



Sustainability Statement

Updated November 2021

Lincoln College is committed to action towards an environmentally sustainable future.

Lincoln College's Sustainability Committee takes the lead in implementing sustainability-related initiatives, measuring their impact, and setting new objectives. Areas of activity are outlined below. The Sustainability Committee has a Senior Officer of the College as its Chair and includes Fellows and students. It reports to the Governing Body via the Domestic Committee.

The College has undertaken an audit of its energy usage and will be undertaking an audit of its bio-diversity. These audits will provide baseline data against which we can measure our progress in reducing emissions and enhancing biodiversity and against which we can set meaningful targets.

Our specific objectives include:

Leadership

Lead by example – model sustainable thinking and behaviour for Lincoln staff, students, alumni, and other institutions.

Embed sustainable thinking and behaviour into the College's culture so as to benefit both current members and the next generations, both within and outside the College.

Provide public information about our progress towards a more sustainable world.

Take into account information about environmental and social costs, as well as financial costs, when making investment and business decisions.

Carbon

To measure our carbon emissions and agree a well-defined and challenging but realistic target for reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the areas of College electricity and gas consumption, as well as food, and staff and student travel.

Initially, the College is focusing on its carbon and bio-diversity impact. The next stage will be to consider the impact of food and travel.

Energy

Reduce College buildings' carbon emissions in line with our greenhouse gas emissions reduction target by reducing overall energy consumption. This will be achieved through technical solutions and behavioural change.

Biodiversity

To have a baseline audit of bio-diversity. To limit our negative impact on natural ecosystems and environments by preserving and, where possible, creating and/or enhancing wildlife habitats in spaces owned by the College.

Food

We will work to reduce the environmental impact of our food through menus, sourcing, production, and influencing consumer demand.

Raise awareness of how personal diet choices affect health and the environment.

Travel and Transport

Encourage and support staff, students, and visitors to use low- and zero-carbon modes of transport, both to and from the College and in general. Prioritise rail travel over air wherever possible.

Sustainable Buildings

Introduce more sustainable operating efficiencies into our existing buildings wherever possible through ongoing maintenance and works.

Ensure that any new building or refurbishment is planned, built, and occupied to ensure the greatest energy and water efficiency and lowest carbon emissions that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Sustainable Purchasing

Purchase products and services that reduce the College's environmental impact locally and globally. This could include the products themselves, or means of delivery. Consider the environmental and social as well as financial costs when making purchasing decisions.

Waste

Encourage and support behaviours and work practices that minimise waste. Encourage recycling and make it easy for College members to recycle. Review and communicate waste data to facilitate continuous improvement.

Water

Use water efficiently and implement measures to reduce the use of mains water. This will be achieved via both technical solutions and behavioural change.

Investments

The College integrates environmental, social, and governance issues into its investment decision-making. The College believes that well-run companies which promote sustainable, environmental, social, and governance policies will ultimately deliver above average long-term returns to their investors.

In November 2021, less than 0.4% of the College's endowment investments had exposure to fossil fuels.