



THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE

# Environmental Sustainability Report

## LSE 2015/16



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# Foreword by the Director

LSE was founded “for the betterment of society” in 1895 and it continues to be our mission to share knowledge, provide critical insight into the key issues of our age, and to shape a better world. Climate change and environmental sustainability are two fundamental issues which the world faces today, and we address them through our research, teaching, public engagement and our own campus operations.

This report highlights our environmental performance over the year 2015/16, and sets out our plans for future progress. I am pleased to see that the School continues to go from strength to strength, embedding environmental sustainability into every area of its activities.

As the impacts of Brexit and the US election take shape, we look ahead at the challenges of climate change and recognise the important role of education in advancing sustainable development. LSE research continues to lead international thought on climate change, green growth, international development, well-being and other issues. We continuously look for further opportunities for our students to study and engage with sustainability issues, as we equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to become responsible global citizens. Meanwhile we manage our own estate and operations to minimise carbon emissions and resource consumption.

We look forward to the year ahead, and hope that our own actions at the School will inspire others throughout the education sector and beyond, contributing to further debate and action for social and environmental change.



**Julia Black**  
Interim Director, LSE



# Executive Summary

This report highlights sustainability developments and achievements in the 2015/16 academic year. It is aimed at LSE students, staff and alumni, as well as interested members of the public. The report covers four key areas:

- 1** Leadership and governance (our processes for converting top-level support for sustainability into tangible action).
- 2** Campus operations (energy usage of our buildings, recycling rates, etc).
- 3** Teaching and research (case studies of research and teaching on sustainability).
- 4** Engagement and community (how we collaborate on sustainability initiatives with students and staff, and spark debate in the wider world).

Highlights from 2015/16 are shown on the opposite page.

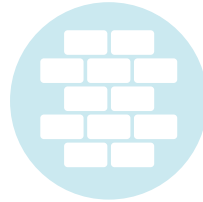
## Highlights from 2015/16



**16.8 per cent decrease** in carbon emissions compared with 2005/06 baseline



**Zero** waste sent to landfill



**RICS Ska "Gold"** for LSE LIFE refurbishment



**14th** in the People & Planet University League



**Two Star – Excellent** rating from the Sustainable Restaurant Association



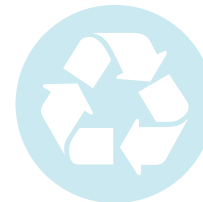
**£2.9 million** of new contracts which incorporate sustainability considerations



**8 per cent** carbon reductions projected from 62 retrofitting projects



**94** jars of honey produced by LSE bees



**90,000** estimated disposable cups avoided by sale of reusable mugs



**266** Green Impact actions completed by staff

## Targets:

- **Deliver and maintain ISO 14001 standard.**
- **Deliver and maintain ISO 50001 standard.**



## Leadership and Governance

We embrace sustainability at every level of LSE – from the top of the School, where sustainability is a key commitment of LSE’s 2020 Strategy and Ethics Code – down to the day-to-day working life of the institution. The Sustainability Team in the Estates Division coordinate efforts to improve our environmental impacts, but these depend on the continuous cooperation and hard work of all 10,140 students and 2,470 staff. This is demonstrated in the diagram on page 6 which shows our environmental reporting structure.

Our Environmental Sustainability Policy is put into practice through an Environmental Management System (EMS) which strategically manages, monitors, and improves each of our environmental impacts. Since 2012,

the EMS has been certified to the internationally recognised ISO 14001 standard.

Our Energy Management System puts enhanced energy management processes in place to maximise energy efficiency, and cut carbon and costs. It received recertification of ISO 50001 in May 2016.

### Future goals:

- Achieve recertification of ISO 50001 and ISO 14001 (transitioning to the 2015 version of the standard) in June 2017.
- Continue to monitor and report on sustainability targets, and audit the performance of the Environmental and Energy Management Systems to ensure continual improvement.

## Key impacts, opportunities and risks

LSE's key sustainability impacts (both positive and negative) are shown in the chapter headings of this report. Our teaching, research and community engagement represent our strongest positive impacts on society and the environment; meanwhile, we manage our operations responsibly to minimise the negative impacts of our carbon footprint, supply chain, waste and other issues.




One of our key environmental risks is that our growing estate leads to a rise in carbon emissions – however, we are seizing this as an opportunity to create outstanding and sustainable buildings. We also constantly review new technological opportunities, such as low-energy IT, lighting, and heating equipment.

## Our stakeholders

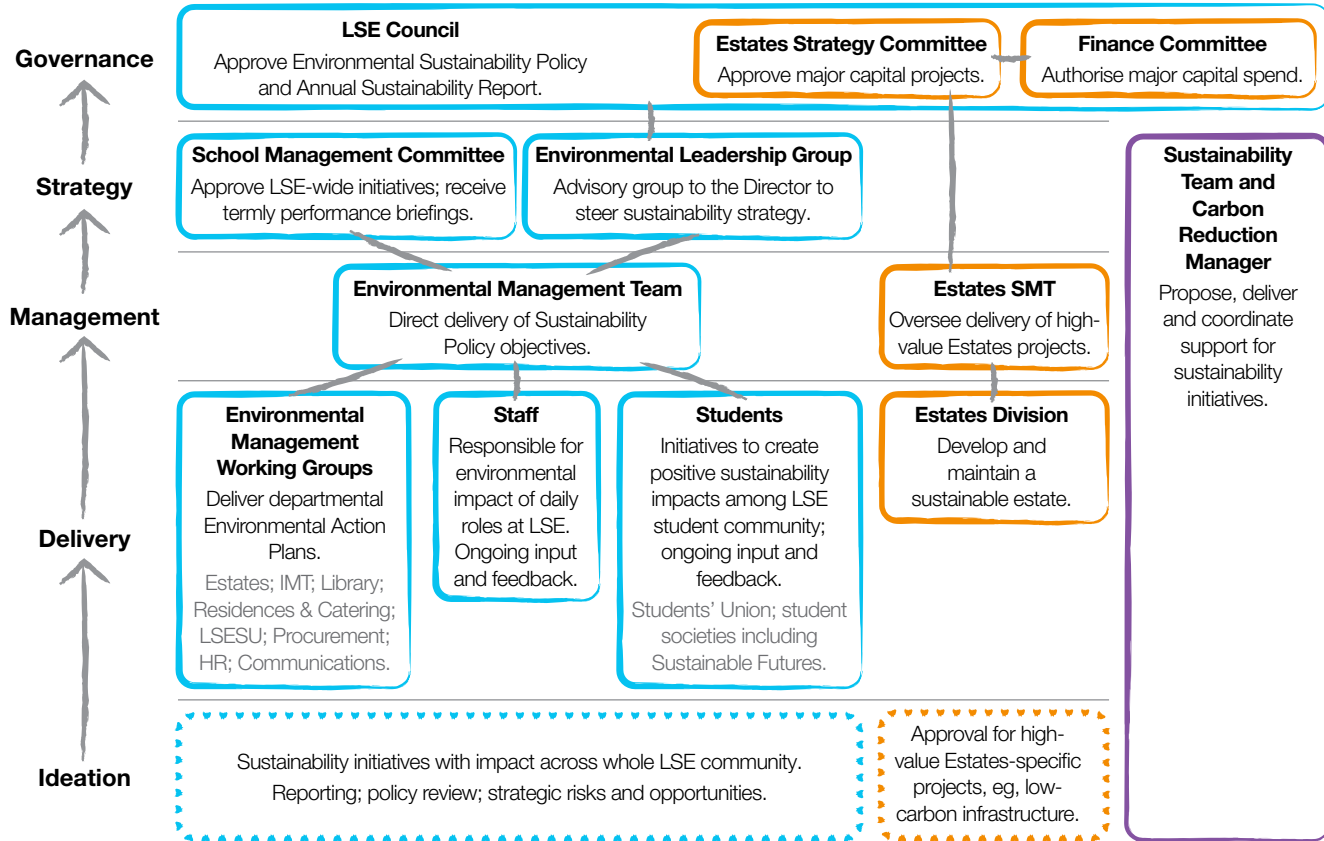
To ensure that we prioritise the right issues and make robust decisions, we work closely with our students and the Students' Union, our staff, LSE alumni, neighbouring businesses, the local community, and sector bodies, in order to take on board their views and expert advice, and to exchange ideas.

## Delivery of targets

LSE's sustainability activities are led by our Environmental Sustainability Policy, whose objectives are delivered through targets set annually in our Environmental Action Plan. This report details performance against these KPIs. The “targets” panel throughout the report show the status of these targets:

-  **Completed, or successfully ongoing.**
-  **In progress, and on track for successful completion.**
-  **Not complete, or not on track for successful delivery.**

# How do we make decisions about environmental sustainability?





# Estate and Operations

The daily operations of LSE have a significant environmental impact and we recognise that we have a responsibility to manage these impacts, and create positive environmental change where possible.

In order to do so, we proactively work to reduce our resource consumption, ensure our buildings have the lowest possible environmental impact and promote sustainability through our responsibly-sourced products and services.



## Energy and Carbon

### Progress and Initiatives:

- Our carbon footprint for 2015/16 was 10,953 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e, which represents a 16.8 per cent decrease in carbon emissions compared to our 2005/06 baseline. This was largely the result of installing 62 low-energy retrofitting projects via RE:FIT, the Mayor of London's carbon reduction programme, along with external factors such as the mild weather, the decant from the ex-Centre Buildings properties and the decarbonisation of grid electricity.

## Targets:

- **Reduce energy intensity from 201 kWh per m<sup>2</sup> of campus space (GIA) by 2020.**
- **Reduce emissions by eight per cent through RE:FIT programme (tranche 1).**



## 8 Environmental Sustainability Report

- Tranche 1 of our RE:FIT programme was completed in 2016. Working with Bouygues, the School invested £2 million in energy conservation measures such as energy efficient lighting, photovoltaic panels and improved building controls. These measures will result in a carbon reduction of eight per cent against a 2011 baseline. An independent report measuring the savings achieved will be published in August 2017.
- Our carbon intensity – a measure of efficiency – was 57.6 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per m<sup>2</sup>, a 24 per cent cut since 2005/06. Based on the 2014/15 Higher Education sector carbon intensity, this figure would have placed LSE as the 27th best Institution in the UK and 4th in London.
- Our total energy consumption for 2015/16 was 36,459,000 kWh, which is a nine per cent decrease from 2014/15, and a 7.7 per cent decrease against our 2005/06 baseline. Our energy intensity was 191 kWh per m<sup>2</sup> of estate space.
- We have rolled out software to automatically shut down all computers in student PC rooms. This represents around one third of PCs on campus, approximately 1,500 computers, which will save around 180,000 kWh per year.
- We achieved the Camden Climate Change Alliance award for reducing carbon emissions year on year.

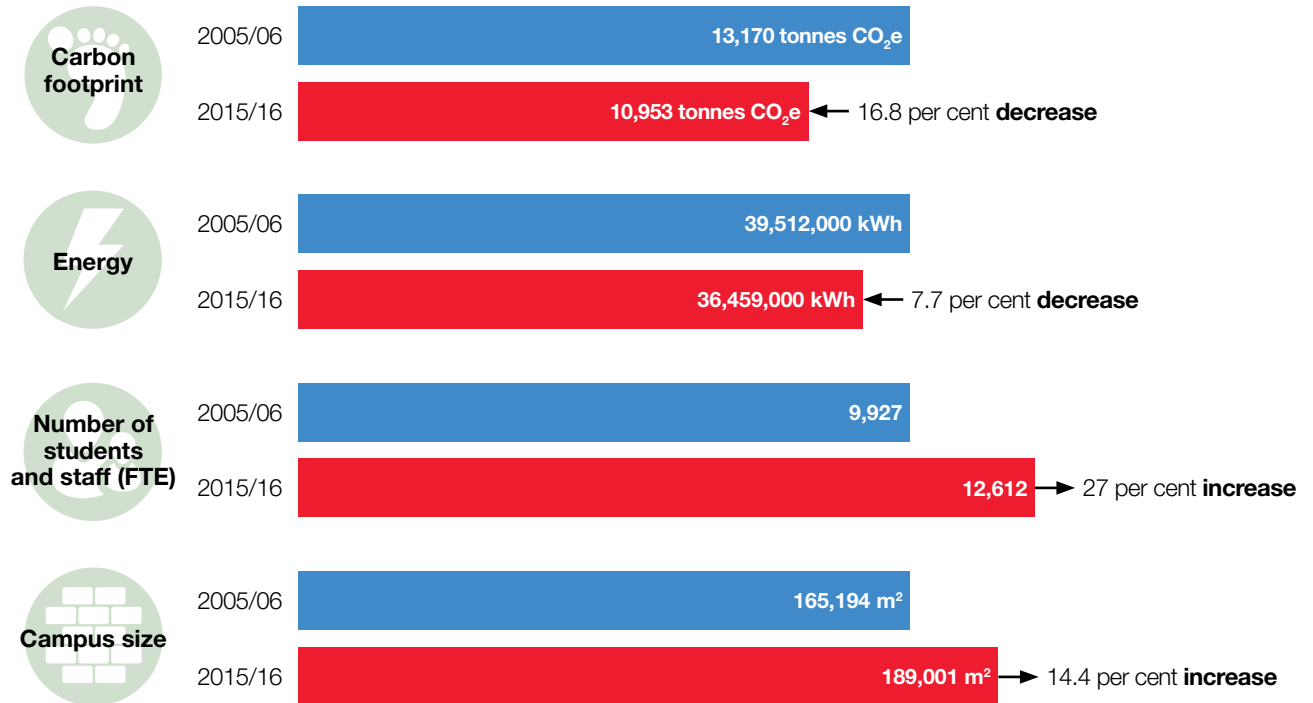
- Waste cooking oil from our catering outlets continues to be converted into biofuel to power vehicles. Across halls and campus, 3,690 litres of oil was collected, which saved around 8.5 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e in avoided petrol.

### Future goals:

- We will implement Tranche 2 of the RE:FIT program which has approved a further £2 million invested into building refurbishments such as boiler upgrades and the installation of a new type of infrared heaters. These new projects are expected to save a minimum of 292 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per annum.
- We will write code to allow staff PCs to be automatically shut down overnight.



## Our carbon emissions: 2005/06 to 2015/16



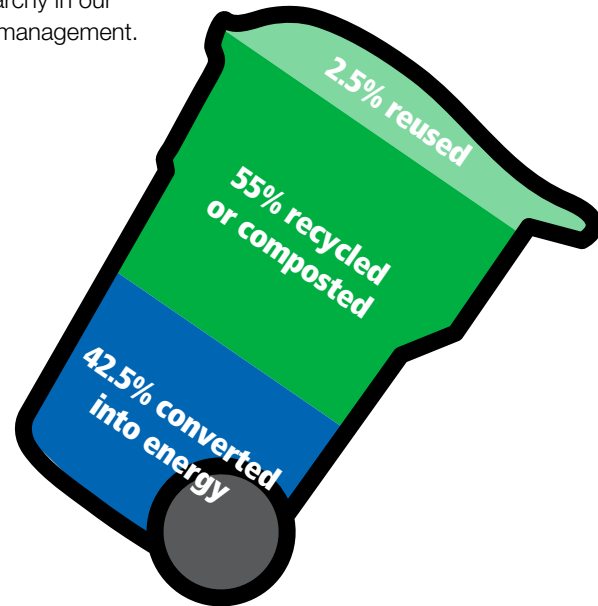
## Targets:

- **Reduce total amount of waste generated by one per cent year on year.**
- **Send zero waste to landfill.**
- **Increase recycling and composting rates.**
- **Reduce the environmental impact through the products/services the school purchases and influence staff, students and suppliers to consider more sustainable services and products.**
- **When sourcing energy, the School is committed to using “green” lower carbon options and providers where possible.**



## Waste and Resources

We disposed of 1,511 tonnes of waste from campus and residences in 2015/16 which is a seven per cent reduction from 2014/15. We employ the “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover” waste hierarchy in our waste and resource management.



**Reduce:**

- We saved around 90,000 disposable cups through the sales and use of our “Smart Mugs”. We sold 600 reusable mugs in 2015/16, a considerable increase from the 350 that were sold in 2014/15. We also introduced a 10p discount for every drink purchased in a reusable mug, encouraging our staff and students to reduce the amount of waste from paper cups.
- In 2015/16 we sold 144 refillable water bottles and we continue to promote our 64 water fountains across campus to help reduce bottled water sales. We also charge a 10p levy on all bottles of water purchased which is re-invested in environmental projects through the Sustainable Projects Fund.
- Initiatives such as our “pull-printing” system have saved 613,244 sheets of paper which would have been otherwise wasted, uncollected print-jobs. This saved the equivalent of 61 trees and £3,250 in stationery costs.
- We purchased 120 new Multi-Function Devices which replaced old printers, copiers and scanners. This reduced the number of devices in use, delivering environmental and maintenance savings.
- We reduced hand soap consumption by nine per cent as a result of our “only push once” campaign.

**Reuse:**

- Our annual “ReLove” re-use programme collected 8.3 tonnes of items donated from students moving out of halls. The FoodCycle Society in partnership with LSE Sustainability also trialled a food collection in the summer, and after a successful event was repeated in December. Collections were made from the four halls which vacate over the Christmas period, with donations going to FareShare, a charity that distributes surplus food to vulnerable communities.
- We donated three tonnes of books to Better World Books and Book Rescuers.
- The Department of Management set up “LSE Skip”, a Facebook group for members of staff to advertise and swap unwanted items. In less than a year, over 400 items have been exchanged including stationery, cutlery and even a tutu.



### Recycle:

- Recycling and composting rates were 55.4 per cent which is a 1.1 per cent increase from 2014/15.
- We far exceeded our target to send only three per cent construction waste to landfill, sending only 0.02 per cent of the 11,508 tonnes of waste which was produced. The amount of construction waste has increased due to the demolition for the Centre Building Redevelopment, creating 11,192 tonnes of construction waste.



### Recover:

- We continue to send zero waste to landfill, excluding construction waste, and instead send all non-recyclable waste to a plant that converts it into fuel pellets.

### Future goals:

- We will digitise payslips, employment contracts, holiday, sick pay, and review opportunities to digitise other paper records. This will save over 45,600 sheets of paper, £1,800 in stationery costs and 48 hours of staff time per year.
- We will streamline our multiple departmental stationery deliveries by coordinating centralised deliveries.
- We will continue to include environmental and energy performance clauses into all procurement contracts over £50,000. In 2016/17 this will include contracts for PCs and laptops, stationery, facilities management and building maintenance.
- In order to reduce waste, PC suppliers will no longer include as standard a new keyboard and mouse, as we have noticed that many users prefer to keep their previous, working equipment.

## Supply chain

### Progress and Initiatives:

- Sustainability considerations were incorporated into contracts for stationery, electricity and travel, valued at £2.9 million annually.
- We now work with a new travel management company which specialises in academic and charity travel. The system reduces paperwork both in the invoicing and claiming expenses processes. The new travel company includes CO<sub>2</sub>e calculations per journey, which supports bookers to make carbon comparisons between alternate transportation types/routes.
- We developed a Procurement Strategy and reviewed the procurement website to make it more user friendly.

- In 2015/16, we bought 95 per cent of our electricity from renewable tariffs; the remaining five per cent was not possible for logistical reasons. We have committed to source 100 per cent of our energy from renewable sources in the future, and support the NUS Emissions Impossible campaign to achieve this.

### Future goals:

- From early 2017, will play a key role in a nationwide tendering exercise to procure PCs and laptops for the public sector, and will ensure that low-energy models are specified in framework contracts.

## Targets:



**Develop and Implement a Sustainable Procurement Policy.**



**When purchasing electrical items, select those with highest efficiency ratings.**



**100 per cent green certified electrical supply.**



## Targets:

- **Liaise with suppliers to gain information regarding provenance, nutrition and welfare of their products to assist us in making more informed choices.**
- **Monitor suppliers to ensure they are certified Marine Stewardship Council approved and where possible use MSC certified fish.**
- **Promote healthy eating and raise awareness of sustainable food choices.**



## Food

### Progress and Initiatives:

- In 2016 we achieved a “Two Star – Excellent” rating from the Sustainable Restaurant Association (SRA) for our four catered halls and three central restaurants. The rating assesses 14 key areas that consider social impacts, environmental and sourcing practices. LSE is the first London university to achieve Two Stars and our score for central catering puts us in the top 20 per cent for all SRA accredited universities, alongside our score for halls catering which puts us in the top 30 per cent.
- We have eliminated all fish from our menus which are on the Marine Conservation Society’s “red” (endangered) list and we are a signatory to Sustain’s Sustainable Fish City campaign.
- Sales of Fairtrade products now account for 20.66 per cent of all Catering sales. Since June 2014 the bananas on sale in all catering outlets

are 100 per cent Fairtrade and we serve triple accredited (Fairtrade, Organic and Rainforest Alliance) coffee in our five largest outlets.

- Catering introduced a pop up food festival in 2016 which alongside the “Feel Good Food Days” raised awareness of sustainable food choices.

### Future goals:

- We will continue the work of our Fairtrade Steering Group and aim to achieve Fairtrade University status in 2016/17.
- We will introduce a new vegan range in Café 54, and review customer feedback with a view to introducing more.





## Water

### Progress and Initiatives:

- In 2015/16 we consumed 211,535 m<sup>3</sup> of water. This represents a five per cent increase against 2014/15 usage, however our total consumption of water in residences has continued to decrease.
- It was not feasible to include rainwater harvesting in the design of the new Centre Buildings, due to the building infrastructure and lack of roof space to fit water tanks.
- We have replaced some water fountains with bottle filling stations and now install these as standard, making it easier to refill water bottles.
- A Green Impact initiative to reduce water consumption in halls of residences installed shower timers in the bathrooms at Rosebery Hall. Students were encouraged to take part in the four-minute timer challenge and compete to have the shortest showers.

### Future goals:

- We will identify and implement water-saving measures through Tranche 2 of the RE:FIT programme, including the replacement of many old twist taps with new percussion taps.



## Targets:

- Establish consumption baseline for halls and campus.
- Identify opportunities for water efficiency/savings measures in halls and possible infrastructure improvements.
- Increase use of rainwater harvesting and greywater where appropriate.



## Targets:

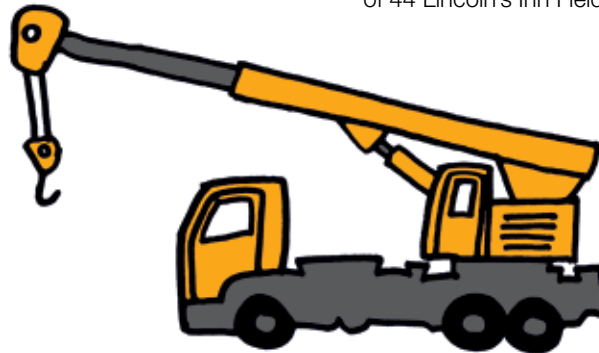
- Obtain BREEAM “Excellent” aspiring to “Outstanding” for all new-builds.
- Pilot RICS Ska rating for refurbishment projects.
- All future new builds to obtain Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of “A”.



## Buildings

### Progress and Initiatives:

- The work on the Centre Buildings Redevelopment continues, which will see a new 13-storey building and a public square in place of the four buildings which have now been demolished. The building will be powered by Combined Heat and Power boilers which will be fuelled by ethically sourced biofuel. It is on track to achieve our target of BREEAM “Excellent” (a sustainable design standard), and an “A” rated Energy Performance Certificate.



- LSE LIFE, the School’s new centre for academic, personal, and professional development, achieved a RICS Ska rating of “Gold” for its sustainable refurbishment. LSE was also the first university to be awarded “Silver” in the new Ska rating for higher education fit-outs which is a more stringent assessment of refurbishments.

### Future goals:

- We will aim to achieve a minimum of BREEAM “Excellent” rating and an “A” rated EPC in the redevelopment of 44 Lincoln’s Inn Fields.

## Transport

### Progress and Initiatives:

- A Cycling Survey report was published in 2016 which highlighted that staff and students want more secure bike parking, greater flexibility of overnight parking facilities and an enhanced communication channel between cyclists and Estates. The report also highlighted that safety of cycling is a major issue which prevents more people cycling to LSE.
- Since the report was published, we have supported the establishment of a Bicycle User Group, which provides a forum for students and staff cyclists to discuss road safety and work with Estates to improve cycling facilities in and around the School.
- In 2015/16, we worked with Westminster City Council to help 26 students on the road with Cycle Confident training sessions.

- 72 members of staff participated in our Cycle-to-Work scheme, saving up to 42 per cent on the purchase of each bike.

### Future goals:

- We will continue to promote cycling facilities and incentives
- We will monitor emissions from business travel
- We will be installing new bike stands across campus.



## Targets:

- **Promote cycling facilities and incentives.**
- **Reduce contractor emissions.**
- **Monitor emissions from business travel.**



## Targets:



**Maintain and where possible enhance LSE's green spaces on campus and in halls of residence.**



## Biodiversity

### Progress and Initiatives:

- The LSE bees, looked after by staff volunteers and over 85 students in the LSESU Beekeeping Society, produced 94 jars of honey in 2016 adding a further £560 to the beehive funds. A nucleus colony has been growing in a small “nuc box” which was bought with the money from the previous year’s harvest. The nuc box is a much smaller hive, and allows for a new colony to grow. A new queen bee was also bought, and the nuc was populated using worker bees from the other hives. The colony will be transferred to a hive on Passfield Hall in the spring when it’s ready, giving us four beehives in total.
- The garden at Rosebery Hall was extended and filled with wild flower seeds and bee-friendly plants. Planters were also created on the 6th floor balcony of Carr Saunders Hall by staff and students.

### Future goals:

- We will incorporate green spaces into the Centre Buildings and 44 Lincoln’s Inn Fields redevelopments.



## Socially Responsible Investment

### Progress and initiatives

- LSE has taken steps to implement its Socially Responsible Investment Policy. Regarding direct investments, LSE sold £3.5m of bonds in two tobacco manufacturing companies. LSE no longer holds any direct investments in tobacco or indiscriminate arms manufacturers, or companies significantly engaged in tar sands or thermal coal extraction.
- All fund managers used for indirect equity investment support the six UN Principles for Responsible Investing.

### Future goals

- The Investments Committee is taking steps to consider ESG engagement with fund managers.

## Targets:

- **LSE will not make direct or, as far as possible, indirect investments equities or bonds issued by companies engaged in tobacco manufacture, indiscriminate arms manufacturer or companies which are significantly engaged in the extraction of thermal coal or tar sands, the most polluting of fossil fuels.**
- **LSE will adopt the six UN Principles of Responsible Investing. When making investment decisions, LSE will take into account environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues in managing endowment funds.**



## Targets:

- **All undergraduates to gain understanding of climate change issues through compulsory module LSE 100.**
- **Conduct research that informs public policy on environmental and social issues.**



## Education and Research

Our research is at the forefront of national and global thinking on issues including climate change and environmental sustainability. Our biggest opportunity to bring about change is through this research and the teaching which equips LSE graduates with knowledge and critical skills to address the future challenges of society.

### Teaching

- The Department of Management's module "Business Transformation and Project Management" provides students with the theoretical underpinning of project management alongside input from practitioners from a range of fields. The LSE Sustainability Team led one class in embedding sustainability in the delivery of projects and in managing

organisations. In particular, the class looked at stakeholder engagement in a sustainable and ethical way.

- LSE Cities offers a module called "City Making" which teaches sustainability policy in cities for one week. In 2016, Paris's Deputy Mayor for Environment gave a guest lecture to students about the way in which COP21 has impacted Paris's environmental policy and how to make long-term decisions on sustainability in the face of short-term political cycles.
- Professor Michael Storper from LSE's Department of Geography was awarded a Royal Medal from the Royal Geographical Society, in recognition of his scholarship and leadership in human and economic geography.

## MSc Dissertation – Putting climate first: a simple nudge to reduce meat consumption

**Korinna Jörling, Department of Geography and Environment**

Meat consumption has a larger ecological footprint than plant-based nutrition. Using the LSE Garrick canteen as a “living lab”, MSc student Korinna Jörling conducted an experiment to see whether meal choices are affected by the physical order in which different dishes are positioned on the serving counter, and studied whether customers eat less meat if vegetarian options are placed nearer to the front of the serving queue. 4,000 main meals were consumed throughout two trial periods, randomising the order in which the three daily meal options “meat”, “fish” and “vegetarian” were presented on the counter. The study revealed that presenting a meal option first increases its consumption ratio by 4-5 percentage points compared to the second or third position. This shows that food consumption behaviour could be nudged towards more pro-environmental choices by putting climate-friendly food on position one. The research was funded by the LSE Sustainability Projects Fund which supports staff and student-led environmental initiatives.

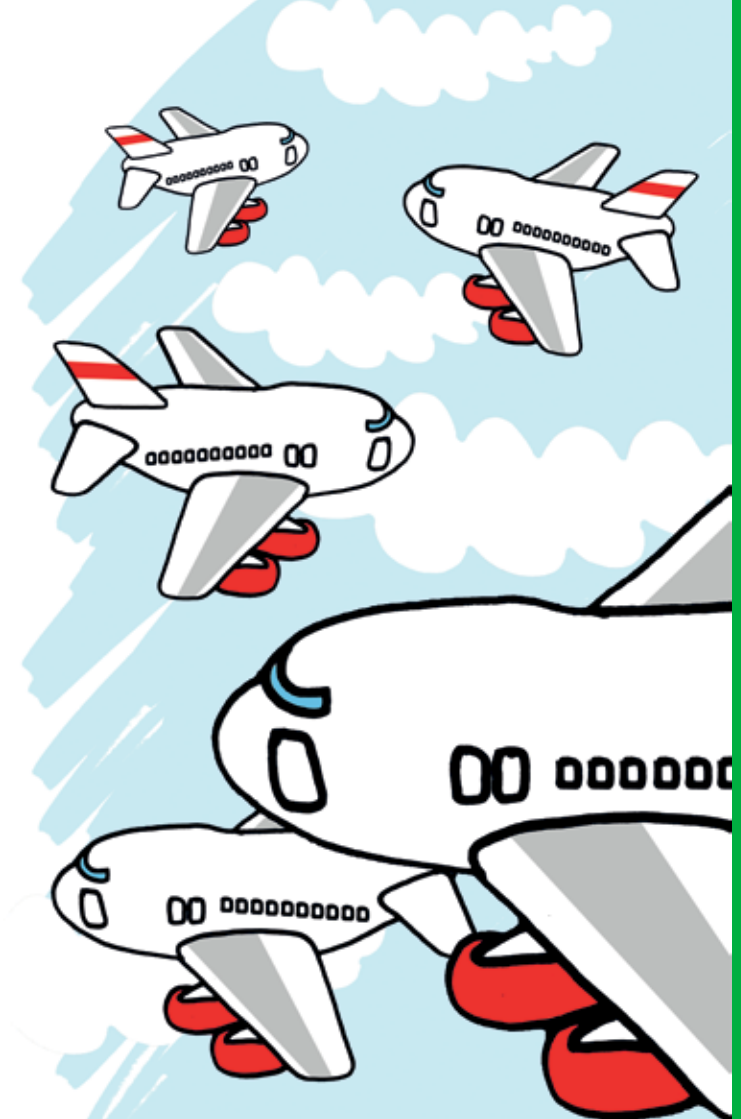


## Research

### **Experiments and Externalities: Understanding Cause and Effect in Environmental Decision Making**

**Greer Gosnell, Grantham Research Institute on  
Climate Change and the Environment**

An estimated 21 per cent of carbon emissions in the United States are attributable to companies, and yet to date there is scant research on how to make firm operations more efficient in terms of reducing pollution. Studying 335 captains across 40,000 Virgin Atlantic flights, Greer Gosnell found that informing captains that their fuel performance was being monitored and giving them personalised performance targets dramatically increased their fuel efficiency. Changes in their behaviour led to both lower carbon dioxide emissions (by 21,500 tonnes) and an estimated \$5.4 million reduction in fuel costs for the firm over the eight-month study period.





## Green Growth

### Centre for Economic Performance

The Green Growth work programme studies the effectiveness and efficiency of policies aimed at reducing carbon emissions as well as the impact of climate change policy on competitiveness and economic performance in the business sector. In addition, research focuses on the drivers of clean innovation and how policy can efficiently induce such innovation. LSE researchers have conducted the first firm-level econometric evaluation of the Climate Change Levy, which suggested that the Levy had a significant negative impact on emissions by reducing electricity consumption. Led by researchers from the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, the Centre for Economic Performance is also undertaking an econometric evaluation of the European Emissions Trading Scheme and has established an association between management measures such as energy targets and the appointment of energy managers and reduced energy intensity.

## Water technology and sustainability in Cyprus

### Rebecca Bryant, European Institute, and Michael Mason, Department of Geography and Environment

In 2015, a water pipeline to Northern Cyprus began to pump water from the south Turkish coast. The experimental floating pipeline was a first in water delivery, paid for by the Turkish government, yet it quickly became apparent that the north Cyprus government had made almost no plans for the water's management. An LSE project was initiated in 2016, building on Rebecca Bryant's extensive research on Turkish Cypriot state-building and governmentality (including relations with Turkey) and Michael Mason's research on water management and in post-conflict contexts, to intervene in a critical moment in Cyprus's environmental history. The research generated recommendations for policy-makers, disseminated through a policy briefing and communications with key stakeholders. The water pipeline has the prospect to make positive change in the island's environment if properly managed, contributing to peace and reunification. However efficient, long-term planning for sustainable water use is critical.



## Mappiness

**Susana Mourato and George MacKerron, Department of Geography and Environment**

Mappiness explores links between subjective well-being and the natural environment. The study is the first of its kind to use smartphones to record changing states of happiness in relation to the surrounding environment. Its first phase showed that greater happiness could be associated with higher temperatures and lower wind speeds, with sunshine, and with the absence of rain and fog. Physical activities and activities expected to be common in natural environments (such as running, gardening or birdwatching) also showed substantial positive associations with happiness. Marine and coastal margins were, by some distance, the happiest locations. Suburban or rural developed environments were just slightly happier than continuous urban environments. Designated areas such as National Parks were similarly found to be positively and significantly related to happiness ratings. The researchers posit at least three reasons why natural environments are positively related to health, wellbeing and happiness: they reduce stress; they have less noise and pollution; and people are more likely to engage in physical exercise and recreation and to interact with others there. Mappiness is available through the App Store.

## Identifying Climate Risk Priorities in the UK

**Sam Fankhauser**

### Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment

Climate change is a long-term problem, with the worst impacts not expected for another 25 years or more. Work at the Grantham Research Institute (drawing on earlier work with Joel Smith and Richard Tol) has therefore sought to determine what climate risks require policy attention now (over the next five years) and where action can wait. The research identified three clear priorities for action: investments that lock in vulnerabilities; investments with early benefits (win-win potential); and investments with long lead times. The insight was published in both the peer-reviewed and policy-oriented literature and fed into the UK decision making process on climate change adaptation. This thinking is feeding directly into the 2017 UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA), a statutory document produced every five years to inform the UK's approach to climate change risks.

Other recent LSE research includes:

- **“Philosophy of climate science”**

Roman Frigg, Erica Thompson and Charlotte Werndl (2015).  
Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method, and  
Centre for the Analysis of Time Series.

- **“Flooded Cities”**

Kocornik-Mina, Adriana and McDermott, Thomas K.J. and  
Michaels, Guy and Rauch, Ferdinand (2015).  
Centre for Economic Performance.

- **“Climate change: too complex for a special regime”**

Stephen Humphreys (2016).  
Department of Law.

- **“Environmental policy and directed technological change: evidence from the European carbon market”**

Raphael Calel and Antoine Dechezlepretre (2016).  
Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change  
and the Environment.

### Future goals:

- We are going to map how LSE integrates the UN Sustainable Development Goals into its teaching.

## Targets:

- Engage with local community on events and campaigns.
- Actively support Go Green Week.
- Ensure availability of funds for student or staff-led sustainability projects.
- Engage staff, students and members of the public in sustainability debates.
- Deliver training to staff and students on environmental issues.



# Engagement and Community

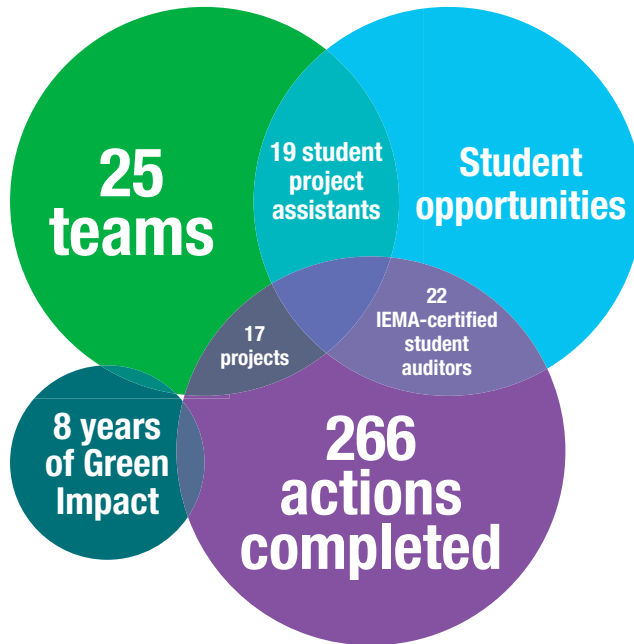
We empower our staff and students to enhance their own environmental impacts, and start debate on wider sustainability issues. We run a number of initiatives to engage the public and local community as well as our staff and students, and inspire them to take action.

## Engagement within LSE

- Green Week coincided with COP21 in November 2015 and was organised in collaboration between LSE and the Students' Union. Highlights included a competition and spoken word performance which combined climate change and the creative arts, a cycle safety awareness day with the Met Police, and the annual "Binside Out" showcase of our waste.



### Green Impact in numbers



- Green Impact has been running for eight years in LSE and sees teams of staff compete to improve the environmental impacts of their own departments. In 2015/16, teams continued to lead their own projects which ranged from local apple tasting sessions, compost selfie competitions, green brunches and swap shops. It also provides an opportunity for students to get involved as project assistants and auditors.
- The LSESU China Development Society hosted a conference on “Climate Change and Energy” as part of their annual China Development Forum. The conference discussed the sustainability issues facing China as the world’s largest emitter of greenhouse gases, and debated China’s ability to reconcile economic growth with environmental objectives given their recent pledge to cap emissions by 2030. The event was attended by over 200 participants, and was funded by the LSE Sustainable Projects Fund.
- The Sustainable Projects Fund also funded a sustainable crafts workshop hosted by the LSESU Crafts Society, for students to create home-grown herb gardens in upcycled pots. The Fund offers up to £20,000 each year for student and staff-led projects that enhance sustainability at LSE.

### Student Switch Off

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Energy saved in October, November and February*</b>	143,567 kWh	59,286 kWh	113,584 kWh	144,949 kWh
<b>Energy costs saved</b>	£11,485	£4,743	£9,087	£14,495
<b>CO<sub>2</sub>e saved</b>	78 tonnes	29 tonnes	61 tonnes	78 tonnes

\*Compared with 2010-12 baseline

- Student Switch-Off is a national energy-saving competition for students in halls of residence. 2015/16 energy use was cut by 8.8 per cent vs the 2010-12 baseline. Over 400 students participated, and 42 trained as Student Switch-Off ambassadors.
- LSE was shortlisted for two Green Gown Awards in 2016. We were a finalist in the “Learning and Skills” category for our Estates Division staff sustainability training. The training combines theory and practice through an online module and workshops and introduces staff to key environmental issues and impacts and how sustainability relates to their roles. We were also a finalist in the “Sustainability Reporting” category for our Annual Sustainability Reports.
- In 2016 we trained all LSE Catering staff (nearly 100 people) on sustainability – why it’s important, how LSE is providing customers with healthy and sustainable food, how they can support these initiatives in the workplace and how we can all help spread the word.

How we listen and actively seek feedback from our staff, students and stakeholders:



1,899 Twitter Followers



712 Facebook follows

Estates "Meet the Customer" meetings

Bicycle User Group



Sustainable Projects Fund

400

students competed in Student Switch-Off

361 subscribers to fortnightly *Green Flash* newsletter



Student representation on new buildings design committees

Green Week

25

departments participated in Green Impact

## Engagement in the community

- Alaa Murabit, an LSE postgraduate student, was appointed as a Sustainable Development Goals Advocate by the United Nations (UN). As a renowned champion of women's participation in peace processes and the founder of The Voice of Libyan Women, she was one of 17 eminent global figures nominated by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, along with Shakira, Professor Jeffrey Sachs and others. Alaa helped promote action to achieve the SDGs adopted by world leaders at the UN Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015 and has since been appointed as a High-Level Commissioner on Health Employment and Economic Growth.
- At COP22 in Marrakesh, LSE's Professor Lord Nicholas Stern delivered the key note speech on "Food and Climate Change: The Role of the Private Sector". This followed a successful COP21 in 2015, which featured six academic staff from LSE's Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment giving speeches, appearing on panels and contributing general policy advice and expertise. Professor Lord Nicholas Stern chaired two sessions and again gave a keynote address on the risks and opportunities posed by climate change.
- Students from the Department of Geography and Environment were awarded an Honorary Commendation in the 2016 Hult Prize Regionals in Dubai for their entrepreneurial business model. The initiative, Boocycle, empowered communities in Mexico City through a training programme that taught its students how to build, fix and maintain bamboo bikes as well as basic business skills.
- The LSESU Beekeeping Society ran a workshop about "Bees and the Environment" at Fairley House, a school for children with learning difficulties. About 40 children aged 7-9 years old participated in the outreach event which included a talk, a quiz and a honey-tasting session.
- A number of sustainability related public lectures took place at LSE, including "Natural Capital: valuing the planet", "In the Front Line of Climate Change" led by Anote Tong, President of Kiribati, and "Delivering the Sustainable Development Goals: a new partnership between state and private sector" which was delivered by Sir Suma Chakrabarti, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The LSESU Finance Society held a public lecture on Green Bonds, which had 226 attendees.



- LSE was ranked 14th in the People and Planet University League, which rates UK universities on their environmental and ethical performance. This is a climb from 26th place in 2015, and places LSE second in London and second of the Russell Group universities. It is the seventh year running we have achieved a “First Class” award – one of only six institutions to do so.
- We continued to collaborate with the Northbank Business Improvement District on a project that improves local air quality by streamlining goods deliveries and promoting an online map that visualises daily air quality.

**Future goals:**

- We will be one of five universities in the UK to trial Reduce the Juice in 2016/17. The programme encourages students to save water and improve recycling in halls, as well as reducing energy usage.
- Sign up to 40 teams to Green Impact.
- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub>e by 0.5 per cent from 2015/16 through Student Switch-Off and Reduce the Juice.



# Awards achieved in 2015/16







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