



Energy and Environment Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday 7th March 2024, 10:00 until 12:00

UKCRIC Boardroom, 2nd Floor, The George Solt Building

Attendees	
Chris Fogwill (CF)	Pro-Vice-Chancellor, SWEE
Phil Longhurst (PL)	Director of Partnerships & Professor of Environment and Energy Technology
John Street (JS)	Director of Facilities
Gareth Ellis (GE)	Head of Energy and Environment
Becky Wishart (BW)	Environment Officer
Stewart Elsmore (SE)	Director of Campus Services
David Ford (DF)	Director of Information Technology
Ginny Ford (GF)	Environment Advisor
Ceri Dawson (CD)	Energy Advisor
Christine Thompson (CT)	Corporate Planning Director
David Healey (DH)	Smart Grid Solutions
Tania Rice (TR)	Minutes
Apologies	
Geoff Say (GS)	Director of Finance and Operations, CDS
Ian Sibbald (IS)	University Director of Finance
Rosina Watson (RW)	Associate Professor in Sustainability
Kate Biggs (KB)	Environment Officer
Kim Del Gaze (KDG)	Student Green Officer

Item	Action / Approval
<p>1</p> <p>Minutes from previous meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the 23rd October 2023 meeting were approved.</p>	Information only
<p>2</p> <p>Items for approval</p> <p>Energy review – The review has made it clearer what the risks are so that actions can be defined. It must be noted that there is a lack of resilience in the team which has hampered delivery of EnMS related activities to date, and which is expected to result in a knowledge gap and a complete gap in staff resource to deliver EnMS related activities this year. Both short and long-term actions have been identified to address this. The review brings together progress made so far, a lot has been achieved to date however there is more work to do to improve energy efficiency across the campus. Improving meter monitoring and reducing manual monitoring it key. There is a need to continue with behavioural changes. It is agreed that there is a resource issue with the mechanical engineering team that deal</p>	<p>ACTION 070324.1 – CD to amend the note regarding resource issues for the biomass boiler. Once amendment made the committee are happy to approve the review and the recommendations therein...</p>

	<p>with the biomass boiler, however it is also noted that there are issues with the biomass boiler itself that need to be addressed.</p> <p>Energy Plan – There has been real progress with gas efficiency on the residential side of campus with small gains on the technical side as well. There is more progress required on electricity efficiency. CD ran through the objectives and actions. Work is well underway, buildings are being balanced and the valve issues are being rectified.</p> <p>Carbon Plan – GE reported that a £7.8m PSDS grant has been secured to install a large Ground Source Heat Pump. A large number of 200 metre deep bore holes will be installed on the airfield. The PSDS grants will make a big reduction in our carbon by 2027/28. GE gave an overview of the action plan.</p>	<p>ACTION 070324.2 – CD to add in ‘by when dates’ on action plan. Once amendment made the committee are happy to approve the plan.</p> <p>APPROVED – Committee gave approval for this plan.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Items for discussion</p> <p>Smart Local Energy Systems (SLES) – DH provided an update on the work the University has been doing with Amberside / Steer Group on SLES.</p> <p>Sustainable Business Travel Policy update – CT reported that This is still work in progress as it needs suitable input from Procurement in particular relating to booking travel. Conversations are taking place with John Newcombe.</p> <p>Biodiversity Net Gain update – GF gave an update on the strategy, advising what the strategy means for Cranfield. CF advised that Jim Harris and Simon Jude might have some of the baseline data required from the Living Lab work across campus.</p>	<p>ACTION 070324.3 – TR to share slides presented by DH and full SLES report with EEC.</p> <p>ACTION 070324.4 – CT to tidy up the current draft plan to share with CF.</p> <p>ACTION 070324.5 – All agreed that the baseline study proposed is the right approach. GF to reach out to Jim Harris and Simon Jude about BNG baseline data requirements.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Items for information</p> <p>EMS update report – GF gave an update on the incidents and Fol requests that have been reported since the last meeting. In relation to the incidents, the first incident (fuel in drainage ditch) was not the responsibility of the University however the University did take action. The second incident (fuel leaking) was dealt with by the tenant. Upcoming Audit dates were also reported.</p> <p>Update on Impact rankings and other awards – CT reported that the THE Impact Ranking was submitted in November 2023 with two additional SDGs included. The outcome is expected in June 2024. In summary, data was submitted for: SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production), SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions), SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals). QS Sustainability Ranking, CT reported that the University is now eligible. Data is currently being collected, closing date is 15th April with the outcome expected to be published on 3rd December 2024.</p>	<p>ACTION 070324.6 – GF and CD to ensure audit dates are put in diaries as appropriate.</p>

	<p>People and Planet – CT reported that Cranfield University has shot up 26 places in the 2023/24 People & Planet’s University League, firmly positioning us within the 2.1 category. We currently rank 40th with a total score of 57.9% - a significant step-up from the score of 44.5% (67th in the 2:2 category) in 2022/2023. This demonstrates our commitment to continuous improvement in environmental management, and our Corporate Plan vision ‘To be valued globally for tackling the real world issues of today to deliver a sustainable future.’</p> <p>Sustainability badge – Part of new brand, Cranfield Enhance. A suite of badges open to staff and students awarded in recognition of successful completion of activities associated with environmental sustainability:</p> <p>Sustainability Knowledge Exchange – Attend speaker series, sustainability workshops, green week and write a reflection Exploring Sustainable Future Game Badge – Play a session and complete a survey Green Team Badge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bronze – Completion of Canvas module ‘Environmental Awareness induction module’ - Silver – Green Team member - Gold – Green Team leader <p>A Canvas site is being created for this programme.</p>	
5	<p>AOB</p> <p>Nothing to note under AOB</p>	
6	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Monday 10th June 2024 – UKCRIC Boardroom</p>	