

Document Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Procedure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Position Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Charter <input type="checkbox"/> Code of Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Report <input type="checkbox"/> Plan
Title	Net Zero Commitment Statement
Description	The main aim of this statement is to highlight the college's commitment to achieving sustainability and details its aims to incorporate the principles of environmental sustainability into all aspects of institutional planning and operations.
Document Ref	2410
Version Number	007
Department/Area	Estates and Capital Projects
Owner (Post Owner)	Steve Johnson
Last Updated	25.01.2023
Date Approved by Corporation/SLG	25.01.2023
Date of Next Review	24.01.2025
Equality Impact Assessed/Screened	YES/NO
Category	Public/Internal/Both
Covers	Staff/Learner/Both

Issue No: 007

Document Change Note Ref: 2410

Date: 25.01.2023

Review Date: 24.01.2025

EIA Date: 25.01.2023

# Dudley College Sustainability and Net Zero Commitment Statement

## Commitment

### **‘Putting sustainability at the heart of decision-making’**

Everyone has a role to play in delivering on net zero targets. Colleges are uniquely placed at the heart of communities to support a fair transition to a green economy for people and employers.

They must be invested in and empowered to play their role in the journey to net zero and meet the need for green skills and green jobs.

The college will take action and put sustainability at the heart of decision-making using the FE College Climate Action Roadmap, in response to the climate emergency and to advance sustainability.

The college understands it is at the starting point of our journey to net zero emissions and as new activities are identified they will be included and reported on.

## KEY ACTION AREAS

- **Leadership & governance**
  - incorporate promoting & raising awareness of the UN 17 sustainable development goals, having annual reports to track the progress of reaching the goals.
  
- **Climate education**
  - Learning about the natural environment
  - Green skills and careers
  - Support for teaching

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Aligning apprenticeships to net-zero objectives through the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education's (IfATE) Green Apprenticeships Advisory Panel

Continuing the roll-out of T-Levels to support young people into green careers

Driving STEM provision through our growing network of Institutes of Technologies (IoTs)

Expanding Skills Bootcamps so that adults are able to upskill and retrain in key green sectors

- **Net Zero Strategy**

- developing and delivering Climate Action Plans
- accessing public and private funding

- **Reporting emissions and progress against targets**

- the college has an environment group who meet on a termly basis. Each member of the group will take responsibility to monitor the progress of appointed activities and update at each meeting. Ideally the group should have representatives from:
  - ❖ Higher management – to report on the UN-SDG's
  - ❖ Computing, Engineering & built environment – Buildings and equipment, emissions/energy efficiencies
  - ❖ Estates – biodiversity
  - ❖ Quality, student support & learning resources – procurement
  - ❖ Marketing – communication & evacuation
  - ❖ Procurement coordinator/finance – funding opportunities, reduce, reuse, recycle

- **Biodiversity and Access to Nature**

- raise awareness by creating a balance that ensures continuation of the natural environment on campus. Spending time in green space, bringing nature into your day benefits mental and physical wellbeing
- increased the biodiversity on the education estate and implemented 'Green Corridors' for access to education settings, improving climate resilience, physical and mental wellbeing, and protecting and enhancing wildlife and ecosystems
- increase active travel to college, contributing to the Prime Minister's vision that half of all short journeys in towns and cities will be walked or cycled

- **Water strategy**

- flood resilience
- sustainable urban drainage
- water efficiency
- resilience to drought

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- **Operations and supply chains**
  - the circular economy
  - waste prevention
  - resource efficiency
  - promotion of circular economy

## **KEY AIMS**

We will achieve this through the following strategic aims:

1. Excellence in education and skills for a changing world: preparing all young people for a world impacted by climate change through learning and practical experience.
2. Net zero: reducing direct and indirect emissions from education and care buildings, driving innovation to meet legislative targets and providing opportunities for children and young people to engage practically in the transition to net zero.
3. Resilience to climate change: adapting our education and care buildings and system to prepare for the effects of climate change.
4. A better environment for future generations: enhancing biodiversity, improving air quality and increasing access to, and connection with, nature in and around education and care settings.

As a college we need to lead by example and find ways to reduce and reuse our own waste. Each department will need to commit to doing this where possible. To implement systems to reuse wood, metals, copper, plastic and food waste college wide. Through the duration of the plans we will actively look for new opportunities, social enterprise opportunities for students and encourage students to factor these ideas in their careers as they move forward.

We know there are many organisations working to improve sustainability and mitigate against climate change, so we will seek opportunities to:

- work with others who share our objectives
- extend and amplify existing good practice and initiatives

We will also facilitate partnership across the sectors to maximise the use of resources, expertise and ideas to achieve more effective outcomes.

ensuring we play our part in reducing public-sector emissions against a 2017 baseline by:

- 50% by the end of Carbon Budget 5 (2032)

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- 75% by the end of Carbon Budget 6 (2037)
- Nett Zero by the end of 2041

As part of the process to drive this forward we will endeavour to carry out the following to enable our aims to be delivered and assist others in their journey:

- share best practice
- access funding
- develop networks