LSE is strongly committed to environmental sustainability, and it is a key principle of both our Strategic Plan and Ethics Code.

Acknowledging the Clean Growth Strategy proposed by the Government, and conscious of the new development of our activities and estate portfolio, we undertook a review of our 2010 Carbon Management Plan.

A new target of 34% carbon emission reduction by 2025 from the 2005-06 baseline was consequently adopted.

LSE has made good progress towards this target.
Baseline data:
LSE total footprint (scope 1 and 2) for the baseline 2005-06 was 13,170 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO$_2$e).

Current footprint:
LSE carbon footprint for the most recent academic year 2017-18 was 8,750 tCO$_2$e. This represents a 33% decrease from the 2005 baseline.

2017-18 carbon footprint decrease is mainly the result of the School RE:FIT programme, an energy saving programme supported by the Mayor of London. The decarbonisation of the grid also contributed to the decrease.

Carbon Emissions (tCO$_2$e):
We completed Tranches 1 and 2 of RE:FIT. Working with Bouygues, we invested £4 million in energy conservation measures such as energy efficient lighting, boilers, photovoltaic panels and improved building controls. The measures helped LSE to reduce its carbon footprint by 8%. It also helped us achieve maintenance savings and increase our building efficiency.

We have developed a Tranche 3 of RE:FIT and invested another £0.5 million in the first part of the project. The second part is currently being reviewed. The total project would save LSE around 240 tCO₂e.

Photovoltaic panels and Combined Heat and Power units continue to produce energy for our estate, saving 336 megawatt-hour of electricity and 95 tCO₂e in 2017-18. This is enough to power St Clement’s for a year.

Thanks to these projects, we have significantly reduced the carbon intensity of our estate: in 2017-18 we produced only 46 kilogrammes of CO₂e per of square meter, a 39% cut since 2005/06.

In 2017-18, LSE made significant progress towards its carbon reduction target.
CONTINUING PROGRESS

Guided by the Carbon Management Plan, LSE plans to further reduce its carbon footprint:

- We are working with the Greater London Authority to develop a low carbon heating strategy for our campus buildings. This includes reviewing our heat demand as well as the possible renewable heat sources available around our campus.

- We will continue improving our building environment by ensuring all new constructions and refurbishment projects have the lowest possible environmental impacts. Notable examples are the Centre Buildings Redevelopment which achieved BREEAM ‘Excellent’, and Saw Swee Hock which secured BREEAM ‘Outstanding’ in construction.

- Student and staff engagement will continue to be one of our priorities. We are expanding the University of London “Reduce the Juice” programme to cover all eight centrally managed halls of residence, targeting energy, waste and water reduction.

New Academic Building carbon emissions were reduced by 49% thanks to new controls and lighting

Lionel Robbins Building carbon emissions went down by 40% thanks to RE:FIT