




Sustainability Targets 2023-24 / final progress against target report

Area / statement from Sustainability Policy	Target	Target owner	Update on Progress	Strategy Theme / SDG	Actions	Responsibility	Update on Progress	Expected completion date/RAG rating
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<p>1. ENERGY</p> <p>Optimise resource efficiency</p> <p>Manage our estate to mitigate against climate change and to ensure future resilience through engagement in adaptive strategies with the objective of net carbon neutrality by 2030.</p>	<p>Consumption</p> <p>Reduce natural gas consumption by 8.4% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 9,692 MWh</p>	<p>Pro Vice Chancellor – Finance and Resource</p>	<p>Consumption</p> <p>Natural gas consumption reduced by 16% (from 7,683 MWh to 6,472 MWh) between 2022/23 – 2023/24. However, the overall consumption reduction target of 4,040 MWh by 2023/24 from the 2018/19 baseline has been missed, with an overall reduction of 3,220 MWh having been achieved. This is 820 MWh shy of the overall reduction required to maintain alignment with the University's pathway to net zero carbon by 2030.</p>	  	<p>Continue participation in city-wide heat network detailed design project and report regularly to UEB / Community Forum</p>	<p>Pro Vice Chancellor – Finance and Resource / Director of Sustainability</p>	<p>Consultants appointed – PVC Finance & DoS to be on Stakeholder Group</p>	2025	
	<p>Reduce electricity consumption by 1.7% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 8,696 MWh</p>				<p>Oversee delivery of a stock condition survey, outputs of which will include a report on energy and carbon saving opportunities</p>	<p>Director of Capital Developments and Campus Infrastructure</p>	<p>July 24 Update This work is on-going and is expected to run into the new financial year.</p>	Dec 24	
	<p>Reduce combined energy intensity by 5.9% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 162 kWh/m2.yr</p>				<p>Pilot the integration of energy data with the University's Building Management System (BMS) in the newly refurbished EGA building</p>	<p>Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Manager</p>	<p>Contractor appointed to complete outstanding BMS works at EGA building, currently negotiating integration of energy data</p>	July 2024	
	<p>Carbon</p>				<p>Electricity consumption increased by 1% (from 4,424 MWh to 4,457 MWh) between 2022/23 – 2023/24. This is despite emissions from electricity reducing across the same period.</p>	<p>Improve AMR data quality of identified 'priority submeters' to within 3% accuracy of physical reads</p>	<p>Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Manager</p>	<p>49% of submeters require some form of intervention to improve data quality (inc. submeters not on AMR); data improvement plan in place with service provider EMT</p>	June 2024
						<p>Review lighting estate and identify outstanding opportunities to replace inefficient lighting with efficient LED alternatives</p>	<p>Director of Capital Developments and Campus Infrastructure</p>	<p>July 24 update Work has been on-going for the past period but staff shortages have meant progress has been slower than anticipated. Some lights recovered from Bredon (that</p>	Dec 24

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	Reduce emissions from energy by 8.4% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 3,230 tCO2e		<p>Carbon</p> <p>Emissions from energy consumption reduced by 11% (from 2376 tCO2e to 2107 tCO2e) between 2022/23 – 2023/24, representing a successful year for reduction of emissions from energy. However, the overall emissions reduction target of 1,330 tCO2e by 2023/24 from the 2018/19 baseline has been missed, with an overall reduction of 1,073 tCO2e having been achieved.</p> <p>This is 257 tCO2e shy of the overall reduction required to maintain alignment with the University's pathway to net zero carbon by 2030.</p>				were relatively new) have been re-deployed.	
					Roll out auto shutdown functionality to all audio-visual devices (where practicable)	Chief Information Officer	<p>New rooms: Power down after 3 hours of inactivity (applies to all upgrades since 2023). This will increase as more rooms are upgraded.</p> <p>Motion sensors: Investing in motion sensors to shut down AV if no movement is detected. This may apply to new room upgrades at an additional cost.</p> <p>Manual shutdown: Devices that can be manually programmed (e.g., display screens) will shut down at 21:15.</p> <p>Licenses for ViewSonic screens: Licenses can be purchased to remotely set startup and shutdown times for ViewSonic screens, useful for digital signage. This will be adopted as screens are replaced.</p> <p>Awareness campaign: Focus on training and awareness for shutting down AV equipment.</p>	Oct 2024
					Investigate feasibility of and develop a costed plan to develop the University's on-	Carbon Reduction and	Not yet started; plans to begin work in spring.	July 2024

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					site generation (solar thermal and solar PV)	Sustainability Manager		
					Run Student Switch Off competition in halls; increase participation to pre-pandemic levels (54% of students)	Residential Life Team	Campaigns throughout academic year. Participation poor in semester 1. Semester 2 much better engagement now made competition between RSL. Vesta Tilley came 3 rd in latest climate quiz, competing across all SSO universities.	May 2024
					Review process for embedding energy efficiency considerations in the design and refurbishment of buildings	Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Manager	Ongoing work with consultancy to enhance BMS specification and energy modelling of the Teaching Building; wider work to review and standardise approach not yet started.	July 2024
2. WATER Optimise resource efficiency Manage our estate to mitigate against climate change and to ensure future	Consumption Reduce water consumption by 3% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 60,267 m3	Director of Capital Developments and Campuses Infrastructure	Consumption Water consumption increased by 11%* (from 63,499 m3 – 70,216 m3) between 2022/23 – 2023/24. The overall consumption reduction target of 9,040m3 by 2023/24 from the 2018/19 baseline has also been missed, with	 	Implement recommendations from water audit reports, including reducing shower and hand basin tap flow rates	Operations Manager VACANT	'Not started – needs full review. Staff vacancies have impacted ability to start this work' July 24 update No change Dependent on resources.	July 2024

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resilience through engagement in adaptive strategies with the objective of net carbon neutrality by 2030.			an overall increase of 9,949m3. *both years exclude water data from EGA / ECB (same feed), and LC.					
	Reduce water intensity by 3% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 0.74m3/m2.yr		Water intensity increased by 11% (from 0.72 m3/m2.yr - 0.80 m3/m2.yr) between 2022/23 – 2023/24. The overall consumption reduction target of 0.11 m3/m2.yr by 2023/24 has also been missed, with an overall increase of 0.06 m3/m2.yr.					
	Carbon Reduce emissions from water by 2.5% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 22.6 tCO2e		Carbon Emissions from water consumption reduced by 4% (from 11.24 tCO2e to 10.75 tCO2e) between 2022/23 – 2023/24.		Review process for embedding water efficiency considerations in the design and refurbishment of buildings	Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Manager	Water efficiency considerations designed into Teaching Building specification; no more new developments planned for short medium term. Standardise approach paused.	July 2024

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			<p>The overall emissions reduction target of 2.8 tCO2e by 2023/24 from the 2018/19 baseline has been exceeded with an overall reduction of 11.8 tCO2e having been achieved.</p> <p>Please note that in 2022/23 and 2023/24, some water data was unavailable. It should also be noted that due to fluctuations in emissions conversion factors used for water, it is difficult to meaningfully monitor this emissions category.</p>					
3. WASTE Optimise resource efficiency. Manage our estate to mitigate against	Carbon Reduce emissions from waste (excluding construction waste) by 5% per annum, from a	Assistant Director - Security & Operations	Carbon Emissions from waste reduced by 15% (from 7.44 tCO2e – 6.30 tCO2e) between 2022/23 – 2023/24. The overall emissions reduction target of 2.28		Increase the value of British Heart Foundation donations from £8,500 in 2023 by 5% in 2024	Campus Services Waste supervisor	New target would be £8,850 if we achieve a 5% increase. This failed. We were advised donations have been down nationally.	June 2024
					Continue work with Worcester Repair Café to increase workshops in the	Director of Sustainability	Repair Cafés took place on 25 November 2023 and 3 February 2024, launching Go Green Week 2024 and held in	February 2024

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climate change and to ensure future resilience through engagement in adaptive strategies with the objective of net carbon neutrality by 2030.	2018/19 baseline of 9.1 tCO2e		tCO2e by 2023/24 has been exceeded, with an overall reduction of 2.82 tCO2e having been achieved. Please note that due to fluctuations in emissions conversion factors used for waste, it is difficult to meaningfully monitor this emissions category.		Student Union to at least one per semester.		The Hanger	
4. EMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES Prevent pollution by reducing emissions and environmentally harmful discharges.	Carbon Maintain fugitive F Gas emissions to under 10 tCO2e annually	Operations Manager – Estates VACANT	Carbon Due to a significant leak of refrigerant at University Arena, F-gas emissions for 2023-24 increased to 93 tCO2e		Do additional promotion of pollution awareness-raising including annual spill test drill	Assistant Director-Security & Operations	All new starters who are first responders trained on Pollution Prevention. Annual practice drill by 31 st March. New Spill kits purchased and strategically placed across all sites. Training completed with all relevant staff and there is now an on-line training package available for new staff.	May 2024

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5. PROCURE MENT Optimise resource efficiency and ethical procurement including Fairtrade and stimulating a shift to sustainable models of consumption.	Carbon Reduce emissions from procurement by 5% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 18,701 tCO2e	Procurement Steering Group, reporting into the Sustainability Strategy Committee	Carbon Emissions from procurement reduced by 38% (from 15,540 tCO2e – 9,617 tCO2e) between 2022/23 – 2023/24.	 	Complete a materiality exercise to identify high spend and high emissions procurement categories and plan action to reduce them	Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Manager / Head of Procurement	Initial analysis completed with high-level action plan currently being developed	November 2024
			The overall emissions reduction target of 2,446 tCO2e by 2023/24 from the 2018/19 baseline has been missed. with a reduction of 167 tCO2e having been achieved. This is 2,279 tCO2e shy of the overall reduction required to maintain alignment with the University's pathway to net zero carbon by 2030.		Pilot working with a selection of local and national suppliers using a more accurate methodology to define the University's supply chain emissions	Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Manager / Head of Procurement	This work has been built into the JD for the student placement role; new starter to take up role in August 2024. Expected completion date to be updated to Jan '2025.	Jan 2025

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6. TRANSPORT Encourage sustainable transport and implement a sustainable travel plan.	Carbon Reduce emissions from staff and student commuting by 5% per annum, from a 2018/19 baseline of 8,190 tCO2e	Director of Sustainability	Emissions from staff and student commuting increased by 86% (from 4,296 tCO2e to 7,993 tCO2e) between 2022/23 – 2023/24. The overall emissions reduction target of 2,048 tCO2e by 2023/24 from the 2018/19 baseline has been missed, with an overall reduction of 197 tCO2e having been achieved. This is 1,851 tCO2e shy of the overall reduction required to maintain alignment with the University's pathway to net zero carbon by 2030.	  	Undertake annual staff and student travel surveys, disseminate survey findings	Director of Sustainability	Annual Travel Survey commenced 30 November 2023, date extended to 3 May to allow LfRS research students to get a higher response rate. 250 staff (ok) 110 students (very poor)	November 2023
	Reduce emissions from use of fleet vehicles		Emissions from use of fleet vehicles increased by 13% (from 24 tCO2e		Monitor introduction of Sojo GB behaviour change app; analyse and report on impact and publish research findings	Director of Sustainability	Sojo funders in Switzerland undertaking a full review of the software. Project on hold.	August 2025


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	and business travel by 9% per annum, from 2018/19 baselines of 42.4 tCO2e (fleet) and 530 tCO2e (business travel)		<p>to 27 tCO2e) between 2022/23 – 2023/24.</p> <p>The overall emissions reduction target of 19.08 tCO2e by 2023/24 from the 2018/19 baseline has also been missed, with an overall reduction of 15.85 tCO2e.</p>		Participate in the Air Quality Working Group to establish a Worcestershire wide Air Quality Action Plan	Director of Sustainability	Close working relationship with regulatory services, attended GGW, approved AQ awareness engagement tool. LfRS students undertaking further road shows. Live Realtime monitors now live across Worcestershire https://www.worcsregservices.gov.uk/all-services/pollution/air-quality/interactive-air-quality-maps-current-status/	September 2024
			<p>This is 3.23 tCO2e shy of the overall reduction required to maintain alignment with the University's pathway to net zero carbon by 2030.</p> <p>Emissions from business travel increased by 30% (from 232 tCO2e to 302 tCO2e) between 2022/23 – 2023/24.</p> <p>The overall emissions reduction target of 238.5 tCO2e by 2023/24 from the 2018/19 baseline has</p>		Monitor and report on university-owned EV charge point use	Director of Capital Developments and Campus Infrastructure	Monthly reports received. July 24 update Energy Committee receive usage updates	July 2024



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			also been missed, with an overall reduction of 228 tCO2e. This is 10.5 tCO2e shy of the overall reduction required to maintain alignment with the University's pathway to net zero carbon by 2030.					
7. HEALTH & WELLBEING Deliver projects and programmes that directly enhance wellbeing including healthy and sustainable food.	Comply with best practice set out in the University Mental Health Charter Framework	Health Safety and Wellbeing Committee	This voluntary, membership-driven Programme supports institutions in adopting a holistic approach to student mental health and wellbeing, fostering a network for peer support and the exchange of best practices. We have started work on this.	   	Implement services with the Students' Union to support student mental health through the academic year	Assistant Director Student Life	Cost of Living campaign work – Community Cupboard, new Community Cupboard Express offer & period products - reducing stress financially on students. Engagement with Nature Society & Gardening & Allotment Society	June 2024
					Investigate additional wellbeing opportunities at Lakeside campus for students, staff, and the wider community, using the Green Impact programme	Director of Sustainability	GI project creating Nature Trail well underway, first phase ready by the Spring/Summer	June 2024
					Develop a plan for seeking accreditation under HEI new wellbeing accreditation called the University Mental Health Charter by Summer 2024	Head of Organisational Development/ Chair of	https://hub.studentminds.org.uk/university-mental-health-charter-programme-members-24-25/	June 2024


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						Health, Safety and Well-being Committee			
8. CONSTRUCTION & REFURBISHMENT Optimise resource efficiency. Manage our estate to mitigate against climate change and to ensure future resilience through engagement in adaptive strategies with the objective of net carbon	All new builds should achieve an EPC rating of A All refurbishment builds should achieve SKA Gold (RCIS SKA assessment framework)	Director of Capital Developments and Campus Infrastructure	No new buildings occupied during this year	 	Work with appointed consultancy to ensure proposed specification for the Teaching Building is energy efficient, incorporates low carbon technologies, and achieves EPC A when modelled	Director of Capital Devts and Campus Infrastructure	Latest model as at Jan 2024 shows EPC A expected July 24 – No change EPC A still anticipated.	April 2024	
	All new builds should achieve the following water intensity targets: - 1.35m3/m2.yr (residential) - 0.71m3/m2.yr (non-residential)				Continue enhancing building control and performance during 'soft landing' phase of EGA refurbishment		Project Manager	Working on the post occupancy soft landings ongoing	September 2024
					Work with appointed consultancy to hit non-residential water targets for the Teaching Building.		Project Manager	Work ongoing to develop appropriate targets	September 2024


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neutrality by 2030.								
9. BIODIVERSITY Enhance biodiversity and incorporate biodiversity in environmental management, creating new opportunities for wildlife on campus.	Implement the University's Biodiversity Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plan	Biodiversity Steering Group, reporting into Sustainability Committee	Annual Report on good progress of Biodiversity Action plan produced		Deliver a further 650m2 of botanically enhanced habitat	Grounds Manager	Over 1500m2 of grass containing wildflower to be left unmown for the growing season at City Campus. 75M Native hedge row containing 300 whips planted at St Johns campus, to the side of car park M, running between the car park and the top Astro turf.	April 2024
					Revise the Biodiversity Strategy to include new campus developments and biodiversity net gain requirements	Director of Sustainability	The new BSG chair has been working on the revised strategy in-house and it was agreed at the Sustainability Strategy Committee on 1 July 2024 along with the Biodiversity Action Plan.	September 2024
					Host the University's first 'bioblitz' on campus and recruit schools and community groups to take part	Chair Biodiversity Steering Group	On hold due to prioritising Biodiversity Strategy revision inhouse. Plans to run the first Bioblitz in May 2025.	June 2024
					Plant 20m2 of native lavender to support student lavender bags project	Grounds Manager	This project is now scaled back due to financial situation	April 2024
					Pilot new methodology for recording biodiversity on campus	Chair Biodiversity	This is a Green Impact project and pilot going well.	June 2024

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						Steering Group		
10. EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT Ensuring curricula reflect and align with our values for inclusion, internationalisation, ethical and socially responsible global citizenship. Invest in pedagogic innovation, scholarship, and research on sustainability with	Increase staff and student participation in NUS SDG teach-in by 5% from 2022/23 levels	Academic Lead for sustainability	Top ten educators pledging, fewer than last year and fewer students reached (29 educators pledge (2023, 41 educators), reaching 1628 students – 17% of the student body (2023, 4374 students – 48% of the student body).		Comply with the Responsible Futures framework; maintain accreditation.	Academic Lead for sustainability	RF reaccreditation audit took place 4-6 th June 2024. Reaccreditation secured,	June 2024
	Increase student participation in the Sustainability Literacy Test by 5% from 2022/23 levels		Sulitest - In August/September 2023, 501 students enrolled for the test (696 in 2022) and 396 completed (518 in 2022). Decrease in participation. Sulitest participation investigated by WPI project which reported in April 2024, suggesting ways to improve engagement which will be trialled in September 2024. Working with L & T coordinators in Schools to promote at induction		Engage with at least one course team in each academic school to promote awareness of education of sustainable development, map course curricula to the SDGs, and embed education for sustainable development competencies		Academic Lead for sustainability	Workshop for School of Psychology 29/11/2023 on embedding ESD in the curriculum. New ESD workshop for individual academic staff delivered May 2024. Workshops will be offered again for 2024/25. Preparation of guidance materials for course teams in progress to be ready for September 2024.





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global impact. Provide appropriate sustainability and environmental training for all our staff and students. Encourage active citizenship locally, nationally, and globally.					Initiate 7th call for LfRF projects and increase number of submitted projects, recruit student researchers to support the work.	Academic Lead for sustainability	Call initiated three proposals submitted – two progressed for further discussion. Three students recruited as LfRF researchers. Unfortunately, no projects have progressed.	
	Support 600 staff and students (combined) to undertake Carbon Literacy training and 50% gain accreditation		Work ongoing Grant recieved to employ students, students trained, collaboration With The OU finalised		Complete QAA enhancement project on embedding education for sustainable development in QA&E processes and implement good practice in UW QA&E processes	Academic Lead for sustainability	Project completed in 2023. Presentation proposal accepted for ESD conference at MMU April 2024 and plans for an academic paper arising from work. Presentation to QA committee at RAU in July 2024. Further guidance added to course handbook template for 2024/25 linked to measurement of GAs and learning gain.	June 2024
					Apply for SAP project on embedding the SDGs and sustainability competencies/graduate attributes in the curriculum.	Academic Lead for sustainability	Successful application for SAPs project December 2023. One student applicant for project who has subsequently pulled out. Project did not progress.	June 2024
11. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT Build	Increase the number of Green Impact Teams to 20 in 2023/24	Community Forum	15 teams audited- 23 Teams initially		Work closely with and support student societies and the to raise awareness on sustainability and social justice issues.	Director of Sustainability / SU Officers	Workshop held in Go Green Week on democratise/decolonise/decarbonise, well attended and positive feedback from attendees and workshop on Careers also well attended.	May 2024





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beneficial partnerships and collaborations through our sustainability activities and enhance our sustainability reputation internationally. Promote communication with, and information to, internal and external interested citizens and organisations. Responding appropriate	Increase student awareness of the University's sustainability activities from 47% in the baseline year of 2016/17, to 65% by 2024.		Awareness measured over 9 categories is currently at 67%		Recruit 4 additional student Digital Creative part-time posts to help publish and promote the University's digital sustainability magazine and increase readership by 5% from July 2023 baseline of 100 engaged readers include in formative assessment for year three creative arts students.	Director of Sustainability	New students recruited. website reviewed by 3 rd year web design students. Taking forward their recommendation's analytics will be monitored to look for increased readership.	Jan 2024
					Report on sustainability issues regularly to the University Community Forum.	Director of Sustainability	Report submitted to Community Forums held on 17 October 2023, 6 February 2024. & 30 April 2024	June 2024
					Promote collaborative working within UW and with Worcestershire and Worcester City Council and other 3 rd sector organisations. Coordinate regular meetings and actively seek out initiatives where resources can be shared.	Director of Sustainability	DoS attends regular cross sector meetings and promotes collaborative working with our partners such as West Mercia Police.	April 2024
					Host 6 Worcester Polytechnic Institute student research projects in March-May 2024.	Director of Sustainability	6 projects commenced and students arriving in Worcester on 8 March. Presentations of projects took place on 26 April 2024.	May 2024

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ly to reasonable requests for information about our sustainability performance.								
<p>12. FOOD</p> <p>Provide projects and programmes that directly enhance wellbeing including healthy and sustainable food.</p> <p>Optimise resource efficiency and ethical procurement including Fairtrade</p>	Retain Sustainable Restaurant Association 3-star certification.	Head of Residential & Commercial/ Director of Sustainability	£3 star SRA accreditation retained		Implement, measure, and report on the defined key performance indicators outlined in the catering contract, including to reduce environmental impacts and promote positive societal impacts associated with food products and services.	Head of Residential and Commercial Services / Head of Procurement	3 start SRA accreditation retained which measures these areas and is independently. Delayed until August due to maternity leave	June 2024
					Continue to promote food bank collections amongst students and staff to support those in food poverty.	Director of Sustainability	Community Cupboard promoted and cheapest places to shop posts updated on STO	June 2024
					Establish a 'Social Kitchen' where the University's Head Chef teaches students how to cook plant-based meals in a workshop format.	Director of Sustainability	Social Kitchen events planned for March and May. Only 1 held.	June 2024
								

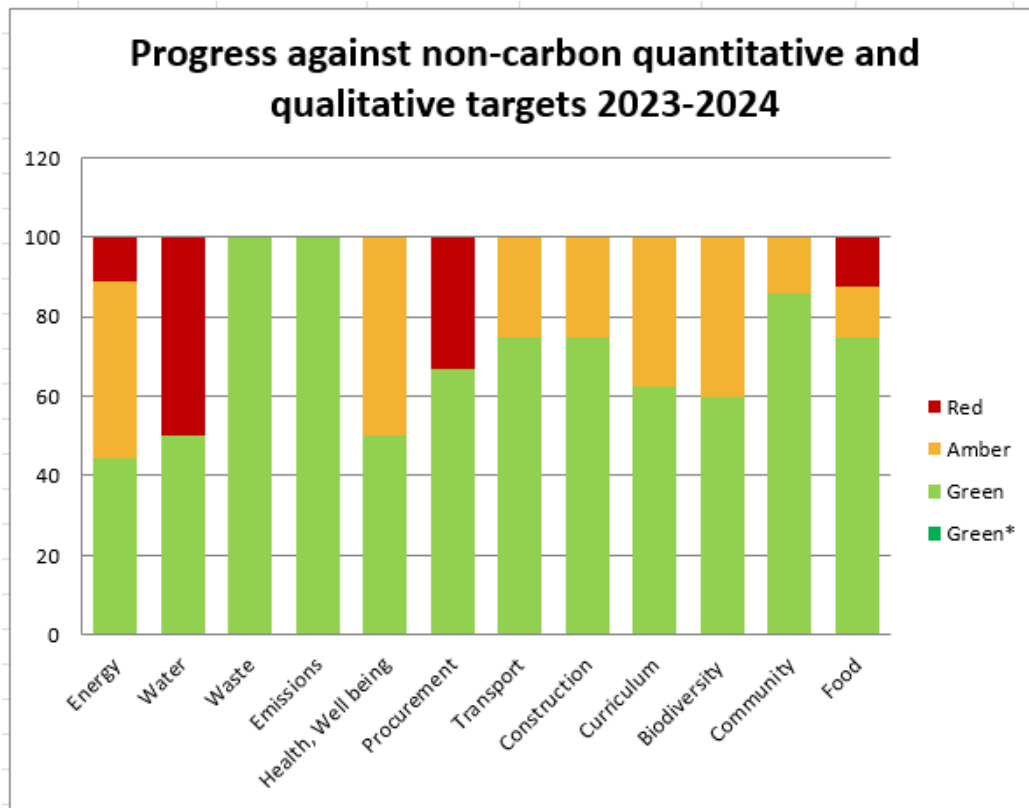
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and stimulating a shift to sustainable models of consumption.	Obtain MSC status.		MSC status not yet re-accredited.		Invite plant-based universities to a Midlands Sustainability Network meeting to share learning and best practice; implement Green Impact plant-based diet project.	Director of Sustainability		
	Retain Fairtrade Status in June 2025.		Fairtrade every 2 years due July 2025		Launch reusable food containers in the main dining room.	Head of Residential and Commercial Services	'Caulibox was launched week commencing 05/02/2024 in the main Dining Hall. Successful launch, but early stages. This will be reviewed with an aim to expand across more outlets by September 2024.	June 2024

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Summary of targets



Key Sustainability Strategy Themes:

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SDGs relating to Theme 1: Promoting sustainability, social responsibility, and wellbeing



SDGs relating to Theme 2: Integrating sustainability through knowledge, skills and experience



SDGs relating to Theme 3: Mitigation, adaptation, and resource efficiency



SDGs relating to Theme 4: Global Sustainability Ethics Partnerships and Leadership

