



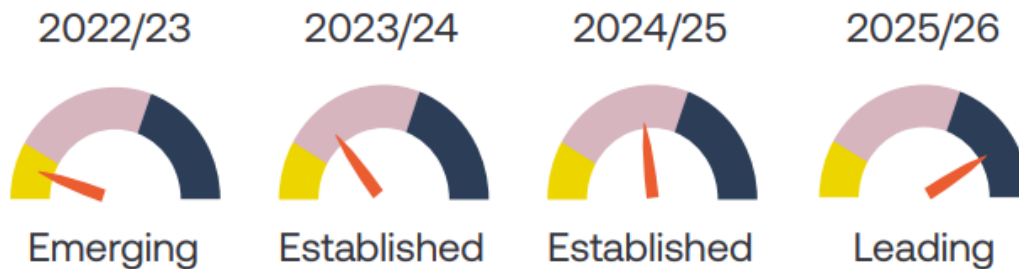
Climate Action Roadmap for Further Education Colleges: 2023/24 Progress Report

Climate Action Roadmap for Further Education Colleges

To demonstrate our commitment to protecting our environment, the college has signed a public pledge to become net zero by 2050 with an interim target to be carbon neutral by 2030* through the [Race to Zero Charter](#). We have adopted the [EAUC Climate Action Roadmap](#) to help to achieve it. Please see the progress to date against the roadmap and our carbon emissions report on page 5.

**For further explanation of these terms please see the [Race to Zero Lexicon](#).*

Targets



Comment on Progress

Progress towards our targets have been slower than anticipated this year due to barriers in time and funding. Whilst the Sustainability Committee are a collective of passionate staff members, they volunteer their time on top of their existing positions. The college have been awaiting the appointment of a full-time Sustainability Lead who will help to encourage and coordinate delivery by the committee and accelerate actions on the roadmap. Naturally, particular actions were paused in anticipation for this appointment in April 2024.

Progress Report

EMERGING		
Target	Actions	Status
Gather college views on sustainability	Staff and student surveys were completed in 2022 to gather an understanding of the appetite for action to combat climate. Another survey was published in 2024 as part of the climate action plan development.	
Establish sustainability committee	The Sustainability Committee have been in place since April 2022 and terms of Reference are agreed.	
Meet with leaders to set net zero target	Targets were set in line with the Race to Zero Charter and Milton Keynes Council targets. 2030: Carbon Neutral 2050: Net Zero	
Publish targets	Targets published as part of MKCG's public Community Impact Report. Explanation of RAG status: Awaiting upload to the Race to Zero website.	
Upskill on measuring emissions/carbon footprint	Informal training provided to staff required for collecting data for the UK's Streamlined Energy Carbon Reporting (SECR).	
Measure college carbon footprint using existing data	SECR Reports have been published for years 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23.	
Deliver carbon literacy training to all staff and students	350+ staff and students received carbon literacy training as part of the college's Develop Together Day (Oct 2022). Since, standalone content has been embedded into student enrichment curriculum.	
Implement strategies to reduce energy use	Strategies include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Heat Decarbonisation Plan • "Genius" building management systems (sensors for lighting and heating/cooling). • Upgrade of windows 	
Ensure recycling and food waste signage is available in every college building	Signage available for recycling bins. Explanation of RAG status: Work is in progress around food waste.	
Negotiate with campus food suppliers to supply sustainable food options	Some suppliers have been identified. Explanation of RAG status: Further work required to grow sustainable supplier base.	
Sign the Race to Zero Charter for Universities and Colleges	Signed. Explanation of RAG status: Awaiting upload to the Race to Zero website.	

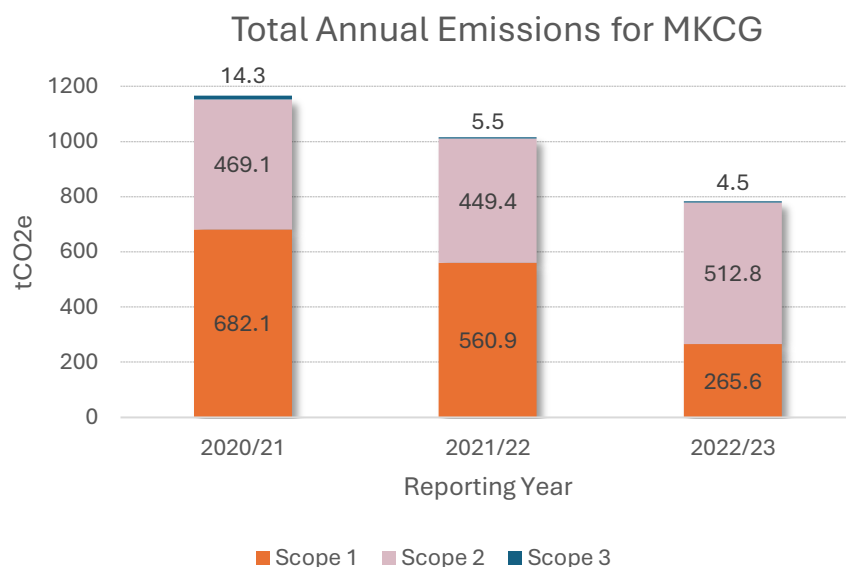
ESTABLISHED

Target	Actions	Status
Incorporate net zero ambitions into strategic plan and establish a ring-fenced budget	Sustainability into MKCG strategic wheel. Explanation of RAG status: Further work required to integrate net zero into review of MKCG's strategic plan.	
Establish reporting schedule against net zero targets	SECR reports published annually. Explanation of RAG status: Awaiting upload of plan and progress report to the Race to Zero website and development of the Climate Action Plan to establish reporting mechanism.	
Develop and implement plan to measure Scope 3 emissions	Explanation of RAG status: Further strategic work required for collecting waste and supply chain data.	
Participate in Global Goals Teach-In	Explanation of RAG status: Not yet started.	
Apply for Salix Finance Loan for financial support to improve energy efficiency on the estate	Application submitted and awaiting decision.	
Set and implement target to reduce waste in the college by 50-75%	Explanation of RAG status: Baseline data to be collected in 2024/25.	
Modify estates strategy in line with net zero targets	Section 6 of the Estate's strategy provides detail on the college's commitment to decarbonisation of the estate (Heat Decarbonisation Plan). Further work anticipated to set interim targets.	
Implement new travel policy to reduce emissions from long-haul travel	A Travel Policy has been established. Explanation of RAG status: Further work required to deliver action towards suggested targets.	
Sign the SDG Accord	Explanation of RAG status: Discussions in progress.	
Establish climate action network with local council	Explanation of RAG status: Discussions in progress.	
Develop fossil fuel divestment plan	Explanation of RAG status: Not yet started.	

LEADING

Target	Actions	Status
Develop climate adaptation/climate risk management approach	Explanation of RAG status: Not yet started.	
Incorporate sustainability into governance arrangements	The sustainability agenda is part of executive leadership team, governing board arrangements and strategic risk added to MKCG risk register.	
Embed climate responsibility into staff development	Explanation of RAG status: Plan to formalise sustainability CPD into staff development.	
Share carbon footprint data collection methodology with other colleges	Explanation of RAG status: Methodology and communication strategy to be established.	
Audit college curriculum against the SDGs using Responsible Futures Framework	Explanation of RAG status: Not yet started.	
Train all teaching staff in climate change/environmental issues and support them to incorporate the SDGs into the curriculum	Specific training provided for courses involving solar PV, electric vehicles and air source heat pump installations. Explanation of RAG status: Further work required to identify gaps across the curriculum.	
Implement renewable energy on a part of/all of the Estate	Renewable energy technologies installed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar PVs • Air Source Heat Pump Explanation of RAG status: Further renewable energy implementation to be considered as part of future capital funding allocation across all areas of the estate. The Heat Decarbonisation Plan provides detailed recommendations.	
Expand travel policy to reduce emissions from commuting	Explanation of RAG status: Further work required to deliver action towards suggested targets.	
Work with local community/council/businesses to improve local biodiversity	Explanation of RAG status: Discussions in progress.	
Apply for Green Gown or AoC Beacon Award	Explanation of RAG status: Not yet started.	

Carbon Emissions



Emissions for 2023/24 are still being finalised. However, from the 2020/21 baseline, we have so far achieved a 32.4% decrease in Scope 1 and 2 emissions with a similar decreasing trajectory in the intensity ratio: tonnes of CO₂e per square meter floor area. This reduction is a result of several energy efficiency measures, including:

- Installation of LED lighting across both campuses
- Implementation of Genius Hubs – a smart monitoring system for heating and cooling which automatically adjusts the temperature based on occupancy.
- Investment into technologies including an air source heat pump (ASHP) and mechanical ventilation and heat recovery (MVHR).
- Improved insulation which reduces heat loss in the winter and heat gain in the summer.

Last year (2022/23) our Scope 3 emissions made up less than 1% of our total recorded emissions, of which was focused on the emissions from our business travel (grey fleet). Going forward, we will seek to broaden the collection of data for relevant Scope 3 categories which is required as part of our ambition towards net zero emissions by 2050.

We report our emissions through the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) framework required by the UK Government. In accordance with the 2018 Regulations, the energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions are for those assets owned or operated within the UK only as defined by the operational control boundary.

The annual reporting period is 1st August to 31st July each year. The data collected is independently reviewed by a third party and is formally published within our financial statements each year, please see: <https://mkcollege.ac.uk/governance/governance-documents-board-minutes/>