



Sustainability Strategic Plan – 26 June 2024 progress updates

As gathered by the Head of Sustainability.

Previous updates can be found linked on the [Delivery and Decision-Making](#) webpage.



Education - *Embedding sustainability across our teaching and learning experiences.*

- US Phelan Centre launched its new syllabus hub on climate change and sustainability.
- Students working on the Change Makers project, 'How can universities embed sustainability into the curriculum?' produced a report and presentation delivered at the Change Makers presentation event on June 10. They will follow up with the Programme Manager EfS, on July 12 regarding potential recommendations and action points for LSE.
- New Curriculum software Accari shortly to be acquired, which maps curriculum content. LSE DTS and Business Improvement Unit teams to follow up with Programme Manager EfS in August on how this can help flag sustainability-related curricula to current/prospective students.
- Exploring joining future 17 initiative run by QS and University of Exeter.
- The Programme Manager EfS is currently designing an online Education for Sustainability module on Moodle to be accessible to both students and staff.
- New Sustainability related courses/programmes:
 - Legal Aspects of Sustainable Finance (2024/25) – Law School (Taught Masters)
 - Tackling Climate Change: Legal Strategies (2024/25) – Law School (Taught Masters)
 - Environmental Anthropology – Department of Anthropology (Taught Masters) - TBC
 - MSc in Culture, Justice, and Environment – Department of Anthropology. - TBC



Communications and Research – *Shaping the global sustainability debate through our research*

- Since the last meeting Communications have continued to share sustainability related research content across our channel, including:
 - 3 films – a documentary on food insecurity in Brazil, a short film for social media on fashion and the circular economy for Earth Day and another on green growth for World Environment Day.
 - 21 articles across our centrally run research blogs and 1 article for our online research magazine focussed on climate litigation.

- 9 events, including one policy roundtable with Centre for Cities on decarbonising housing and 5 events as part of LSE Festival, including a conversation with award-winning writer Kim Stanley Robinson, a discussion of colonial power and climate change, and a skills-based workshop on how to go beyond GDP to measure sustainable economies. The Festival Family Day also included an event on creative campaigning, including climate-related issues, for children of all ages, and the Festival exhibition included displays about water insecurity in Jordan, invertebrate minds and the green backlash in European cities. LSE Festival had over 11,000 attendees over the course of the week.
- We also want to highlight the KEI PhD fund, which supports PhD students with knowledge exchange and impact projects and this year has funded four engagement projects on sustainability-related themes, including green hydrogen in Scotland, food storage and refrigeration in China, sustainable cities (particularly asphaltting in Benin) and mercury contamination in Colombia.
- Dr Jen Fensome (Director, Research and Innovation) is in conversation with the University of Exeter about collaborating on a carbon budgeting tool for grant applications. There is the possibility of a pilot in the autumn, at which point further information will be passed onto Sustainability Board. The tool will identify high carbon activities written into grants with the following aims: - embedding environmentally sustainable practices in the R&I activities we co-produce or collaboratively undertake or fund. - actively encourage those we work, collaborate, and communicate with to design, carry out and disseminate R&I in an environmentally sustainable manner, encouraging sector-wide change. - develop, implement, and share ideas, good practice and learning experiences with the R&I community.
- From July, Research & Innovation will be welcoming a Senior R&I Engagement Manager who will work closely with the R&I Evidence and Analysis Team and Professor Susana Mourato on reporting requirements for selected committees and boards. This will include Sustainability Board.



Engagement and Leadership - *Deepening public discussion on sustainability across the world.*

- LNS directly involved with India's G20, IMF, World Bank and WTO
- PAGE provided an update.



Investment - *Making sustainability a key part of our investment decisions*

- An analysis undertaken of School's investment portfolio using TPI – reviewed by ISC and published online.
- Green Bond Impact Report and audit has been received.

- Carbon reporting being reviewed over summer, including in relation to TCFD disclosures.
- Council has considered the report from the students as at 25/06/24 – outcomes to be confirmed.
- ESG planned to be reviewed earlier to address People & Planet requirements – proposal has been put forward to Investment Board



Collaboration - *Working in partnerships within LSE and externally*

- No update available.



Our School - *Reaching Net Zero Carbon and reducing our environmental impacts*

- Decarbonisation Plan - discussion to be had with Procurement on how to progress
- 35 LIF on time and on budget – PassivHaus, BREEAM Outstanding and Well Platinum.
- Bankside has similar requirements to 35 LIF, but at earlier stage.
- 2 x residential block refurbishments – certification achievement restricted due to budgetary and opening deadline requirements. Will be thermally improved.
- Residential refurbishment financial planning should be undertaken earlier to ensure appropriate interventions to meet Net Zero can be undertaken.
- Joint target covering Estates, Residents, Catering and Finance to be implemented, rather than Estates alone.
- Old Building ASHPs installation completion by Christmas.
- LRB and Connaught House ASHP design in relation to PSDS funding has begun.