



University of Essex



Sustainability Sub-Strategy Bitesize

Priority 2: Scope 3 Carbon Emissions

Authors:	Sustainability
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Introduction

Our Sustainability Sub-Strategy outlines our commitment to acting in response to the climate and ecological emergency, while supporting the University's mission of excellence in education and research, for the benefit of individuals and communities.

Priority 2: Scope 3 Carbon Emissions

Tracking and analysing our scope 3 emissions has not historically been an area of focus. However, these emissions are critical and represent the greatest proportion of our overall carbon footprint and offer a significant opportunity for our community to contribute to their reduction through their actions. We will embark on an ambitious approach to defining and recording our scope 3 emissions, set a date when we will aim to reach net zero and start delivering measures that will achieve progress.

Objective: Define, measure and reduce our core scope 3 emissions

- Working with internal and external experts we will define which scope 3 emissions will be tracked, measured and regularly reported on. Through analysis of our scope 3 emissions baseline and how it contributes to our overall carbon emissions, we will set an ambitious yet realistic target to bring this down to net zero.
- Our community and partners will understand the vital role they play and contribution they can make reducing waste, minimize air travel, and by embracing agile ways of working reduce unnecessary commuting, and where commuting is necessary be encouraged to use active travel.

Key Performance Indicators

KPI 3: Scope 3 emissions data defined, collected and reported on an annual basis and by 2022 have an agreed date to aim to achieve Scope 3 net zero carbon emissions (2050 minimum legally required)

KPI 4: By 2023 scope 3 emissions reduction actions included in Carbon Management Plan

Action Plan

Type	Year	ID	Objectives and deliverables	Objective Owner
Priority 2		Scope 3 carbon emissions		
Aim			Define, track and reduce our scope 3 emission	
Objective		SSS04	Define scope 3 emissions to collect data on	
Deliverable	2021/22	SSS04.1	Using internal and external expertise, create a clear plan setting out the activity areas scope 3 emissions will be collected on	Head of SAG
Objective		SSS05	Measure and report on our scope 3 emissions	
Deliverable	2022/23	SSS05.1	Measure and report on an annual basis all defined scope 3 emissions and present findings in a formal report	Sustainability Analyst
Objective		SSS06	Set scope 3 emissions reduction target and plan, to reduce emissions to zero	
Deliverable	2021/22	SSS06.1	Using internal and external expertise, define a firm date we aim to reach net zero scope 3 carbon emissions	Head of SAG
Deliverable	2022/23	SSS06.2	Develop and incorporate Scope 3 emissions included in CMP covering: Waste (including construction), water, procurement, staff and student business trips, commuting to the university on a daily basis, carbon emissions associated with the travel between student's homes and the university at the start and end of term	Head of SAG
Objective		SSS07	Enable our community and partners to contribute to reducing our scope 3 emissions	
Deliverable	2022/23	SSS07.1	Develop and implement a behavioural change communication and engagement plan to educate our community on the vital role they need to play in reducing scope 3 emissions	Sustainability Manager