



Energy and Environment Committee Meeting Minutes


Tuesday 25th March 2025, 14:00 until 15:30

Hybrid/UKCRIC Boardroom, 2nd Floor, The George Solt Building

Attendees	
Ian Sibbald (IS)	University Director of Finance
Phil Longhurst (PL)	Professor and Director of Theme for Transport and Energy
John Street (JS)	Director of Facilities
Gareth Ellis (GE)	Head of Energy and Environment
Becky Wishart (BW)	Environment Officer/minutes
David Ford (DF)	Director of Information Technology (now retired)
Ceri Dawson (CD)	Energy Advisor
Stewart Elsmore (SE)	Director of Campus Services
Geoff Say (GS)	Director of Finance and Operations, CDS
Ginny Ford (GF)	Environment Advisor
Apologies	
Christine Thompson (CT)	Corporate Planning Director (now retired)
Rosina Watson (RW)	Associate Professor in Sustainability
Shivnarain Ravichandran (SR)	Student Green Officer- (replacement needed)
Kate Biggs (KB)	Environment Officer

Item		Action / Approval
1	Minutes from previous meeting The minutes of the meeting that took place on the 22.10.24 were approved.	Information only
2	Items for approval Energy Management Review CD presented the key findings of the Energy Management Review to the committee. Two new issues have been identified which can impact the EnMS: Financial pressures and Organisational restructure – change in space utilisation and staffing. A number of previously listed issues have been updated. Key messages highlighted: There has been increased support for energy saving on campus (largely driven by financial pressures). There is a need to improve resilience of energy infrastructure to prevent outages. There is a need for improved	

	<p>communication between FEAS and E&E team. Ongoing issues with BMS, metering and lack of staff resources are weaknesses and more investment is needed. Energy Management Review is approved.</p> <p>Energy Plan CD updated that significant progress has been made in building energy saving, largely through work on HVAC systems and behaviour change. A list of key actions was presented for the coming year, along with details of resource required. GE needs to update the tables as some information not accurate. PL suggested that estimated cost savings linked to building energy reduction are presented to the University. A discussion was had on how this might be presented given that unit rate changes with time. One possible way of doing this would be to present historical usage and current usage at the current unit rate. IS asked if savings made by consolidation of spaces could also be presented in future? Energy plan is approved.</p> <p>Carbon Plan GE presented the updated Carbon Plan. Updated that the university is no longer eligible for PSDS funding grant, so needs to seek alternatives. Potential to connect with Brogborough 40MW solar farm and landfill gas electricity to lower carbon emissions. PL mentioned that the calorific value of the landfill gas and volume of gas available from the site will reduce with time. Carbon Plan approved with amendments to column titles needed.</p> <p>GE has updated that tree planting on campus and College Wood at Silsoe has commenced and is ongoing as a carbon sequestration project.</p> <p>Water Policy and Water Management Plan Water Policy document reviewed and approved.</p> <p>CD updated the committee on the Water Management Plan- Several leaks have been detected and resolved on the smaller fiscal supplies. There have been several large leaks on the District Heating system. Leak detection equipment has been successfully trialled on the DH system. There is a need for a monitoring strategy to check both the DH and main potable water distribution network for leaks on a regular basis. AMR needs improving. Water Management Plan approved.</p>	<p>Action: CD- make amendments to tables in Energy Plan and publish.</p> <p>Action: GE to seek alternative funding to PSDS and connection with Brogborough solar farm</p> <p>Action GE to amend table columns for Carbon Plan and publish.</p> <p>Action: CD to publish Water Plan and Policy</p>
3	<p>Items for discussion</p> <p>Sustainability Committee proposal</p>	

<p>GE updated the group that due to Christine Thompson (CT) retiring, himself and BW are taking on the administration of the THE Impact rankings and QS sustainability Rankings. To help aid this, it has been proposed that EEC becomes the 'Sustainability Committee' which would encompass the social side of sustainability and relate better to the Sustainable Development Goals. EEC is keen and supports this move, but needs a TOR. It was also raised whether this is a good use of time and further thought is needed. Could this be a strategic committee meeting instead or could potentially become a working group which meets once a year.</p> <p>PL mentioned THE Impact rankings metrics are very powerful-mentioned that a recent meeting of King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals funded by the UK Gulf Strategy Fund in early Feb, attended by 4x UK universities, and 3x Saudi universities. In the Dean's presentation he said that KFUPM's highest priority was the 17th SDG and noted that Cranfield was 6th in the world rankings.</p>	<p>Action: GE to explore further and draft a TOR if appropriate</p>
<p>4 Items for information</p> <p>Sustainability Reporting In CT absence and imminent retirement, BW updated the group on the handover notes. CT has already submitted for the QS Sustainability rankings for this year, but GE and BW will take on THE Impact ranking for this year. Deadline to apply is 11 November 2025 but work to gather information needs to commence from September.</p> <p>A decision will need to be made about which SDGs to submit – new, additional ones take a lot more work.</p> <p>Last year we submitted to (6 and 12 were new):</p> 	<p>Action: EEC to decide on what SDG to go forward with for THE Impact rankings during next meetings</p>

	<table><tr><th>Value</th><th>World Rank (Last Year)</th></tr><tr><td>SDG17: Partnership for the Goals</td><td>6 (32)</td></tr><tr><td>SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth</td><td>=43 (=81)</td></tr><tr><td>SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production</td><td>101-200</td></tr><tr><td>SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation</td><td>89</td></tr><tr><td>SDG16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions</td><td>201-300 (101-200)</td></tr><tr><td>SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure</td><td>201-300 (210-300)</td></tr><tr><td>SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy</td><td>201-300 (210-300)</td></tr></table> <p>It was recommended that SDG 13 – Climate Action and 15 – Life on land could make good additional goals. Whereas, SDG 16 – Peace justice and strong institutions; and 7 – Affordable and clean energy could be dropped.</p> <p>Jon Walker and his team have agreed to do the required annual report for the web site.</p> <p>Sustainability Badges</p> <p>BW has worked closely with VL team to create ‘Green Team’ badges as part of the Cranfield Enhance scheme. These are currently ongoing and have yet to be published. Once ready, these need a promotion and push from student experience and academics.</p>	Value	World Rank (Last Year)	SDG17: Partnership for the Goals	6 (32)	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	=43 (=81)	SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production	101-200	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	89	SDG16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	201-300 (101-200)	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	201-300 (210-300)	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	201-300 (210-300)	<p>Action: BW to publish Green Team badges with VL team with application for staff and students to apply</p>
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5	AOB																	
6	Future meeting actions and agenda points	For information																
7	Date of next meeting 03.06.25- 09.30	For information																