point Plan for the Planet.

Adopted by the University Council in November 2020, the plan reflects the University's commitment to achieving carbon neutrality across all areas of the University. It aims to address the breadth of sustainable development whilst establishing new net zero targets for Huddersfield. As part of this plan, the University of Huddersfield will achieve net zero carbon emissions for scope 1 and scope 2 by 2030, and for scope 3 by 2045.

These commitments build on the University's long-standing dedication to sustainability and environmental improvement; great work has already been carried out ensuring that the University met and exceeded its carbon reduction targets for scope 1 and 2 in 2020.

### **Scope**

The targets and actions presented in this document cover all operations of the University of Huddersfield including, but not limited to, all staff, students, visitors, affiliated individuals and organisations, contractors and suppliers operating on behalf of the University of Huddersfield.

---

**1. Our new-build estate will achieve BREEAM Excellent and WELL Building standards**

Responsible: Tim Hosker, Director of Estates & Facilities

**2. We will reduce our travel impacts by investing in alternatives such as conferencing and distance-learning technologies, and supporting public transport and active travel initiatives**

Responsible: Krish Pilicudale, Director of Digital (standing item SPPIB) / Tim Hosker, Director of Estates & Facilities

**3. We will invest in digital solutions to reduce our carbon impact**

Responsible: Krish Pilicudale, Director of Digital (standing item SPPIB)

**4. We will place sustainability at the heart of our curriculum, ensuring it is at the centre of our understanding of future global professionals**

Responsible: Jane Owen-Lynch, PVC Teaching & Learning (standing item UTLC)

**5. Our research will enhance the sustainability agenda, and we will disseminate its findings**

Responsible: Andrew Ball, PVC Research & Enterprise (standing item URC)

**6. We will enhance biodiversity in the environment in and around campus**

Responsible: Tim Hosker, Director of Estates & Facilities

**7. We will partner with the West Yorkshire Forest to plant at least one tree for every student who enrolls with us, including work on urban tree-planting and tree-planting with schools, making offset relevant and effective**

Responsible: Tim Thornton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor

**8. We will invest over £1m in carbon reduction measures in the next six years**

Responsible: Tim Hosker, Director of Estates & Facilities

**9. We will achieve net zero carbon emissions, for scope 1 & 2, by 2030**

Responsible: Tim Thornton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (standing item SLT)

**10. We will achieve net zero carbon emissions, for scope 3, by 2045**

Responsible: Tim Thornton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (standing item SLT)

**Scope 1:** *emissions from sources directly owned or controlled by the University*

**Scope 2:** *generated by use of energy bought from a utility provider*

**Scope 3:** *occurring from sources that the University does not own or control, for example covering emissions associated with business travel, procurement, waste, and water.*

<b>POLICY SIGN-OFF AND OWNERSHIP DETAILS</b>	
<b>Document name:</b>	Carbon neutral strategy: A Ten-Point Plan for the Planet
<b>Version Number:</b>	1.0
<b>Equality Impact Assessment:</b>	
<b>Approved by:</b>	Estates and Finance Committee
<b>Date Approved:</b>	June 2020
<b>Next Review due by:</b>	April 2023
<b>Author:</b>	Professor Tim Thornton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
<b>Owner (if different from above):</b>	Professor Tim Thornton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
<b>Document Location:</b>	
<b>Compliance Checks:</b>	
<b>Related Policies/Procedures:</b>	

<b>REVISION HISTORY</b>			
<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Revision description/Summary of changes</b>	<b>Author</b>
V1.0	Apr 2022	Policy reviewed by Carbon Emergency Steering Group. No changes	Deputy Vice-Chancellor
V1.0	Nov 2020	First draft of new policy	Deputy Vice-Chancellor