



Environmental Awareness

Staff Induction

Environmental Sustainability Policy Statement

The University's Environmental Sustainability Policy Statement contains the following key commitments:

- To reduce, and where possible, prevent pollution
- To comply with all the relevant environmental legislation
- To continually improve environmental performance

The Environmental Policy Statement can be viewed from the following link

<http://www.ulster.ac.uk/sustainability/docs/University%20of%20Ulster%20Environmental%20Sustainability%20Policy%20Statement.pdf>

The University's key environmental impacts

- Generation of waste (office paper, cardboard, packaging, general rubbish etc.)
- Use of energy and water (electricity, natural gas, oil, mains water)
- Procurement and use of supplies (office stationery, IT equipment, paper etc.)
- Staff and student travel- business travel and staff and students commuting to and from the University

These are also your own individual environmental impacts when at work

Examples of key initiatives underway to reduce environmental impact

- A full time energy officer position has been in place since 1995, demonstrating the University's long term commitment to energy management
- A wind turbine generator was installed at the Coleraine Campus in September 2008. The turbine produces enough renewable electricity to satisfy approximately one quarter of the electricity requirement on campus. It reduces the University's carbon emissions by approximately 800 tonnes annually
- The waste management contract for routine, non-residential waste which commenced in October 2009 has dramatically reduced the amount of waste being disposed of to landfill
- The University continues to invest considerably in more efficient systems and controls to reduce energy and water consumption, examples include
 - lighting systems with presence detection controls, which automatically switch off when there is no one in the area are installed throughout the University's Buildings
 - the installation of an Automatic Monitoring and Targeting System to monitor energy and water consumption allowing more timely identification of opportunities to reduce consumption
- Ongoing sustainable refurbishment of the University's buildings incorporating sustainable technologies and building materials
 - e.g. the refurbished Warwick Building on the Belfast Campus incorporates best practice in sustainable design and construction and is an exemplar low carbon building. It includes tri generation combined heat and power (CHP), natural cooling, solar shading and grey water recycling.

Headline figures

For the period August 2012 to July 2013

- Almost £4 million was spent on energy to essentially heat, light and power the University's Estate, with
 - £2.25 million spent on electricity
 - £1.4 million on gas
 - £80k on heating oil
- The University's carbon emissions from energy use were approximately 17,000 tonnes
- 89,000 litres of mains water were used, at a cost of £265k
- Approximately 63% of the University's waste was recycled, with a further 15% recovered (where the waste is converted into a fuel which is used in industrial plants e.g. power stations)
- Mileage claims by staff for business travel by car were based on a total of 1.8 million miles

Carbon Management Plan 2010/11 to 2020/21

The Plan sets out a 10 year strategy to reduce the University's environmental impact through the introduction of environmental improvement/ carbon reduction initiatives in the following impact areas

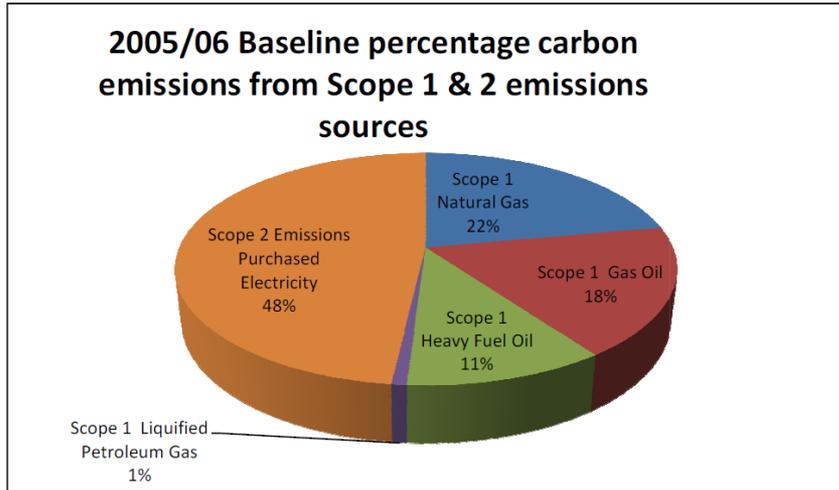
- Energy and water conservation
- Sustainable procurement
- Sustainable travel
- Waste reduction

The University has established the following targets;

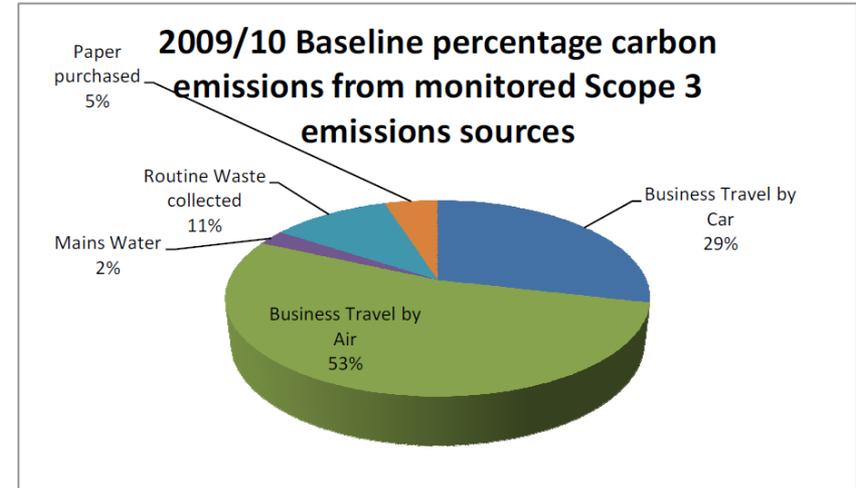
- a 28% reduction in its scope 1 & 2 carbon emissions by 2020/21, relative to a 2005/06 baseline; and
- a 19% reduction in its monitored scope 3 carbon emissions by 2020/21, relative to a 2009/10 baseline.

Carbon emissions baselines

In the baseline year 2005/06, the University's Scope 1 & 2 carbon emissions totalled 21,101 tonnes.



In the baseline year 2009/10, the University's Monitored Scope 3 carbon emissions totalled 2602 tonnes.



- The targets are very challenging. Staff and student participation in environmental improvement/ carbon reduction initiatives will be key to the success to the Plan
- The full Carbon Management Plan can be viewed from the following link
<http://www.ulster.ac.uk/sustainability/docs/Carbon%20Management%20Plan%20Final%2009%20June%202011.pdf>

Environmental awareness and communications strategy

- An environmental sustainability awareness and communications strategy is currently being developed for the University
- Its aim is to reduce the University's environmental impact through the creation of a 'Carbon Conscious' culture amongst staff and students by encouraging the adoption of positive environmental behaviours
- The strategy is seen as an essential element of the Carbon Management Plan
- This staff induction session is one of the initiatives within the strategy

Environmental awareness and communications strategy

- The strategy will be based around five key themes, which are related to the Carbon Management Plan
 - Energy conservation
 - Sustainable procurement
 - Sustainable travel
 - Waste reduction
 - Water conservation
- Key messages to encourage positive behaviours will be presented within each theme

How can you 'do your bit' when at work to reduce the University's environmental impact

- Be aware of the environmental impact of your daily activities at work
- Make a conscious effort to minimise and segregate waste
 - recycle where facilities are available
 - reduce paper use by photocopying on both sides, and reading and/ or archiving documents electronically
- Make a special effort to save energy and resources. For example, switch off equipment when not in use (in particular lights, computers, chargers and projectors)
- Consider reducing the environmental impact of commuting to work by car sharing or using public transport
- Instead of travelling by car to attend meetings, consider using the University's video conferencing facilities

For more information, please visit the University's sustainability web pages

- www.ulster.ac.uk/sustainability