

Minutes of the Board for Energy and Environment

Date: Tuesday 8 June 2021 @ 14:00-15:30

By MS Teams

Attendees:

Phil Hart Director of Energy & Power Theme
 Ian Sibbald Director of Finance, Acting Chair

John Street Director of Facilities

Geoff Say Director of Finance and Operations, CDS

Gio Lusignani
 Gareth Ellis
 Director of Information Services
 Energy and Environment Manager

Angus Murchie Energy AdvisorBecky Shepherd Environment Officer

Rosina Watson
 Senior Lecturer in Sustainability

Niall Marsay
 Student representative

Jackie Whelan Board Secretary / Minute taker

	Item	Action
1.	The apologies were noted for Stewart Elsmore - Director of Campus Services, and Kate Biggs - Environment Officer	
2.	 Minutes from previous meeting, 9 March 2021 were reviewed and approved. NM to keep up the good work in communicating with the students. NM to contact BS and GE. GF has circulated the environmental aspects register and received comments. The register can now be considered approved. IS to speak to Julie and Gregor to request a slot on a future SMT agenda. (c/f) The statement regarding working with Fossil Fuel companies to help them decarbonise will be uploaded to the website and intranet. GE to circulate the link and discuss further with NM. 	NM GF IS GE & NM
3.	 ISO 14001& ISO 50001 Update: Audit, Comms, Progress (the notes for this item were circulated prior to the meeting) The BSI ISO 14001 surveillance audit went very well. One non-conformity was raised relating to ensuring emergency procedures such as spill response are regularly tested. The next ISO 50001 audit will be 15th – 17th June. AM circulating a timetable on Friday. There will be a site walkaround with GE on Tuesday to see large items of equipment. Wed & Thurs Teams meetings. AM to send dates & times to JW. Kick-off meeting JS, PH to attend + wrap up meeting. 	Info only

	The Display Energy Certificate (DEC) AIRC audit evidence has been sent in to Elmhurst. The result is awaited.	Info only
	 Water & Sewage: the Sewage Treatment Works are being upgraded to manage extra effluent from the new accommodation (500 extra students) Biodiversity: Tree planting for the "Forest Offset" associated with the new 	Info only
	residential halls has been delayed until the tree planting season. A number of rare and protected species have been noted on campus including several red list bird species, hedgehogs, and the grizzled skipper butterfly. E&E team are investigating more information on where these are breeding and preferred habitats so we can protect from disturbance and enhance in line with our upcoming target of biodiversity net gain. Biodiversity on campus is promoted through social media channels but could be further promoted by onsite signage and staff/student involvement. • GL is working on an App for MK:U which could be brought out next year for CU • There have been a number of examples where academic projects being developed on site don't communicate about their potential impacts early enough. GF and AM have been working with RIO to ensure necessary information is gathered early using form B3.1. Facilities are developing a more general procedure which would capture projects not covered by form	Info only
	B3.1 (Paul Bradley leading). GE/GF to ensure this takes into account environmental impacts, including impacts on vegetation during bird nesting season.	
	PSDS2 Grant (the notes for this item were circulated prior to the meeting)	
4.	 There was discussion about the PSDS2 grant which has recently been won for £5 Million worth of energy improvements including the replacement of a District Heating gas boiler with a heat pump. It will also include an upgrading of the building management controls, LED lighting and extension to the solar farm and 1 MW battery, reducing carbon footprint by 10%. It must be installed and paid for by 31st March next year. Funds have been approved. It was queried whether the heat from the data centre can be used. GE to 	Info only
	 discuss with Dr Jerry Luo. BEIS have stated that they are planning similar grants for next year. GE to develop further ideas and undertake necessary studies for future grant applications. 	GE
	EMS Management review (the notes for this item were circulated prior to the meeting)	
5.	 At the last EMS management review in October 2020 a number of recommendations and priorities came out of the report and were agreed by BEE. A summary of progress was presented. There was a discussion around the key priority - A fundamental budget review of what is required to meet the new targets. This will form part of the developing environmental strategy which needs to reflect on resources as well as governance and work streams (See Item 7) 	Info only
	Sustainable Development Goals update (the notes for this item were circulated prior to the meeting)	
6.	 BS confirmed that the EAUC online questionnaire outlining our current contribution to SDGs has been completed. BS & GE created a table and reached a relevancy score which raised a number of questions. There was a discussion about what do we do about 	Info only

	 reporting our sustainability performance? How do we gather the data and our impact on teaching? What data do we collect? It was agreed there is a need to be working together for the pan university and to stand out globally, using for example the Times High Impact Ranking NM suggested incorporating a questionnaire during the initial induction for researchers (how will this research impact SDGs? how does it contribute?). This would need to be approved and be able to capture every project (MSc, PhD, module based)? The question was raised if a smaller team should investigate, involved with sustainability not just reporting. RW, GF, GE to discuss in another meeting. BS to arrange a meeting. 	Info only Info only BS
	New objectives and targets – timeline for strategy development (the notes for this item were circulated prior to the meeting)	
7.	 The Council signed off targets last year as long as a detailed plan was established by Autumn 2021. This plan is now being developed so that it can be agreed by BEE, consulted on by staff and students, signed off by BEE in September and then presented to Executive and Council in October. There is scope to offset student travel, but it was questioned how to capture the data. There needs to be a 75% reduction by 2030. GE to draft together a strategy and circulate. Feedback can be sent to GE. All to consider which scope 3 emissions to focus on before the next meeting. GE to circulate in July for a couple of weeks review and take to wider consultation by September. Scope 1 & 2 emissions are included from airport. They could include fuel from airport. It was suggested to introduce a carbon tax with a ten-year timeframe. 	Info only Info only Info only GE All GE Info only
	AOB:	
8.	 RW - PRME report to be circulated via LinkedIn & Tweets. Students are writing blogs. GL - Ecosia web browser is on new devices - corporate comms to assist. NM - There has been complaints about the construction noise outside Chilver Hall. The contractors have been made aware. NM - proposed for an electric car to be provided on campus for students to use. It will cost £6000 per year for 3 years via a lease from Cocar. The idea is to reduce car purchases. NS to find out if there is any funding / grants and prove the schemes viability. NM to provide a proposal and IS to review. A charging point for 2 fast chargers and 2 for maintenance vans will be required. NM to send BS details. NM is organising a student conference for COP26 climate change - all students and will involve the Green Team. NM to send details. RW to connect with NM. SoM & SWEE are developing a Sustainability Apprenticeship course. Validation panel 22nd March. The course will be delivered online but incorporate an annual physical event planned for March 2-4, to include a campus / innovation tour. What do we want them to get them involved in for marketing and fulfil objectives? Contact RW directly with any ideas. Sustainability professionals across network. Push to EDIE network? **PH to investigate with EDIE contacts 	Info only Info only Info only NM / IS NM / RW All/RW PH
9.	Date of next meeting: 16 September 2021, 14:00-15:30	