

Meeting Name	Sustainability Strategy	Session	20/21
Meeting Chair	Niamh Lamond	Date	27/02/25
Location	The College Boardroom / Zoom	Time	13:30

Meeting Objective

To receive updates on our OGSM and league table performances, and Net Zero projects, and explore how these can be marketed and communicated.

Present for Meeting

Present	Name	Position
Y	Niamh Lamond	COO and Registrar
Y	Helen Griffiths	PVC (Research & Innovation)
Y	Teifion Maddocks	Sustainability Manager
Y	Greg Ducie	Director of Estates and Campus Services
Y	Katie Horsburgh	Sustainability Officer
Y	Ian Walker	Professor- FMHLS
Y	Mark Pritchard	FSE
Y	Dave Worsely	FSE (Head of Material Science & Eng)
Y	Fern Davies	Sustainability Lead (SOM)
Y	Sarah Jones	CFO
Y	Mari Hooson	Senior Communications Officer
Y	Marzia Sartori	Wellbeing Officer (Students Union)

In Attendance

Name	Position
Mark Hughes	FMHLS
Charlotte Solman	PSPU
Thomas Weller	Students Union

Apologies

Greg Barber, Chris Marshal, Richard Milligan, Phil Brophy

Circulation

Meeting Agenda

Topic	Owner
1 - Previous minutes and Actions	
2 - Horizon scanning- External factors	
2.1 OGSM update	TM
3 - Internal Performance and Changes	
3.1 Sustainability Marketing & student experience	MH
3.2 People & Planet 2025	TM
3.3 QS Sustainability results	CS
3.4 Student National Sustainability Survey (SOS-UK)	TW
3.5 Net Zero funded projects 25/26	TM
3.5.1 ULEV changes to parking permits	TM
4 - Discussion and recommendations – is strategy still fit for purpose?	
5 - AOB	

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Minutes of Meeting

Tracker No.	Agenda Item	Discussion / Decision / Action	Notes	Owner	Planned Completion
430	1 - Previous minutes and Actions	Discussion	Previous minutes and actions discussed and updated.		
431	2.1 OGSM update	Discussion	TM gives updates on the Sustainability OGSM. People & Planet scores are an outlier in terms of being on target (largely due to HESA data). Scopes 1, 2, 3 emissions reductions are all on target for 24/25 (23/24 data). Grid decarbonisation has influenced carbon emissions scores.		
432	2.1 OGSM update	Discussion	Net Zero update: Actual (2019-2025) vs predicted emissions reductions shown towards 2035. Interventions on the energy centre should substantially reduce emissions.		
433	2.1 OGSM update	Discussion	GD: Are the predictions towards the 2035 target assuming continual investment year-on-year. TM: it takes into account the £1.5m per year funding from Medr, and we can also rely on grid decarbonisation. GD- Funding is not guaranteed until 2035 so predictions should be cautious. Predictions are also taking £11m funding from Medr and Salix.		
434	2.1 OGSM update	Discussion	Changes from gas to ASHP will increase the electricity consumption rather than gas. Increased internal renewable energy generation would help reduce this and reach true Net Zero by 2035.		
435	2.1 OGSM update	Discussion	NL notes the space optimisation project and how this may link in and reduce emissions and footprint. This is not currently factored into the emissions predictions. However, this project is in early stages.		
436	2.1 OGSM update	Discussion	TM details the Scope 3 emissions projections. These currently make up 70% of our total emissions. Scope 3 reduction predictions are on target but less linear than scope 1 and 2.		
437	2.1 OGSM update	Discussion	DW notes that Amazon currently have a rainwater collection system that isn't fully utilised, and whether there would be possibilities to use this supply. Investment would be needed in transporting it across sites.		
438	2.1 OGSM update	Action	DW (and/or Justin Searle) to link with TM on whether utilising the Fabian Way Amazon rainwater collection surplus may be possible.	TM	TBC
439	3.1 Sustainability Marketing & student experience	Discussion	MH notes different ways in which Sustainability is covered in comms and marketing. The staff intranet (Cymuned) is utilised and has recently featured a Sustainability month highlighting different initiatives. There is coverage and integration of sustainability into key comms.		
440	3.1 Sustainability Marketing & student experience	Discussion	The Brand and Content team now have 7 content pillars, with sustainability being one of them. However, its noted that it will be difficult to support this with losing a key Sustainability engagement role in redesign, but it may possible to increase links to teaching and research to address this. MH also noted a point on behalf of PB regarding the curriculum transformation with sustainability embedded in this and forming a key graduate attribute, and how we can market this.		
441	3.1 Sustainability Marketing & student experience	Discussion	HG notes that the Research Information System (RIS) is being replaced, and there could be scope to increase links to SDGs on this platform.		
442	3.1 Sustainability Marketing & student experience	Discussion	TM mentions the Curriculum Mapping programme that took place before Christmas, and to bring the resulting report back to the next committee.		

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443	3.1 Sustainability Marketing & student experience	Discussion	MH shares stats from Go Green Week- over 600 staff and students attending, 29 events, 38 green promotional stalls, and engagement across both campuses with under £2k budget.		
444	3.1 Sustainability Marketing & student experience	Action	KH to circulate the Go Green Week 2025 video with the group.	KH	10/03/2025
445	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Discussion	24/25 People & Planet scores are shared. Water reduction is scores poorly (27.75%), but there is no in this change from 23/24. There are discussions around having a Water Management Plan in place similar to the Carbon Management Plan to manage this.		
446	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Discussion	Carbon reduction also scored poorly (12.5%) due to factors such as changes in grid intensity and CISM activity. Based on Scope 1 and 2 figures shared earlier, this should improve again next year, however regaining 8th position may be difficult.		
447	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Discussion	36% scored in Energy Sources due to Green Tariffs increasing in price, meaning we switched to a standard grid tariff from both renewable and non-renewable sources.		
448	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Discussion	Sustainable food criterion requires a plant-based outlet, however the catering business model and finances determine outlet range. Current catering contract is subsidised by the university meaning balance is also needed with this. Plant-based pop-ups could be explored (Cardiff university operate a 'Vegan Filth' outlet in the Students Union), however again, contract details and financial sustainability will influence this heavily.		
449	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Discussion	Other P&P areas are scored well, including some areas being UK-leading (Carbon management and Ethical careers) and gaps are being filled.		
450	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Action	TM and GD to look into water use data and possible solutions. TM to bring this back to the committee with support from Carbon & Energy Manager.	TM/GD	TBC
451	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Action	TM to link with the Students Union (TW and MS) to assess the options for plant-based pop-ups with the Students Union.	TM/MS	TBC
452	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Discussion	Charlotte Solmon (PSPU) brings the 2025 QS sustainability scores. The QS Sustainability ranking is standalone but feeds into world university ranking. In 2025, we ranked 121st, dropping 40 places since 2024. However, this is still a good achievement, and our scores increased in 5 out of 9 performance lenses, with minor decreases in the other 4.		
453	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Discussion	Looking into the 3 pillars of sustainability performance, Environmental Impact scores slightly lower than UK top 200 average. Within Environmental impact, Environmental Sustainability is our lowest scoring section.		
454	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Discussion	Multiple sources of data contribute to our overall sustainability ranking, with 13% of our score deriving from our evidence submission, and other sources including Academic reputation survey, Elsevier citation data, and Alumni impact. Detailed performance data is not openly available at metric level, which makes it difficult to focus on areas for improvement.		
455	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Discussion	Suggestions to maximise our submission: Making evidence more easily accessible on the webpages (i.e. Collating information that we submit into one place and making clearer links from SPECIFIC to UG provision and PG supervision).		
456	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Discussion	Longer term improvements to be made via increasing survey nominations/responses from specific subjects, and growing Swansea University staff perception of sustainability.		

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457	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Discussion	We could also explore opportunities in SCOPUS for mapping SDGs against research outputs, and ensuring terminology is consistent across our outputs and webpages with league table requirements.		
458	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Discussion	DW mentions micro-credential courses freely available that we could tag somewhere on the webpages.		
459	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Action	KH to look at sustainability webpages, and where we can house/streamline QS submission information.	KH	15/04/2025
460	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Action	KH and TM to look into relevant micro-credential courses and where we can publish these online to contribute to league tables.	KH/TM	TBC
461	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Action	KH to link with MH and CS to look into how to get information relating to research outputs, curriculum reform, UN PRME, and graduate attributes onto the webpages (linking to SDG webpage profiles).	KH/MH/CS	TBC
462	3.3 QS Sustainability results	Action	IW and FD to look into how sustainability could be added into Module template updates for increased visibility.	IW/FD	TBC
463	3.4 Student National Sustainability Survey (SOS-UK)	Action	KH to circulate the results of the SOS-UK Student Sustainability Survey to the committee, marketing teams, and SEA.	KH	TBC
464	3.5 Net Zero funded projects 25/26	Discussion	Net Zero projects updates: £12m funding from Welsh government (Salix and Medr) on a low interest loan. Key actions to utilise this include Energy Centre decarbonisation (by the end of 26/27), connecting more buildings to the District Heat Network, building infrastructure and ventilation in faraday (ASHP). The projection is that this will make the network 3x more efficient.		
465	3.5 Net Zero funded projects 25/26	Discussion	There are also 20 new EV chargers, currently only on Singleton. MP asks if we are looking into e-bike chargers to reduce in-office charging that is a H&S risk and consumes excess energy.		
466	3.5 Net Zero funded projects 25/26	Discussion	There is additional work ongoing for SBSP, with decarbonisation opportunities identified, regardless of land ownership and potential for external funding. This would reduce mostly Scope 1 and 2 emissions, although in the case of third party ownership, it would reduce Scope 3.		
467	3.5.1 ULEV changes to parking permits	Discussion	The current parking permit has 30% discount based on a vehicle emissions threshold of <120g/km. It is proposed that the new university Ultra Low Emission vehicle (ULEV) threshold is <75g/km aligning to 2019 government classification.		
468	3.5.1 ULEV changes to parking permits	Discussion	Any additional funds generated from fewer discounts could be reinvested into other sustainable travel initiatives. Acknowledged that fewer people will now be eligible for the discount and therefore we could promote ULEV Tusker deals (university salary sacrifice scheme).		
469	3.5.1 ULEV changes to parking permits	Discussion	Group agrees to Align with government ULEV threshold of 75g/km threshold, accompanied with a push on EV/Hybrid Tusker car scheme.		
470	3.5.1 ULEV changes to parking permits	Action	TM and MH to work on a comms piece to introduce the new ULEV parking permit threshold and promote alternative options, including how to check if your vehicle is a ULEV, examples of ULEV options, and where any additional money will be spent as a result of this change.	TM/MH	TBC
471	5 - AOB	Discussion	FD brings the Library of Things concept to the group. This has already received external funding, and the current issue is where this initiative can be housed on campus. This idea was formed by the Circular Economy Society (links with SOM), and therefore a vacant room in SOM has been suggested for use.		

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472	5 - AOB	Discussion	It's noted that this will be beneficial for Student experience, with many international students on Bay Campus that wouldn't own the items proposed for the Library of Things. There is some H&S risk associated with equipment loaned out. This item has previously been taken to the Space Committee, and the paper has been reviewed since then with key issues addressed.		
474	5 - AOB	Discussion	MP and DW announce it will be their last committee meeting as they are leaving the University in April. NL thanks them for their contributions and insights.		
473	5 - AOB	Action	General support for the Library of Things, and this should be taken back to Space Committee for review with solutions based on comments.	FD	TBC

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New and Open Actions					
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320	1 - Previous minutes and Actions	Action	Explicit statements about sustainable travel options to be incorporated into the ongoing Travel Policy review. E.g. highlighting the Travel Hierarchy, and booking flights will require offsetting. 27/02/25 update: To be taken forwards with TM and SJ. Possibility to include comments on other, cheaper modes of travel (e.g. train) and state that air travel should only be if absolutely necessary.	SJ, RM	TBC
405	1 - Previous minutes and Actions	Action	IW to look into using the Food and Nutrition group to advise on the P&P sustainable food criteria and assess appetite for a plant-based outlet on campus. 27/02/25: IW has looked into this. KH to link with IW on this and integrate with P&P information.	IW	TBC
438	2.1 OGSM update	Action	DW (and/or Justin Searle) to link with TM on whether utilising the Fabian Way Amazon rainwater collection surplus may be possible.	TM	TBC
411	3.1 People & Planet League table review	Action	KH to check the figure for academic staff on fixed term contracts that was stated by People and Planet based on HESA data. 27/02/25: Data shared with the committee. IW to check whether this includes teaching fellows and whether we can influence this.	KH/IW	TBC
444	3.1 Sustainability Marketing & student experience	Action	KH to circulate the Go Green Week 2025 video with the group.	KH	10/03/2025
450	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Action	TM and GD to look into water use data and possible solutions. TM to bring this back to the committee with support from Carbon & Energy Manager.	TM/GD	TBC
451	3.2 People & Planet 2025	Action	TM to link with the Students Union (TW and MS) to assess the options for plant-based pop-ups with the Students Union.	TM/MS	TBC
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Actions Closed at this Meeting					
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329	2.1 QS World Sustainability Impact ranking 2024	Action	TM & KH to come back to the committee with specific details on an improvement plan for QS Sustainability ranking, including operations, research, teaching. 27/02/25: QS scoring breakdown brought to committee with mechanisms to improve.	TM, KH	TBC
332	2.1 QS World Sustainability Impact ranking 2024	Action	MH to use existing SDG webpages by tagging research outcomes and activity to an SDG in a webpage portal. This can link with the THE rankings.	MH	TBC
366	1 - Previous minutes and Actions	Action	Relevant Sustainability OGSM and performance to be shared at intervals in PSLT committees. 27/02/25: Closed.	GD	TBC
396	3.3 Ethical Careers Policy	Action	General support for existing SEA Ethical Careers Policy to be extended university-wide, and therefore agreed to take to SLT.	GD	TBC
406	1 - Previous minutes and Actions	Action	MH and IW to explore how to utilise Curriculum mapping results for marketing and recruitment purposes and how we can advertise this. 27/02/25: New action created for a review of webpages and content we can share to publicise this information.	MH, IW	TBC
412	3.1 People & Planet League table review	Action	KH to look into the committees relating to sustainability with student representation with support from PB and IW.	KH	TBC
417	3.2 Singleton Heating Technoeconomic report & £12m Digarbon Salix Funding	Action	KH to communicate the outcome to the committee at the end of October and link with MH in the event there is good news to share.	KH	TBC
421	3.3 Net Zero Dashboards	Action	NL to explore how remaining HEFCW funding could be used for a member of staff to complete the carbon emission dashboards (TM to send funding information to NL). 27/02/25: TM update: Permission/support required to receive data from BMS to PowerBi before allocating resource to complete dashboards efficiently.	NL, TM	TBC
425	3.4 Climate and Carbon bespoke E-Learning launch	Action	KH to send the link to the canvas course for Carbon Literacy E-learning and call for feedback on the course.	KH	TBC
426	3.4 Climate and Carbon bespoke E-Learning launch	Action	TM and KH to work with MH on comms to advertise the Carbon Literacy E-learning to staff.	KH, TM, MH	TBC
428	3.5 Committee membership	Action	DW to investigate a possible replacement for the committee in Jenny Bakers absence. 27/02/25: Closed. DW suggests Justin Searle as a committee member.	DW	TBC