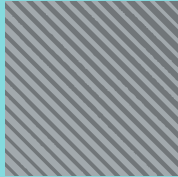
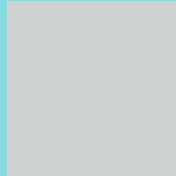




THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■



# LSE 2017/18 Sustainability Report ■

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*Lincoln's Inn Fields*



# Foreword by the Director

LSE's new 2030 Strategy cemented "ensuring a sustainable future" as one of our guiding principles, recognising its importance among the LSE community. LSE will continue to work tirelessly to address the challenges of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals through our research, education, public engagement and our own campus operations – in line with our mission "for the betterment of society". This sustainability report outlines how we are making progress on all these fronts.

We are embedding sustainability throughout academic offering. Our students explored global food security in a new module in our LSE 100 course, examining the web of "wicked problems" including climate change, inequality and conflict. Sustainability is a key research focus in our Strategy. Our new "Change Makers" programme empowered students to research and deliver projects to help the LSE community, including on ethics and inclusivity, while LSE LIFE continued their "Work it Out" programme to help students explore social purpose-led careers.

The new "Zinc" accelerator brings together academics, businesses and investors, to create companies with specific social missions, many of which focus on the environment.

I'm also delighted that we've cut our carbon emissions by 33 per cent since 2005, cut our waste disposal by 22 per cent since 2013/14, and cut our water consumption 9 per cent since 2015/16, even as the

School has grown. The new Centre Buildings and Marshall Building have achieved "BREEAM Excellent" certification for sustainable design, and we have assessed the quality and impact of each of our investment fund managers' approach to environmental, social and governance matters.

As young people around the world challenge us to address climate change with urgency, and the IPCC reports that the world must aim to be zero carbon by 2050, we face significant challenges ahead.

Each of us must make a contribution if we are to succeed. Demonstrating leadership on sustainability will be central to LSE over the coming years.

**Dame Minouche Shafik**

Director of LSE





*Outside Saw Swee Hock Student Centre*

## At a glance

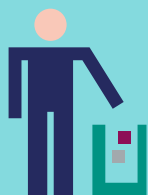
This report highlights LSE's sustainability performance and initiatives during 2017/18 and is aimed at LSE students, staff and alumni, as well as interested members of the public. The report's four chapters correspond to the four strategic themes of the LSE Sustainability Policy, which represent our most significant sustainability impacts:

- 1 Leadership and governance (our processes for converting top-level support for sustainability into tangible action).
- 2 Operations and estate (carbon emissions, responsible procurement, etc).
- 3 Education and research (case studies of research and teaching on sustainability).
- 4 Partnerships and engagement (how we collaborate with our students, staff, and external partners to spark debate and action).





## Highlights from 2017/18

**33%**reduction of  
carbon emissions  
since 2005**6.6%**total waste  
tonnage reduction  
from 2016/17**2**new vegan  
cafés  
opened**135**Student Engagement  
Action Leaders for  
Reduce the Juice**18%**reuse rate of  
reusable cups  
by LSE Catering**23**Green Impact projects  
completed**9%**reduction  
in water  
consumption  
from 2016/17Plastic  
Free LSE  
campaign  
launch**3**star Sustainable  
Restaurant Association rating  
for four catered halls and  
three campus restaurants



## LSE's Sustainability Journey

**2005**

- Environmental Sustainability Policy adopted
- Part-time Environmental Coordinator appointed

**2007**

- "2:1" award in the People and Planet Green League

**2008**

- LSE pioneers re-use in halls of residence project
- New Academic Building achieves BREEAM "Excellent"
- LSE's Environmental Management System achieves EcoCampus "Bronze" status

**2009**

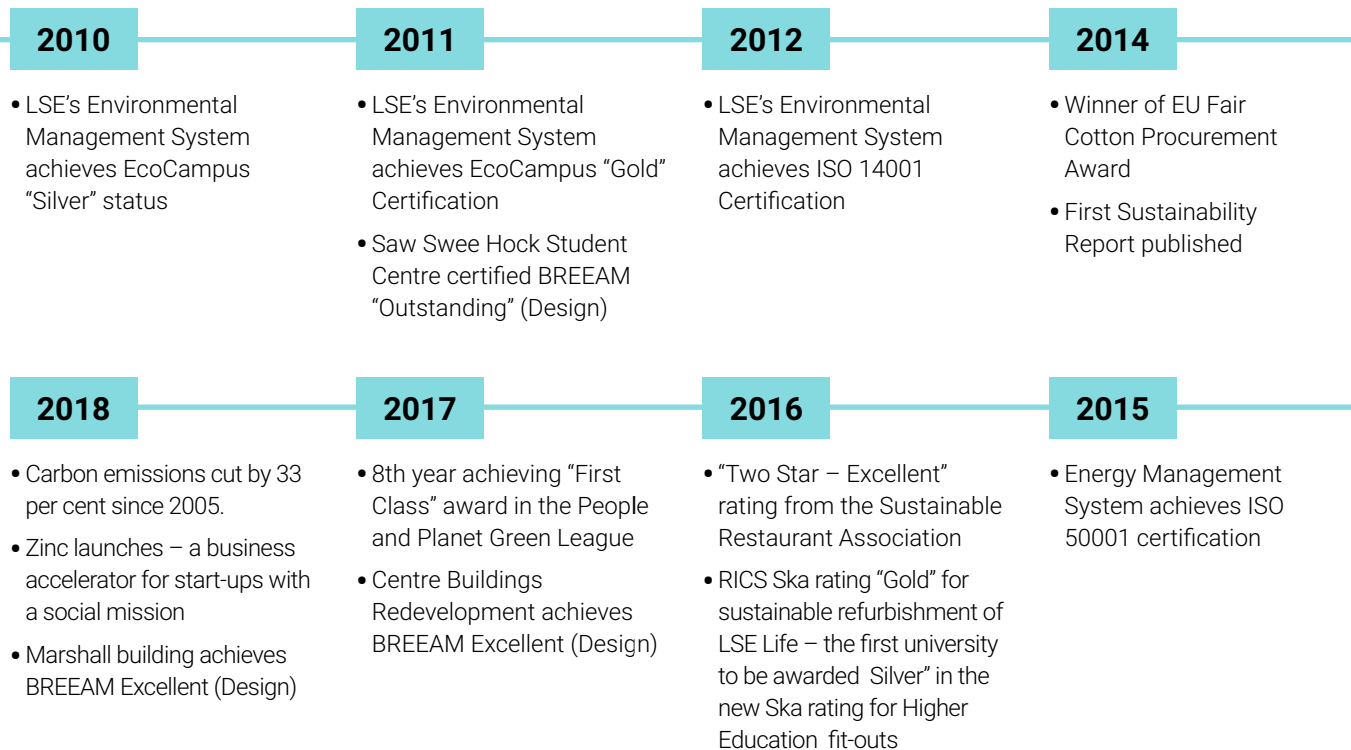
- "LSE 100" module teaches all undergraduates about climate change
- "First Class" award in the People and Planet Green League and named 2nd greenest university in the UK



Green Impact awards at the Celebration of Sustainability



LSE solar panels





# Targets

- Embed sustainability effectively across LSE, using sustainability governance structure to oversee Environmental Management Working Groups' delivery of departmental actions.
- Deliver and maintain ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 standards
- Maintain compliance with relevant legal and stakeholder requirements.

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved

## 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 Strategy and Ethics Code – down to the day-to-day working life of the institution. The Sustainability Team in the Estates Division coordinates efforts to improve our environmental impacts, but this depends on the continuous cooperation and hard work of all 10,830 students and 2,914 staff (FTE).

### Strategy and targets

LSE's mission is "For the betterment of society". It follows that sustainability is a key consideration in how the School is governed, and it is factored into decision-making in all areas of the institution as well as being a key objective of our Ethics Code.

LSE's recently approved 2030 Strategy holds "Ensuring a sustainable future" as one of our three guiding principles, and commits LSE to contributing to the global sustainable development effort through our research, education, public engagement, and our own campus operations. These themes are reflected in the strategic themes of LSE's Sustainability Policy, which delivers on the School's high-level vision.

The Sustainability Policy is delivered via our Environmental and Energy Management System (EMS and EnMS) which strategically manages, monitors, and improves each of our sustainability and energy impacts. Our EMS has been certified to the internationally recognised ISO 14001 standard since 2012 and our EnMS has been ISO 50001 certified since 2015. These management systems establish the Sustainability Action Plan, which sets an annual programme of work to continually improve sustainability performance, and establishes SMART targets to measure success.





## Reporting and benchmarking

This Annual Sustainability Report details performance against the targets set out in the annual Sustainability Action Plan. The “targets” panel throughout the report shows the completion status of each activity:

- **Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track.**
- **In progress but behind schedule.**
- **Not achieved.**

In addition to this Report, we also publicly report to statutory requirements including the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme and a number of other university sustainability rankings.

We also report to the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) “Estates Management Record”, which publishes the environmental performance of all UK Higher Education institutions. We use HESA’s data to benchmark our performance against that of our peers. LSE is currently 14th in People and Planet’s “Green” University League – an independent ranking of UK universities’ environmental and ethical performance.

## Governance, decision-making and our community

We have a clear and robust process for decision-making on sustainability issues, which takes in representation from a cross-section of students and staff across the university. This includes voices from students (including but not limited to student societies and LSESU representatives), faculty, professional services staff, and the LSE leadership team. This formal structure enables collaborative project development and resourcing; oversight of delivery and reporting on progress; horizon scanning for new opportunities and risks; and supports the exchange and development of new ideas. The diagram overleaf shows how we report internally and make decisions.

In addition to this formal decision-making process, we also use our informal networks to engage actively within and beyond the LSE community. We seek feedback and discuss ideas, share best practice; and use our influence to encourage and inspire our partners to adopt good environmental policies, practices and behaviours. This work is overseen by our Sustainability Engagement Strategy.



## How do we make decisions about sustainability?





“

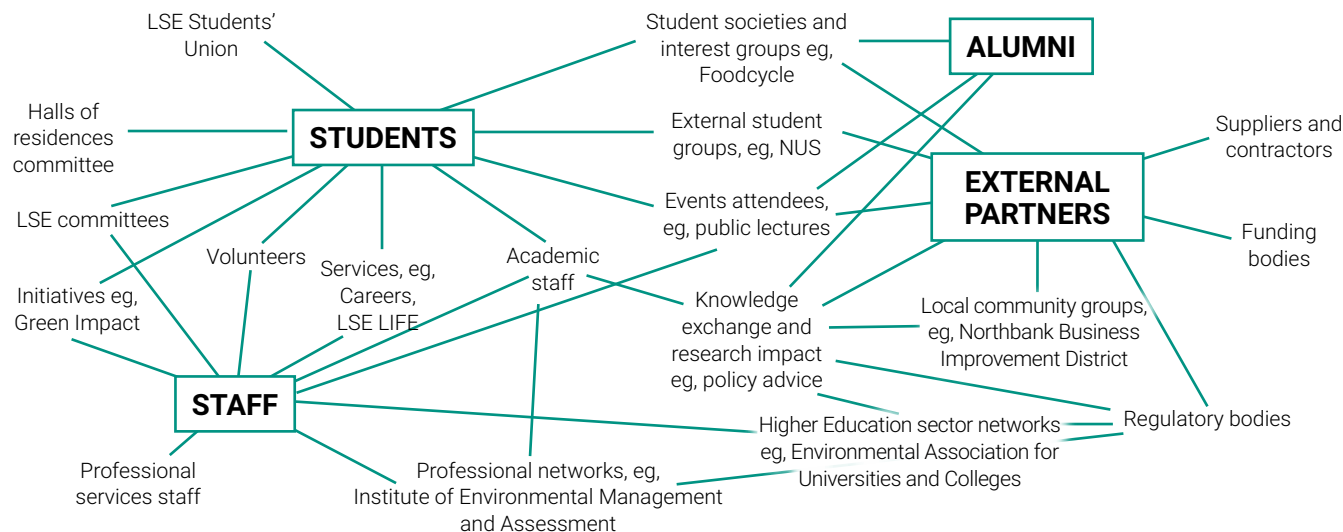
We are delighted to have installed this water fountain provided by #OneLess and the Mayor of London, as part of the London Drinking Fountain Fund. It will enable students, visitors and Londoners alike to be part of the solution to our global plastics issue.

LSE Chief Operating Officer, Andrew Young



## Our Community

The diagram below shows the network of stakeholders we engage with.



Examples of how we have listened and responded to our community over the last year include:

- The 12-month consultation process to develop LSE's new 2030 Strategy gathered responses from thousands of students, staff and alumni. A wide range of forums were used to gain views on everything from education to

revenue sources. There was a clear call for LSE to continue its mission "for the betterment of society", including acting on sustainability – this theme is now one of the strategy's Guiding Principles, and is embedded throughout the plan.



- Feedback from participants in our student and staff engagement programmes, Reduce the Juice and Green Impact, gave us a steer to focus on single-use plastics and the circular economy, following extensive public debate on this issue. This led to the development of the popular “Plastic Free LSE” campaign.
- In response to student demand, we developed the “Sustainable Projects Fund”. Branching out from supporting student-led projects on campus, it now provides funding and support for students to expand their dissertation projects to create sustainability impact in the community.

We have also influenced external partners, including advising government on policy and responding to public policy consultations; working with local business networks to improve neighbourhood air quality; and encouraging contractors to improve their sustainability performance.

The Partnerships and Engagement chapter of this report contains further examples of our collaborations with community partners.

## Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were established as a framework for global action on sustainability, covering a sweeping range of issues including poverty, climate action and resource consumption. The 17 SDGs are shown below.



LSE contributes towards these goals in numerous ways, in line with our mission “for the betterment of society” and ambition to shape the world’s political, economic and social future. Our research addresses a range of sustainable development themes and has global impact, whilst our students learn about a diverse array of these issues. Our campus operations also impact a number of specific SDGs – cities, resource consumption, etc.

We have outlined how our work at LSE connects with the Goals by giving an overview at the start of each chapter, and using the SDGs icons throughout to map case studies and particular strands of work to the Goals.





## Key impacts, opportunities and risk

The table below summarises internal and external trends that present strategic risks and opportunities for LSE sustainability, as well as how we may take action to address them. It is based on

a combination of internal analysis and an independent study of “PESTLE” factors (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental) carried out in 2016-17 by Useful Projects.

Internal		
Issue	Significance	Impact and approach to addressing
Increased focus on student satisfaction	High	Our students demand that we take decisive action on sustainability, in line with students across the UK and the world, which continues to drive our efforts in this area. We will provide further opportunities for students to engage in sustainability initiatives, eg, collaborative practical projects and group research. We will also manage the environmental impacts of providing enhanced student services, eg, IT and facilities.
Estate development	High	Estate expansion potentially increases carbon emissions, but is an opportunity to replace poorly performing buildings with greener ones that enhance student and staff wellbeing.  LSE will move out of leased property into LSE-owned space, enabling better control over environmental management. The Marshall and Centre Buildings are on track to deliver excellent environmental performance.
Low-carbon heat network	High	LSE is exploring developing a local heat network to provide low-carbon heat and electricity to the campus, significantly cutting our carbon footprint.
Move towards agile working	Low	Agile working can enhance staff wellbeing and inclusivity. It may yield environmental benefits (reduced travel and office space use, hence carbon reductions) and/or disbenefits (increased energy use in staff homes), depending on implementation.



External		
Issue	Significance	Impact and approach to addressing
Policy and regulation	High	<p>The new Environment Bill will define UK environmental principles, targets, regulation and enforcement after Brexit – its full content and robustness will become clear later in 2019.</p> <p>LSE's carbon reduction targets are more ambitious than the voluntary public sector targets set in the Government's Clean Growth Strategy. The London Plan and London Environment Strategy require new buildings to be zero-carbon.</p> <p>Carbon reporting is no longer required by the Office for Students or CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme – but the HE sector will continue to capture benchmarking data to drive progress.</p>
Circular economy	Medium	<p>LSE will continue to buy sustainably and responsibly, obtaining long-term value whilst creating social and environmental benefits and managing supply chain risks. In particular, we are phasing out disposable plastics.</p>
Smart buildings	Low	<p>Better data-led understanding of service-use can provide more responsive, tailored services for students whilst enabling energy efficiency.</p>
Air quality	Medium	<p>LSE is doing all we can to protect our community from London's poor air quality via our Air Quality plan. The Mayor's Ultra-Low Emissions Zone and London Plan will also enhance air quality, but will limit our ability to use biofuels to cut carbon emissions in new buildings.</p>
Decarbonising the national grid	Medium	<p>As coal-fired power stations are replaced with gas, renewables and soon nuclear, the carbon footprint of our electricity is dropping steeply.</p>
Increased cost of utilities	High	<p>Energy, water and waste disposal costs are all set to increase, due to changes in international markets and policy. We will mitigate these costs by minimising utilities and waste consumption, and tendering and managing contracts to obtain best value for money. These market changes have also limited the range of items we can recycle, which will lower our recycling rates.</p>

### Future goals:

- Achieve ongoing recertification of ISO 50001 and ISO 14001, continuing to manage and monitor sustainability performance to ensure continual improvement.
- Develop a 2030 Sustainability Vision and Plan, to deliver the sustainability commitments in the LSE 2030 Strategy.



Green wall, Old Building

# Operations and estate




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

In managing our estate, we proactively work to reduce our carbon, water and waste; ensure our buildings have the lowest possible environmental impact; and procure products and services responsibly.




## Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals

LSE has identified nine priority areas to address sustainability within our Operations and Estate, which we address through corresponding objectives in our Sustainability Policy. These priority areas map to five of the SDGs, and we have taken the following actions in response:






LSE Sustainability Policy objective	Sustainable Development Goal	How we're taking action
Energy and Carbon	<b>7 Affordable and clean energy</b> <b>7.3</b> By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency. 	4 per cent cut in energy consumption and 33 per cent cut in carbon emissions since 2005 through energy-efficiency projects.
Waste and resources	<b>12 Responsible consumption and production</b> <b>12.5</b> By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse. 	6 per cent waste reduction through waste avoidance and responsible procurement measures
Supply Chain	<b>12 Responsible consumption and production</b> <b>12.7</b> Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities. 	All contracts stipulate environmental and social responsibility, eg, the new contract for PCs and laptops.



LSE Sustainability Policy objective	Sustainable Development Goal	How we're taking action
Water	<p><b>6 Clean water and sanitation</b></p> <p><b>6.4</b> By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors.</p> 	Water usage cut 9 per cent since 2016-17 through maintenance interventions.
Buildings	<p><b>11 Cities and Communities</b></p> <p><b>11.6</b> By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities.</p> 	All new buildings achieved BREEAM "Excellent" certification for green design.
Transport	<p><b>11 Cities and Communities</b></p> <p><b>11.2</b> By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all.</p> 	Good access and support provided for students and staff using active travel and public transport.





LSE Sustainability Policy objective	Sustainable Development Goal	How we're taking action
Pollution	<b>11 Cities and Communities</b> <b>11.6</b> By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management. 	Air Quality Position Statement launched to minimise LSE's emissions whilst protecting our community.
Green spaces	<b>11 Cities and Communities</b> <b>11.7</b> By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces. 	Green spaces increasing across the LSE estate, providing enjoyment and helping wildlife.
Socially Responsible Investment	<b>8 Decent work and economic growth</b> <b>8.4</b> Endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation. 	Asking investment fund managers to comply with the UN Principles for Responsible Investment.



# Targets

- Review Carbon Management Plan to establish revised carbon targets with a programme of works to support delivery.
- Review Monitoring and Verification report on Re:Fit Tranche 1 to verify savings.
- Deliver Re:Fit Tranche 2: Complete works successfully.
- Incorporate carbon targets and actions into Data and Technology Services Strategy, and deliver including PC auto-shutdown

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved

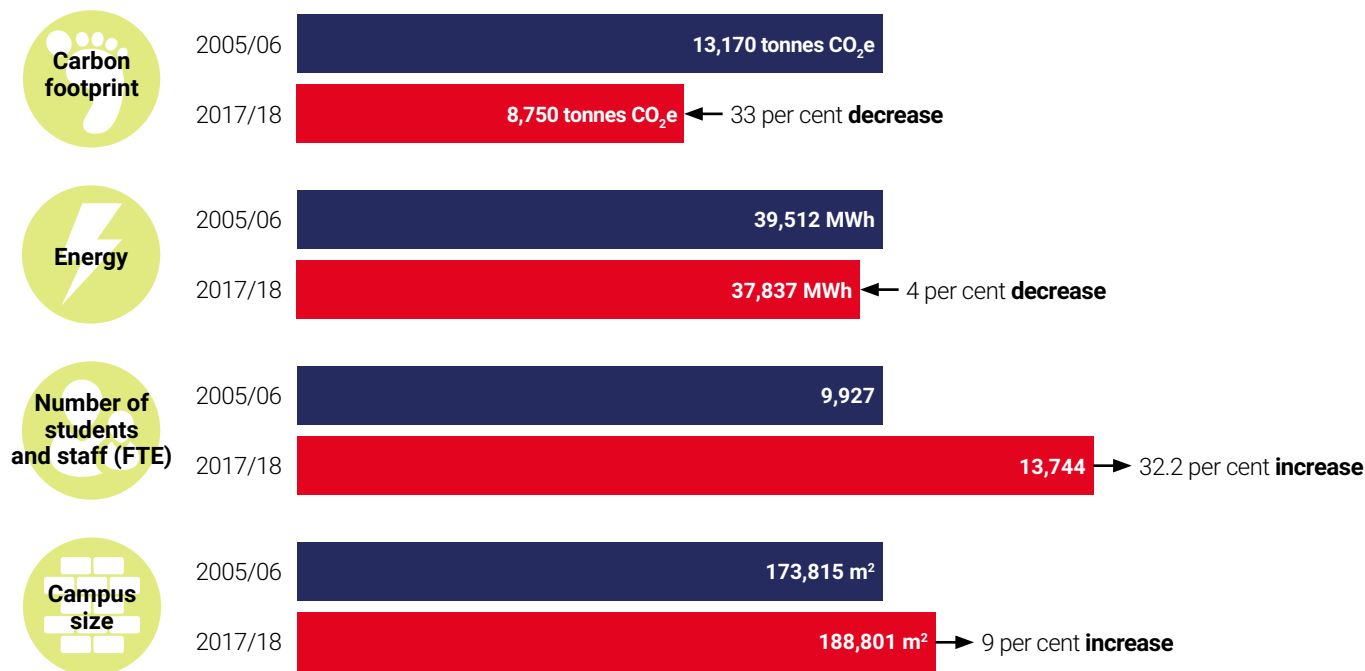
## Energy and Carbon

### Progress and Initiatives:

- We have cut our carbon footprint by 33 per cent since 2005. We achieved that largely by retrofitting energy-saving measures in our buildings, such as efficient boilers, solar PV panels, upgraded building controls, and low-energy LED lighting. Our reduction was also helped by electricity from the national grid using less carbon, due to coal-fired power stations being phased out.
- Our energy-saving programme is being delivered through RE:FIT, a Mayor of London framework to help public sector buildings to achieve guaranteed energy savings. LSE has invested £4.5m over five years, in three successive tranches of works. A further planned £1m investment is being considered and we are exploring external funding.
- LSE's 2017-18 carbon footprint was 8,750 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. Our carbon intensity – a measure of efficiency – was 46 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup>, a 39 per cent cut since 2005/06. Based on 2016/17 Higher Education sector data, that would place us in the top quartile nationally. (2017/18 is not yet available at time of publishing.)
- Our energy consumption for 2017/18 was 37,837 MWh, which represents a 5 per cent increase from 2016/17 and a 4 per cent decrease against our 2005/06 baselines. Our energy usage per m<sup>2</sup> for 2017/18 is 200 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>, which is a 12 per cent decrease since 2005/06. Based on 2016/17 Higher Education sector data, that would place us in the second quartile nationally. (2017/18 is not yet available at time of publishing.)
- LSE revised its carbon target to 34 per cent reduction by 2025/26 vs a 2005/06 baseline. The target was previously 54 per cent by 2020/21. This change was necessary to incorporate the growth in LSE's estate and our student and staff community, which was unforeseen at the time the targets were developed. However, the new target remains more ambitious than the voluntary public sector targets set by the government in the UK Clean Growth Strategy.



## Our carbon emissions: 2005/06 to 2017/18



### Future goals:

- Deliver Tranche 3 of the RE:FIT energy-saving refurbishment programme, including seeking external funding.
- Conduct a feasibility study into constructing a local heat network, providing low-carbon heat and electricity to the campus.



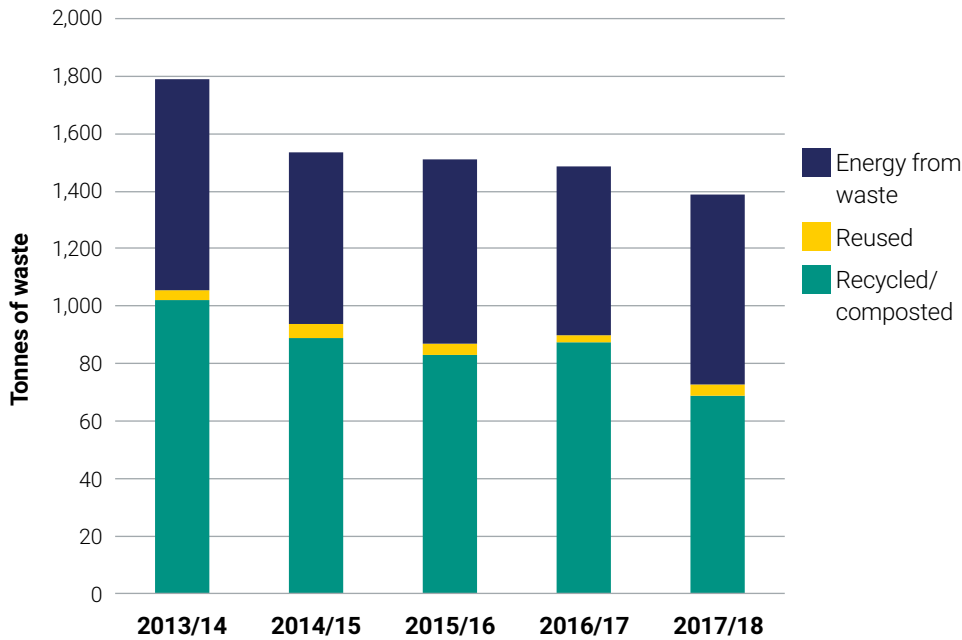
# Targets

- Review waste composition audit to establish evidence-based targets for percentage recycling rates, waste tonnage per-capita, and sector benchmark
- Establish action plan for waste targets.
- Re-tender waste contract to procure improve service and value for money.
- Improve customer satisfaction by upgrading bin infrastructure where necessary, eg, bin lids with wider apertures.
- Review bin provision for Centre Building Redevelopments and Marshall Building.

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved

## Waste and Resources

We employ the “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover” waste hierarchy in our waste and resource management, in line with international best practice. This section presents our initiatives in each of those four areas.





## Reduce:

- We disposed of 1,387 tonnes of waste from campus and residences in 2017/18. This is a 6.6 per cent reduction from 2016/17, and a 22 per cent drop since 2013/14. Despite a growing campus size and student and staff population, our total waste tonnage has decreased every year since 2013. This is partly due to responsible procurement initiatives, eg, contractually requiring suppliers to use less packaging, and internally re-homing items where possible instead of disposing and buy anew. The move towards digital has reduced the amount of paper that we dispose of. Manufacturers have also been reducing the weight of their packaging, eg, making glass bottles lighter.
- We saved 17,145 disposable cups between September and December 2018, by encouraging customers to switch to re-usable cups: the proportion of takeaway hot drinks sold in re-usable cups leapt from 0.03 per cent to 18 per cent (measured by till sales). We achieved this by introducing a 10p payment for disposable coffee cups at our catering outlets, whilst raising our discount for customers bringing their re-usable cups from 10p to 25p. This success appears to align with the theory in behavioural economics that people try to avoid financial losses disproportionately more than they are attracted to a similar level of financial gain.



### Plastic-Free LSE

The Plastic Free LSE campaign was launched In July 2018 by LSE Director Minouche Shafik, and aims to cut single-use plastics. It emerged amidst global concern on this issue, which was shared by many LSE students and staff. We are particularly targeting plastic bottles, coffee cups, water cups and plastic cutlery, which we identified as the main culprits (commonly disposed of yet easily avoided) by auditing the contents of our waste. Students and staff have picked up the baton to run their own projects, including organising a plastic-fishing boat trip to clean up the River Thames with charity Hubbub; running events; making pledges; and even making a giant sculpture of a tap out of discarded water bottles. Plastic Free LSE has already had an impact on our plastic consumption – as well as sparking more nuanced conversations about where plastic isn't always the enemy, and can be used responsibly with social and environmental benefits.





### Reuse:

- 10.8 tonnes of unwanted items, the equivalent of £18,844, were donated to the British Heart Foundation by LSE students moving out of halls in LSE's annual "ReLove" re-use programme. An additional 40kg of food was collected by LSESU FoodCycle and donated to the Trussell Trust Waterloo Foodbank, for the third year running.
- We donated around 12,500 books (weighing 5.9 tonnes) to charities Better World Books and Book Rescuers, who redistribute them internationally to underprivileged communities.



LSE Keep Cups are popular with students

- The "LSE Skip" Facebook page enables LSE staff to swap unwanted items on campus to give them a new home. Setup by the Department of Management in 2015, the page is used regularly and continues to be a success.

### Recycle:

- In 2017/18 we recycled and composted 689 tonnes of waste. This is a decrease from 2016/17, which was caused by the fact that the types of waste we successfully cut down on were mainly recyclable items such as paper and packaging.
- Waste contractor Veolia held two engagement stands during the year, speaking to students about recycling on campus and where your waste goes to when you recycle.

### Recover:

- We continue to send zero waste to landfill, excluding a small fraction of construction waste, and instead send all non-recyclable waste to a plant that converts it into fuel pellets. In 2017/18 this amounted to 659 tonnes.

### Future goals:

- Develop a waste strategy, which will include the following initiatives:
  - Influence waste collection organisations to improve data management
  - Reduce food waste across the campus.



## Ethical and sustainable supply chains

### Progress and Initiatives:

- Construction company Mace, who are delivering the Centre Buildings Redevelopment and Marshall Building projects, have worked closely in partnership with LSE to incorporate sustainability considerations into the construction process highlighting our shared values and visions on sustainability. On the CBR construction site, all electricity used is 100 per cent green, provided by Ecotricity, and energy usage is being monitored and reported on regularly. The site is on target in diverting 98 per cent of non-hazardous construction and demolition waste from landfill, and 100 per cent of timber products sourced from FSC through FSC Project Certification or government approved equivalent. Mace are minimising consumption of potable water on the construction site and are on track to achieve the target of 5.4m<sup>3</sup>/£100k of project

spend, comparable to a Mace's typical water consumption on site of 7.0 to 14.5m<sup>3</sup>/£100k. Social values are central to Mace's work. The Mace Group produced a research report outlining the importance of social value for the future of the industry, and practise this by training and employing individuals from the local community, and supporting social enterprises in their supply chain.

- Sustainability considerations were incorporated into all major new contracts. This included the tender for PCs and laptops, which specifies that deliveries should be consolidated with neighbouring King's College London (minimising transport emissions and local air pollution), as well as requiring the computers to be Energy Star rated and contain robust, long-lasting materials so components can be re-used at the end of their life.



## Targets

- Procure LASER energy contract on green tariff
  - Develop sustainable procurement approach using ISO 20400 framework
  - Train key staff on sustainable procurement principles and practices as part of general procurement training.
  - Embed sustainability into key contracts, including tender for PCs and laptops
- 
- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
  - In progress but behind schedule
  - Not achieved



Vegetarian and Vegan Shaw Café

- LSE catering outlets achieved a Three Star rating from the Sustainable Restaurant Association for the four catered halls of residences and three main restaurants on campus. Three Stars is the highest award to achieve and shows progress from last year's Two Star rating achievement.
- The Garrick restaurant achieved a Bronze "Food for Life" award by the Soil Association, in addition to the Silver award which the four catered halls continue to hold. The awards recognise healthy menus in which ingredients are more organic, ethical, environmentally friendly and locally sourced.
- LSE opened two vegan cafés on campus. The Shaw Café is named after George Bernard Shaw, one of the founders of LSE and a noted vegetarian. Meanwhile, the LSESU Weston café switched over to a fully vegan menu. The cafés serve meat-free options throughout the week and has been incredibly popular with students, staff and general public.

#### **Future goals:**

- Embed sustainability and circular economy principles into new contracts, particularly in the re-tendered waste contract.
- Perform a gap analysis to assess our alignment with the ISO 20400 framework on sustainable procurement.
- Maintain and enhance catering outlets' certification to the Soil Association's Food For Life award and the Sustainable Restaurant Association.



## Water

### Progress and Initiatives:

- In 2017/18 we consumed 196,779 m3 of water. This represents a 9 per cent reduction against 2016/17 usage, which was a result of identifying wasted water due to a faulty water tank.
- A public water fountain was installed outside the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre. It is one of 20 to be installed across the capital as part of a drive by the Mayor of London and ZSL's #OneLess campaign which aims to increase public access to drinking water, cut down on plastic bottles, and reduce ocean plastic. It also aligns with our own "Plastic Free LSE" campaign to reduce single-use plastics. The fountain was opened in a ceremony by representatives of the Greater London Authority and the #OneLess campaign, and LSE's COO Andrew Young.

### Future goals:

- Improve understanding of our water usage by installing "smart" meters on key buildings.
- Review water tank system to prevent further wasted water.



## Targets

- Re-tender water contract and engage with the supplier to explore water-saving initiatives, including leak detection

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved



# Targets

- SAW Building to achieve BREEAM Outstanding in Construction
- Centre Building Redevelopments to fulfil sustainability targets, including BREEAM Excellent (Design) and Energy Performance Certificate A.
- Marshall Building to deliver sustainability targets, including BREEAM Excellent (Design) and Energy Performance Certificate A.
- Bankside and 35 Lincoln's Inn Fields developments to adopt strong sustainability vision and targets.

● Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track

● In progress but behind schedule

● Not achieved

## Built environment

### Progress and Initiatives:

- The Centre Buildings will open in June 2019. It is on track to achieve at least BREEAM "Excellent" (Construction) certification, having already achieved that standard for its design. It is also projected to achieve a "B" rated Display Energy Certificate when in use. It will have very low carbon emissions, partly by being very efficient, and partly due to its biofuel boiler – the first to be installed at LSE. Its fuel source is produced locally and ethically from waste fish oil products in the UK.
- LSE students and staff have been attending guided tours of the nearly completed building, as well as VR fly-throughs demonstrated by construction contractors Mace, seeing first-hand the final stages of its progress.
- Two LSE alumni, Juan Pablo Corral and Lucas Fuhrmann, run a start-up called INTERVAL that makes new products from materials that are usually wasted. They have made tote bags from the plastic wrap

that covered the scaffolding on the Centre Buildings, which will be given as gifts to the staff moving into the new building. INTERVAL discovered the plastic scaffolding wrap almost always goes to waste after a single use, and is rarely recycled. The bags were



*Building wrapping to be made into tote bags by LSE alumni*





developed in partnership with a local tailor, as well as the LSE Capital Development Team and construction contractors Mace. This proof of concept will support INTERVAL to further develop their circular economy business model, following on from Lucas' earlier success as a Mayor's Entrepreneur finalist with his clothing made from processed banana tree pulp.

- In 2017/18, LSE started demolition work for The Marshall Building at 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields. The project achieved BREEAM "Excellent" in Design and is on track to achieve "Excellent" in Construction and a Display Energy Certificate "B" rating. It has also been shortlisted for a 2019 BREEAM award, in the "Best Public Sector (design-stage)" category.

#### **Future goals:**

- Centre Buildings and Marshall Building Achieve to BREEAM "Excellent" or higher in construction and a "B" rated Display Energy Certificate.
- Adopt strong sustainability and wellbeing vision and targets for the redevelopment of Bankside hall of residence, 35 Lincoln's Inn Fields and the refurbishment of St Clements.
- LSE has developed a new framework to enhance wellbeing through our built environment. Drawing on guidance from the WELL Standard and London Healthy Workplace Charter, it will address practical issues (eg, ensuring good light and air quality), as well as more complex themes like enabling community connections. The wellbeing design framework will launch in 2019.



*Bamber and Reddan Architects rendition of Centre Buildings Redevelopment project.*



# Targets

- Promote and enhance cycling facilities and incentives
- Monitor emissions from business travel: Obtain data from travel supplier, "Diversity", to establish carbon footprint from business travel

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved

## Transport

### Progress and Initiatives:

- Rosebery hall of residence installed an OFO bike station, making it easier for students to cycle into campus and around the city.
- In partnership with Westminster City Council, Dr Bike stands offered free bike maintenance for students, staff and the public.
- LSE staff continued to benefit from the Cycle-to-Work scheme, which saves buyers up to 42 per cent on the purchase of a bike.

### Future goals:

- Continue to promote and enhance cycling facilities and incentives.
- Integrate new cycle facilities into the Marshall Building.





## Pollution

### Progress and Initiatives:

- We launched our Air Quality Position Statement, which demonstrates how LSE will approach the challenge of poor air quality in London amidst growing public concern on this issue. In order to support this, we also commissioned an independent study of air quality on campus.
- The data analysed over a 12 month period validates existing models developed by King's College London, which indicate that concentrations of NOx and particulates (PM 2.5 and PM10) around LSE's campus are in line with local levels. NOx and PM 10 particulate levels exceed EU targets, whilst PM 2.5 particulate levels are within the limit.
- In response, LSE will do everything within our power to protect the welfare of our students and staff, whilst taking responsibility for minimising

our own emissions, as set out in our Position Statement. We have committed to cutting particulate and NOx emissions by cutting energy usage and using efficient boilers, as well as minimising emissions within our supply chain by engaging with contractors, eg, by consolidating deliveries. We will continue to monitor air quality on campus. We will protect our community from exposure to air pollution by engaging with staff and students (eg, publishing clean walking routes so people can choose to go via green spaces and away from main roads). We will also maintain and build community partnerships and use our voice to advocate for cleaner air – including with local business groups and local government.

### Future goals:

- Collect and review data from air quality sensors.



## Targets

- Develop an LSE Air Quality Position Statement.
- Monitor local indoor and outdoor air quality on campus.
- Promote local routes that minimise exposure to air pollution

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved



# Targets

- Host 5 guest visits to beehives.
- Install webcam with live feed of LSE's beehives

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved

## Green spaces

### Progress and Initiatives:

- The LSE bees, looked after by over 100 students and staff in the LSESU Beekeeping Society, produced 36 jars of honey in 2017. The Beekeeping Society held several events during LSE Green Week to engage and educate the LSE community about bees. Unfortunately, one of the two bee colonies was lost due to extreme cold weather during the 2017-18 winter.
- Nesting birds took up residence Rosebery Hall's bird box, which proved a delight for students and staff at the hall of residence.
- Students and staff grew some tasty tomatoes and courgettes in roof garden planters outside the Shaw Library.

### Future goals:

- Incorporate green spaces into the Centre Buildings and Marshall Building redevelopments, and transfer the temporary green wall on the construction site portacabin to a permanent site on campus.





## Socially responsible Investment

### Progress and initiatives

- LSE engaged directly with each of our investment fund managers to assess the quality and impact of their engagements with the investee companies on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) matters.
- We moved our investments from the fund manager with the highest level of tobacco funding.
- LSE is considering alternative service providers to the fund manager with the least engagement on ESG matters.

### Future Actions

- Follow up engagement with each fund manager to gauge progress on ESG matters.
- LSE will consider becoming a signatory of the UN Principles of Responsible Investment.



## Targets

- To make investment decisions which take into account environment, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues.
- To reduce the aggregate threshold of indirect active equity investments in tobacco, indiscriminate armaments or substantially in extraction of thermal coal or tar sands.
- To require indirect investment fund managers to comply with UNPRI.

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved



# Targets

- All undergraduates to complete LSE 100, including a module on global food systems in conditions of climate change, environmental degradation and conflict.
- Deliver training to students on sustainability in the workplace in partnership with LSE LIFE.
- Support academic requests for Sustainability support in teaching, including sustainability in Project Management (Management Department module MG 208) and on e-waste (Media and Communications Department)
- Support "living labs" research by students and staff, enabling the use of LSE estate and data where requested.

- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
- In progress but behind schedule
- Not achieved

## Education and Research

Our research continues to be at the forefront of national and global thinking on a wide range of sustainability-related themes. In addition to contributing to academic debates, we also share this knowledge with the wider public through our Knowledge Exchange and Impact programmes, in line with our mission "For the betterment of society" and aim to shape the social, political and economic development of the world.

We also equip LSE graduates with the understanding and critical thinking skills needed to address the future challenges of our global society – both via formal education, and through opportunities such as volunteering, working on collaborative projects, skills training, entrepreneurial programmes, and the myriad other activities that form part of the fabric of the LSE community.

### Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals

LSE's teaching and research across the spectrum of the social sciences has contributed to almost every area of sustainable development, from alleviating poverty and hunger, to gender inequality, to climate change and cities – in addition to the overarching Goal 4 on Education. These numerous themes are highlighted in the case studies below.





## Education

### Change Makers

Change Makers is a new, collaborative programme between LSE and LSE Students' Union that gives students the chance to make meaningful change at LSE through independent research. 24 projects are underway in first Change Makers cohort, addressing – amongst other issues – LSE's Ethics Code Strategy (Georgios Syranidis), decolonising the curriculum (Eman Shehata), inclusivity in teaching practices (Aathira Kottapurath and Eve Kraicer-Melamed) and the role of food in building a stronger sense of community at LSE (Sebastiano Caleffi).

Change Makers reflects the School's wider approach towards the "Connected Curriculum", which aims to enrich students' educational experience by grounding teaching in research, connecting theory with practice, and empowering students with a stronger voice in decision-making and our community.



In line with "Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all."

### How does palm oil agriculture impact carbon emissions and haze episodes in Southeast Asia?

#### Dr Thomas Smith, Department of Geography and Environment

Dr Thomas Smith brought his research to the LSE community by transporting participants to his oil palm plantation fieldwork sites using VR headsets at LSE's first ever Research Showcase. "Virtual fieldwork" has become a feature of some of Thomas's teaching; allowing students to experience a range of human impacts on the environment, from tropical forest degradation to slash and burn agriculture. He also spoke about his research, findings and how consumers should engage with the palm oil topic in a lunch time seminar for LSE professional services staff. Through a number of multi-disciplinary collaborative projects, Dr Smith's research aims to understand the environmental impact of deforestation and agricultural conversion in the tropical peat-swamp regions of Southeast Asia. Land clearance and drainage releases significant carbon emissions, and increases landscape susceptibility to fires leading to costly trans-boundary air pollution episodes across Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, and Singapore.



In line with "Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss."





LSE Geography and Environment Students enjoy Juniper Hall

## **Work It Out: creating meaning in your career**

### **LSE LIFE and LSE Careers**

Organised by LSE LIFE and LSE Careers, "Work it Out" is a series of events, activities, actions and speakers that help LSE students in explore what "meaningful work" means to them. The events included "Three alternative career plans", "Act now, think later", and "Influencing social responsibility in your future workplace". The series aims to inspire and inform students in their career choices after university.



In line with "Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all."

### **LSE 100**

All undergraduate LSE students study the interdisciplinary LSE100 course, which enables them to work collaboratively to analyse and respond to pressing social problems. This year's module was entitled "Is there a path to global food security? A case study of wicked problems". As they investigated the causes of rising global hunger and devised potential responses, student explored the deep interconnections between environmental degradation, violent conflict, and food insecurity.



In line with "Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all."



### Sustainable Projects Fund: dissertations

Students developing their dissertation proposals were invited to apply for funding to help boost their project in a way that helps sustainability and the community. For example, Eloise O'Carroll will be supported to extend her dissertation on "intrapreneurs" (social responsibility ambassadors within large organisations) to include a video summary of her research findings, and a policy briefing to business leaders. This gives student research life outside the classroom, and empowers students to create impact with their work.



In line with "Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all."

### Juniper Hall Environmental Field Trip

#### Department of Geography and Environment

During the wintry blizzards of March 2018, a brave group LSE students on the course, Environmental Change: Past, Present and Future, along with Dr Thomas Smith, Dan Mills, and Dr Richard Perkins, embarked on a new two-day environmental fieldtrip to Juniper Hall in the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Exploring themes of environmental pollution and urban climates, students embarked on a series of hands-on activities. This included collecting bug specimens from the river to investigate agricultural impacts on water quality; constructing, wiring, and coding weather stations to measure the urban influence on weather and climate.



In line with "Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss."



## Research

### The economic impact of El Nino-related floods and drought on small and medium enterprises in Botswana, Kenya and Zambia

**D. Conway, K. E. Gannon, C. Siderius, J. Pardoe, P. Curran, Grantham Research Institute**

This research project examined the impacts of the 2015/2016 El Niño on rainfall, river flows and lake levels in Botswana, Zambia and Kenya, and the consequences for local populations. Whilst drought and flooding in sub-Saharan Africa are often considered most closely in relation to risks to agriculture, this project focuses on the impacts of disruption to water and hydroelectricity supplies for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the respective capital cities. This focus was chosen because in Africa's rapidly growing cities, MSMEs are key drivers of economic growth and a significant source of employment.



In line with "Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable."

### Environmental valuation and benefit-cost analysis in U.K. policy

**Professor Giles Atkinson, Professor Ben Groom, Professor Nick Hanley and Professor Susana Mourato, Department of Geography and Environment**

The research presents an evaluation of the use of environmental valuation – techniques to assign monetary values to environmental impacts of policies and projects, especially non-markets impacts – in UK policy. The research evaluates the extent to which environmental valuation can be said to have influenced policy decisions and the degree to which it is embedded in evolving policy processes. The paper particularly examines water quality improvements and natural capital as areas of environmental policy.



In line with "Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels."



## Nothing Is Useless in Nature: Delhi's Repair Economies and Value-Creation in an Electronics 'Waste' Sector

**Dr Julia Corwin, Department of Geography and Environment**

Dr Corwin researches the processes of reuse, repair and remanufacturing of electronic waste across Delhi, India. Her research traces the movements of "waste" from the scrap shop back into secondary use industries, situating e-waste in India as operating primarily within economies of reuse and repair, rather than waste and recycling. Building on scholarship on vibrant waste economies, Dr Corwin demonstrate that India's electronic "waste" sector is in fact a powerful source of value (and product) creation and call into question e-waste as a definitive "waste" product and its management in a "waste" economy.



In line with "Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns."



Photo by Fancycrave.com from Pexels



## Flood Insurance and Flood Risk Reduction – “Flood Re”

**Swenja Surminski, Grantham Research Institute**

Floods are one of the most wide-reaching and commonly occurring natural hazards in the world, affecting on average about 70 million people each year (UNISDR 2011). In the UK alone, more than five million residential and non-residential properties are estimated to be at risk of coastal, river or surface water flooding, with between 350,000 and 500,000 homes and families considered to be at significant risk. Work by Dr Surminski and others within the Grantham Institute has catalysed and supported ongoing dialogue and collaboration with Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) team responsible for the design of “Flood Re”, allowing the development of better evidence-based policy-making incorporating key insights from the research. Through her role as a Visiting Academic at the Bank of England, Dr Surminski’s work has also shaped policy developed there; her work is referenced numerous times in the Bank’s first Climate Change report, published in 2015.



In line with “Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.”

*Photo by Chris Gallagher on Unsplash*





## Food security and social stability in Africa: New estimation methods for data-driven climate projections in data-sparse regions

**Tamma Carleton Michael Greenstone Solomon Hsiang  
Andrew Hultgren Amir Jina Robert Kopp Ashwin Rode,  
International Growth Centre**

A warming climate threatens food security and social stability in many parts of Africa however, these locations often lack the data necessary for adequately assessing such climate risks. Using outcome data, this research produces predictions of future climate-induced crime and conflict risk and reduction in crop yields. Research findings suggest that 24 hours of exposure to a temperature of 40°C results in maize yield losses of up to 12 per cent, relative to the yield at the optimal maize growing temperature of 29°C. The International Resource Committee is prototyping the system to guide crime and conflict prevent efforts.



In line with "Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture."

## Urban Compactness, Ambient Air Pollution and Health

**Sefi Roth and Felipe Carozzi, LSE Cities**

As of 2014, urban population accounted for 54 per cent of total global population and it is expected to grow by approximately 1.6 per cent per year between now and 2030. Increase in city size is associated with welfare enhancing agglomeration effects, increased congestion and subsequent air pollution which has adverse effects on human health, productivity and well-being. The research project studies the potential causal link between urban compactness and pollution concentration in the United States, including directly estimating the health effects.



In line with "Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages."



## Sustainable Growth in the UK: Seizing opportunities from technological change and the transition to a low- carbon economy

**James Ryhde, Ralk Martin and Anna Valero**

### **Grantham Research Institute and Centre for Economic Performance**

Promoting strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth is a priority for G20 governments, including the United Kingdom's, reflecting the need to drive improvements in labour and resource productivity through more and better investments in innovation, infrastructure and skills. This special report for the LSE Growth Commission shows why it is sensible for environmental sustainability to be at the heart of the UK's growth strategy and how this can be achieved. The recommendations provide a framework and strategy for sustainable growth in the UK.



In line with "Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all."

## Heat, Greed and Human Need – Climate Change, Capitalism and Sustainable Wellbeing

**Ian Gough, International Inequalities Institute**

This book builds an essential bridge between climate change and social policy. Combining ethics and human need theory with political economy and climate science, it offers a long-term, interdisciplinary analysis of the prospects for sustainable development and social justice. Beyond "green growth" (which assumes an unprecedented rise in the emissions efficiency of production) it envisages two further policy stages vital for rich countries: a progressive "recomposition" of consumption, and a post-growth ceiling on demand.



In line with "Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all."







## The Role of the Private Sector in Climate Adaptation

**Surminski, Averchenkova, Crick, and Leck,  
Grantham Research Institute**

## The Impacts of Environmental Regulations on Competitiveness (July 2017)

**Misato Sato, Antoine Dechezlepretre et al.,  
Grantham Research Institute**

## Crime is in the Air: The Contemporaneous Relationship between Air Pollution and Crime

**Dr Sefi Roth, Lutz Sager and Malvina Bondy,  
Department of Geography and Environment**

## Social Discount Rates for Cost-Benefit Analysis: A Report for HM Treasury

**Professor Ben Groom, Department of Geography and Environment;  
Grantham Research Institute**

## Sustainable infrastructure and the international financial system

**Nicholas Stern, Grantham Research Institute**

### Future Goals:

- LSE's 2030 Strategy states that LSE will continue to undertake research in range of areas including climate change, sustainability and cities. Education will include an emphasis on students asking complex social questions to empower them to lead change for the betterment of society.



# Targets

- Engage staff, students and members of the public in sustainability initiatives
  - Deliver Green Impact and Student Switch Off / Reduce the Juice
  - Support Sustainable Futures to run Sustainable Projects Fund, ensuring availability of funds and support for student or staff-led sustainability projects
  - Actively support events including Green Week
  - New staff / student engagement programme to be developed in partnership with sustainability psychology / gamification experts
  - Establish LSE Sustainability Training Strategy with HR and Comms Division, and deliver sustainability training to LSE staff (including operational, management and leadership personnel)
  - Promote sustainability through social media, website, and newsletters
- 
- Completed, successfully ongoing, or on track
  - In progress but behind schedule
  - Not achieved

# Partnerships and Engagement

We empower our students and staff to reduce their own environmental impacts, whilst starting debate on sustainability issues. LSE staff and students get involved in a range of initiatives and LSE reaches out to engage the public community too, inspiring them to take action.

share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals..." and "Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships". This is brought to life through the case studies in this chapter.

## Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals

LSE's approach to community engagement is embodied by SDG 17 – "Partnerships for the Goals" – particularly Targets 17.16 and 17.17, aiming to "Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and



In line with "Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development."



## Engagement within LSE

### LSE Generate entrepreneurs

LSE Generate is the home for entrepreneurship at LSE with an aim to support and scale socially-driven student and alumni ventures, both in the UK and internationally. Generate hosts a number of events throughout the year to support LSE entrepreneurs and offers funding, resources and co-working spaces too. The following case studies highlight some of the enterprises that LSE Generate have been actively working with in 2017/18:

**Diana Szpotowicz** is the founder of The Weekly Shop, a social enterprise whose mission is to introduce the mainstream customer in the UK to plastic-free alternatives and donate 10 per cent of profits to fund environmental and development projects worldwide. The Weekly Shop is currently an online shop, also appearing at various market stalls around London, including several times on the LSE campus supporting staff Green Impact projects and engaging the LSE community in reducing plastic consumption.

**Jaron Soh** is the co-founder of Artisan & Fox, a social enterprise that connects artisans across the Majority World to international markets through its online marketplace.

Artisan & Fox works with handworkers in developing regions that lack access to international markets, either due to policy bottlenecks or the lack of infrastructure locally.

They believe that e-commerce is an important tool for the development and economic growth for the countries that we operate in, but understand that at the same time, the global retail industry is riddled with human rights violations and environmental issues.

They are on a mission to redefine the way global retail works, by investing in local artisans, overcoming market barriers, and helping them grow their micro-enterprises.



**Bonnie Chiu** is the co-founder and CEO of non-profit social enterprise Lensational, which aims to empower marginalised women by equipping them with cameras and photography training.

She is also the Managing Director of The Social Investment Consultancy, an international consulting firm that helps charities and businesses maximise their social impact.

She holds a MSc International Relations at the London School of Economics (LSE), and has just been awarded Young Achiever of the Asian Women of Achievement Award and Forbes 30 under 30.

**Tim Brown** is the co-founder of Allbirds, the innovative and sustainable footwear company.

Having just sold its millionth pair of shoes this year, Allbirds has just opened its first UK store in Covent Garden and has raised over \$17.5 million dollars in investment to date.

- LSE hosted its first ever Research Showcase for the school community in November 2018, giving students and staff the opportunity to connect with emerging research within the School. Research highlights included what makes students and staff happy at LSE, the most pressing global health challenges of today, how faith shapes peace and conflict in South Sudan and how palm oil agriculture impacts carbon emissions and haze episodes in Southeast Asia.



*LSE student explores the impact of palm oil using virtual reality technology at LSE's Research Showcase.*



- Sustainability training was delivered to all new LSE leadership staff and managers. Workshops addressed how global mega-trends are shaping how universities operate, how LSE's mission ("the betterment of society") can help unlock strategic opportunities whilst minimising risks, and how personal leadership styles can help us be ambassadors for sustainability. One of the sessions was developed in partnership with the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges, as part of a wider programme to develop sustainability leadership capacity within the UK tertiary education sector.
- Green Week was collaboratively organised by the Students' Union and LSE at the start of February 2018. A week of sustainability events included a Dr Bike stand, visits to the LSE Beehives with a honey tasting stall, a Beekeeping 101 and film screening of "Rotten: Lawyers, Guns and Honey", a series of events on green finance with industry professionals, Green Planet Ventures talking on Tropical Rainforests and International Development, and a series of stalls ran by LSE Library including carbon footprint calculating, making herb planters and a wellbeing walk.
- "Green Impact" enables staff around the School to improve the environmental impacts of their workplace by implementing small actions and delivering creative projects. In 2017/18, 24 teams delivered 23 projects which included a veggie month resulting in a veggie cookbook to share, installing a shelter for OFO bikes outside Rosebery Hall and measuring student engagement, a sustainability pub quiz, a sustainable LSE treasure hunt and a series of events during Green Week. 31 students got involved as project assistants and were trained as auditors, gaining valuable experience and skills to support their future careers.



Library Green Impact team engage students on sustainability issues



- Student Switch-Off, the international energy-saving competition for students, ran in four LSE halls of residence. Over 450 students participated in 2017/18, with 10 training as Student Switch-Off ambassadors. Due to issues collecting electricity consumption data, the winner was the hall with the most engagement – Carr Saunders.
- Four halls of residence ran “Reduce the Juice”, a competition for students to save energy and water whilst boosting recycling. 135 Student Engagement Action Leaders (SEALs) encouraged targeted actions using a structured social media campaign and direct student contact. 58,388 kWh and 17.2t CO<sub>2</sub>e were saved during the month-long Energy Sprint, based on available data. Passfield Hall won with 89 per cent of residents getting involved. Rosebery Hall achieved a 2 per cent water usage reduction, winning the Water Sprint. The Waste Sprint turned its attention to the environmental impact of fast fashion. 145 students took part in the #whomademyclothes campaign and a series of clothes swap shops.
- The Sustainable Projects Fund provided funding and support to two sustainability projects which included buying new planters for the student and staff rooftop gardening initiative and a fund to support LSE Green Impact projects. The Fund annually offers support and up to £20,000 for student and staff-led projects that enhance sustainability at LSE, and is financed by a 10p levy on plastic bottles sold at LSE catering outlets.
- The Department of Geography and Environment ran its first ever departmental photography competition on the theme of sustainability in January 2018. Shortlisted photographs were showcased during the launch of the newly refurbished Michael Wise Room. The competition was part of the team’s Green Impact project.
- Several LSESU student societies worked on a range of sustainability-related projects, including the Green Party, Sustainable Futures Society, FoodCycle, Beekeeping and Oikos. In November, LSESU Foodcycle Society collected waste food from Borough Market and, at their Jazz Feast event, attendees cooked delicious dishes together whilst enjoying live jazz.



*Iceland by Jesse Ju, LSE Geography and Environment photography competition*





Project Illuminate by LSE Government and Economics student Jun Hao Peh





LSE100 represent LSE in the Lord Mayors Parade

## Engagement in the community

### **LSE hosts global hearings on impacts of climate change**

The Grantham Research Institute and LSE Law Department played host to the final phase of hearings in a ground-breaking inquiry in November 2018 seeking to attribute the impacts of climate change to the world's largest fossil fuel and cement producers – the so-called “Carbon Majors”. The inquiry was initiated by Filipino citizens and civil society organisations, supported by the Philippines Human Rights Commission, and heard evidence from international experts; it will conclude in 2019. Acknowledgment of the responsibility of corporations in causing climate damages would set a precedent, and could eventually contribute to momentum leading to the provision of compensation by courts.



### **Lord Stern engages policymakers on the need for urgent action on climate change**

In 2017/18 Lord Stern continued to make the case for urgent action on climate change with policymakers at all levels. The New Climate Economy, which Lord Stern co-chairs, published the 2018 Report of the Global Commission on the Economy and Environment, showing that strong action on climate change is sustainable, inclusive and the growth story of the 21st century. The report was welcomed by politicians, business and civil society leaders around the world. 2018 also saw Lord Stern addressing the UNFCCC 24th Conference of the Parties (COP24) in Katowice, Poland; urging, at the Vatican, delivery of the 'new global agenda', on the third anniversary of Laudato Si': Saving our Common Home and the Future of Life on Earth, Pope Francis's second encyclical; and advising senior decision-makers at the China Development Forum. Lord Stern agreed to co-lead a working group for the One Planet Lab on the invitation of President Macron of France, and is acting as commissioner of the United Nations Secretary General's Special Summit on Climate Change.

- In May 2018, BSc Government and Economics student Jun Hao Peh, distributed solar powered lamps to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. Jun Hao Peh applied to the Davis Project for Peace Prize for support in delivering his project, "Project Illuminate", with the aim to improve safety and quality of life in the camps through a safe, sustainable and cheap lighting source.
- The Grantham Research Institute at LSE celebrated its 10th anniversary by hosting events and releasing publications that looked back over the key impacts the Institute has made over the past 10 years and its priorities for the coming years. Events included panel talks on "What Next for International Climate Action?", "Human Rights and Climate Change" and a public lecture with Unilever CEO Paul Polman on "A New Era for Business". These are available to watch online.
- LSE co-founded Zinc – an accelerator programme bringing together experts from the social sciences, design, technology and business, along with potential investors, to help budding entrepreneurs create technology-based companies and products to fulfil specific social missions. In October 2017, over 800 people applied for the first 9 month programme, with the mission "to improve the mental and emotional health of 650 million women and girls in the developed world". The second mission, "to unlock new opportunities for people in places that have been hard-hit by globalisation and automation", launched in October 2018.



- LSE has contributed to policy development, both through public consultations and giving expert evidence to local and national government. This includes contributing to the development of the Environment Bill, the government's voluntary public sector carbon targets in the Clean Growth Strategy, the London Plan and the London Environment Strategy.
- As a member of the Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges, LSE contributed to the development of the "SDG Accord" – a global charter to convene action on sustainable development from universities around the world. It has now been signed by hundreds of institutions and individuals across six continents.
- LSE Sustainability Engagement Officer, Katie Rees, judged and provided feedback to 29 international projects as part of the Global Goals competition, organised by youth organisation Future Foundations. The competition asked teams of school children to complete social action projects that contributed to the Sustainable Development Goals. Projects included mental health awareness role plays for peers in schools; activities and events to integrate refugees into the local community; and reef and beach clean ups and habitat reconstruction in Bangkok.
- In May, LSE Generate held an event titled "Food For Thought: Is Social Enterprise the Solution to the Global Food Waste Problem?" with guest panellists including Director of DayOld Eats, Josephine Liang, Get Wonky co-founder Maciek Kacprzyk, Olio Head of Food Waste Programme Michael Barsties and LSE Generate winner Gayatri Mehta from Forbidden Fruit.
- LSE continues to collaborate with the Northbank Business Improvement District (BID) in its aims to enhance the local public realm and create a cleaner, greener neighbourhood. The School is a member of the steering group for the Business Low Emission Neighbourhood, which is receiving Mayoral support to deliver a £350k programme of works to cut air pollution, install new green spaces in streets, and engage the public. In November, five LSE staff represented the School in the Lord Mayors Parade, as part of the Northbank BID's float which was themed on clean air.
- LSE students volunteered with the Orchard Project in July 2018, helping a community orchard in Catford lay mulch down. The six LSE students worked hard with local volunteers, learnt about mulching and bramble bashing, and enjoyed a shared lunch al fresco.
- LSE were Finalists in the 2018 EAUC Green Gown Awards in the Total Reporting category for the 2016/17 Annual Sustainability Report.



- A number of sustainability-related public lectures took place at LSE, including the panel talk “Business responsibility and the climate crisis: climate obligations for enterprises”; “Closing the Gender Gap by 2030” with Rosy Cave, Head of Gender Equality Unit at the Foreign Office, Asako Osaki, Visiting Professor at Kwansei Gakuin University and Elena Gentili from the OECD’s Gender Equality Delivery Unit; and Salil Shetty, Secretary General of Amnesty International on “Decolonising Human Rights”. Public lectures can be listened to online.

#### **Future goals:**

- Provide engagement opportunities for LSE staff and students and support in projects.
- Develop volunteering opportunities for students and staff to support sustainability initiatives in the local community.
- Explore further avenues for working across the School in collaborative projects.



*LSE students volunteer with the Orchard Project*



## Awards achieved in 2017/18







*Aerial view of LSE campus and central London*



**[lse.ac.uk/sustainableLSE](https://lse.ac.uk/sustainableLSE)**



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