

LEICESTER COLLEGE

SUSTAINABILITY ANNUAL REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This paper provides a sustainability update on College activities during 2024/25.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. An annual review of sustainability is provided annually to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, ELT and the Sustainability Committee. This reviews College performance in terms of Scope 1 and 2 emissions as well as other activities around Campus, with objectives set and reviewed.

3. REVIEW OF OBJECTIVES

3.1. The following table below highlights the objectives that were set for 2024/25 and the progress against these.

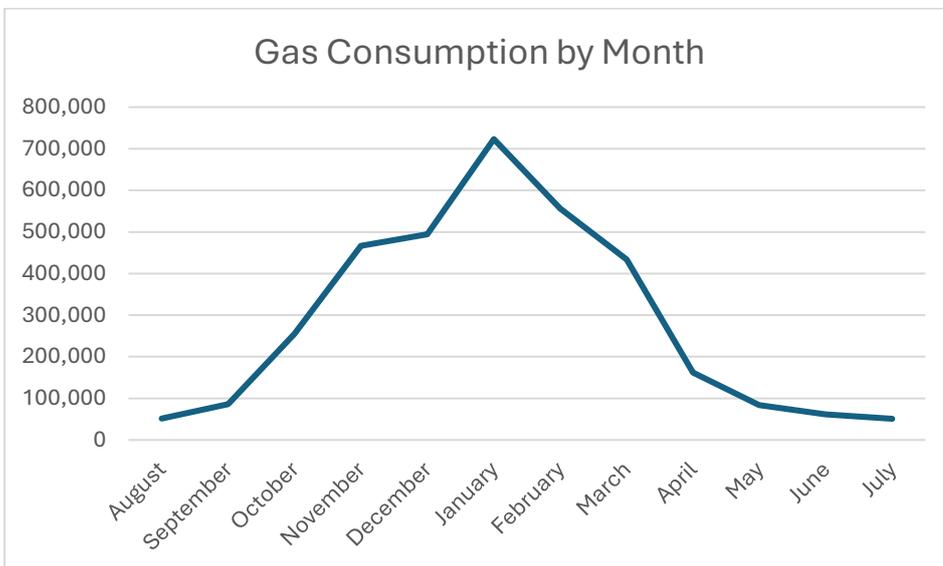
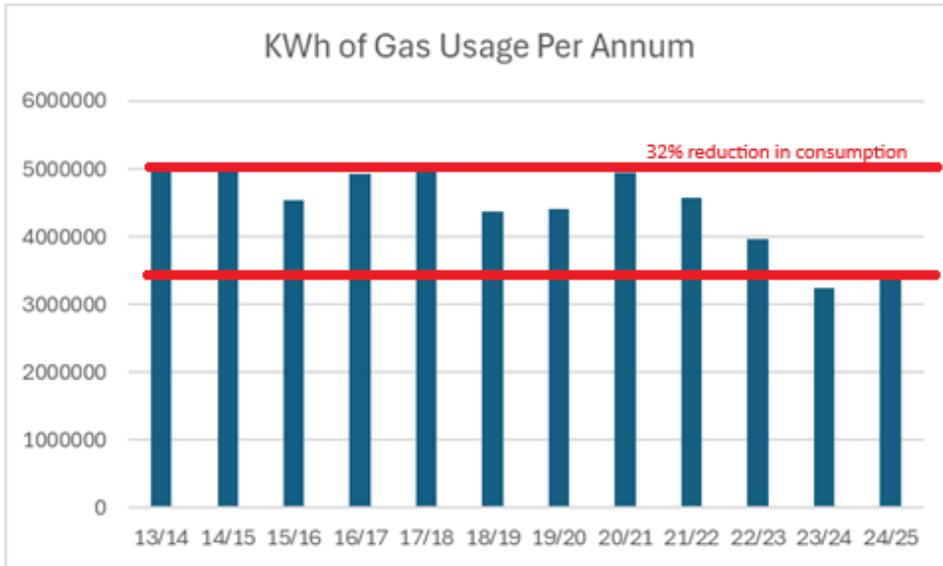
OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Begin working through the newly released AoC Roadmap	The Roadmap is contained within the Appendix with progress charted.
Work with Aquafund UK to reduce water consumption	Aquafund, as a company were dissolved. The College has however recently tendered its water services and has appointed Source 4 Business. We have now started working with them with regards to reducing consumption and billing.
Continue to drive through CO2 emission reductions through careful management of the Building Management Systems across College.	Ongoing and this has driven large reductions, other methods to now be explored.
Explore costs around installing PV Cells on roofs around main campuses	Presented to F&GP. College currently seeking further quotes at present and will also address under the forthcoming Estates Strategy
Submit SALIX bid in December 2025. If successful then capital to be spent by 2028.	This bid was unsuccessful. The College will bid again when the next window opens up.
Producing an annual streamlined carbon usage report and ensure visibility.	Complete.

OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Obtaining annual Display Energy Certificates (DECs) for buildings and acting on any findings.	Complete.
Reducing waste tonnage produced by College and increasing the amount of this diverted from landfill	Waste tonnage reduced and continue to divert 100% away from landfill.
Working with local partners on delivering the Net Zero agenda. Lead Sub-Group on Sustainable Food Procurement	Frequency of group meets has slowed due to staffing issues with the Sustainability Team at LCC.
Continue to increase the amount of meat free alternatives available in College refectories.	At all campuses daily, healthy meat free options are available.
Helping to in bed Sustainable Development Goals within curriculum delivery	Ongoing.
Completion of out of hours energy Audits	This has not been completed due to staffing issues within our Facilities Team. It is an objective for 2025/26.
Produce College Sustainability Roadmap following on from Audit action points	This will be tied into the Sustainability Strategy that is to be produced, aligning with the overall College Strategy.

4. UTILITY CONSUMPTION

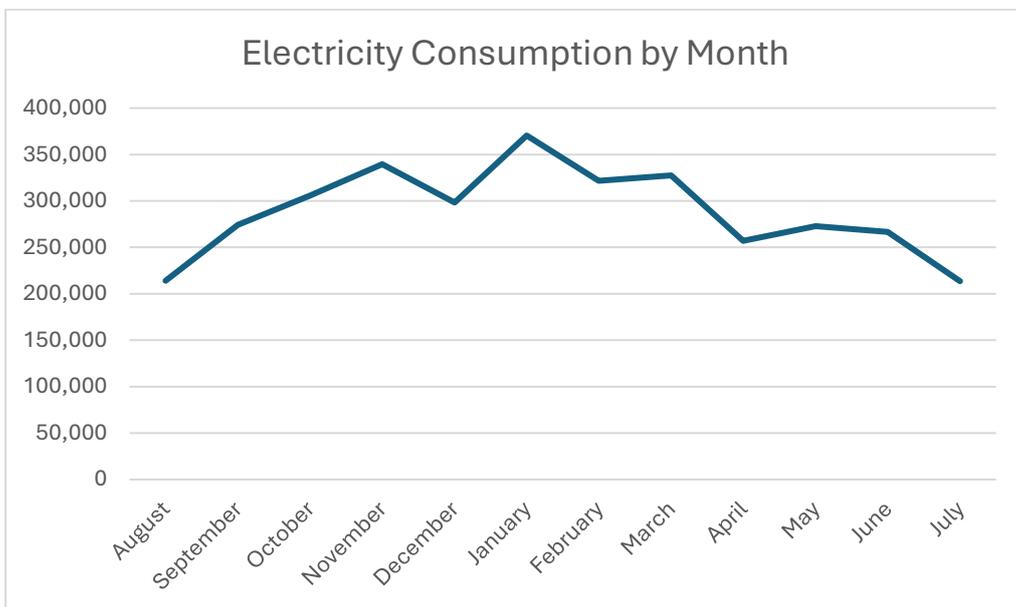
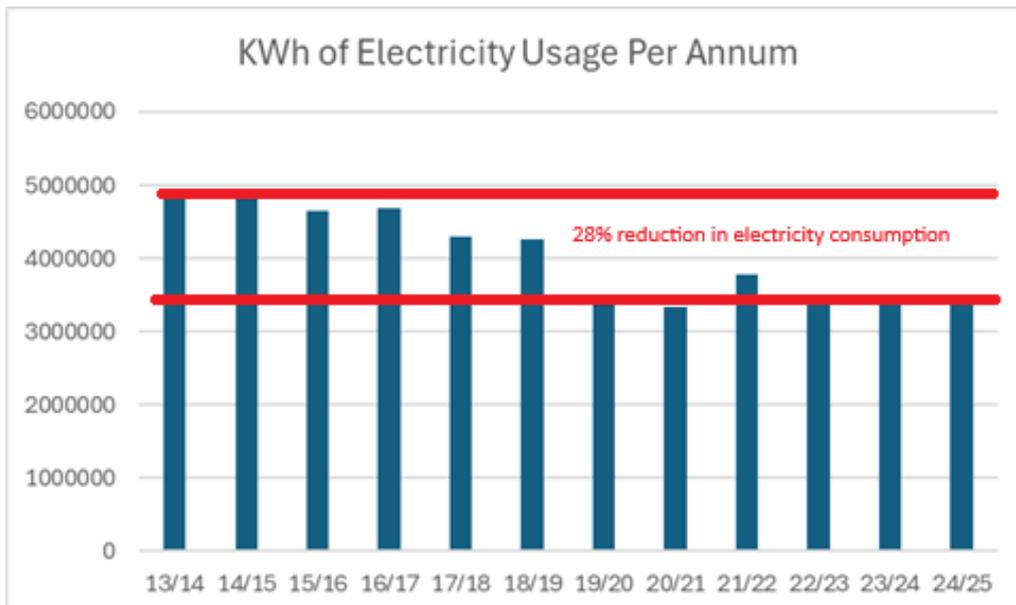
4.1. Gas

- 4.1.1. The College's main campuses and outreach centres (minus the Sue Townsend Theatre and City Skills Centre) are all served by gas.
- 4.1.2. The chart below shows historic performance , with the baseline year selected being 2013/14. This has resulted in a 32% reduction in consumption over this period with the monthly consumption trend also shown.



4.2. Electricity

- 4.2.1. Over the past nine years the overall trend of electrical usage has been one of reduction. As highlighted under Gas, the Baseline year is 2013/14 and up until this year this has resulted in a 28% reduction in consumption.



KPI SCOPE 1 & 2 EMISSIONS

- Reduce total Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions arising from energy consumption by 70% by 2025-26 against the baseline year 2013-14.
- Up to the end of 2022/23 total Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions arising from energy consumption have reduced by 32% against the baseline year 2013-14. This has increased from the 25% rate reported the previous year.

5. BUDGET

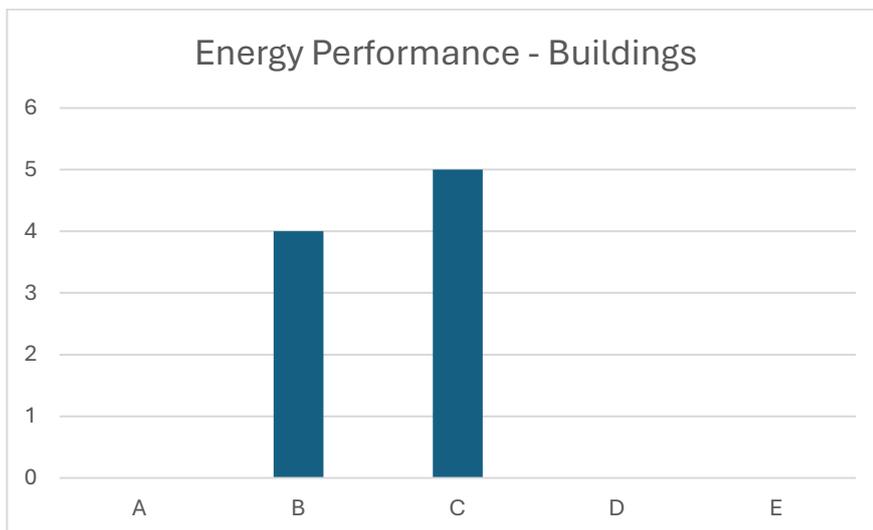
5.1. The College has previously used 'Pure Green' Electricity that was free of fossil fuels and emanated from renewable sources. The additional cost of purchasing this was circa £35,000. It was therefore decided at F&GP (2024) to ringfence this money for sustainable capital initiatives, which would provide consumption

savings in KWh, reducing footprint and quick payback periods. A list of these projects is contained below:

Install	Amount	Annual Saving KWh	Payback (years)	CO2 saved (Kg)
Savawatt - Commercial Fridges - Ampage reduction	£18,144.00	27,955	1.88	5789
SMC - Corridor Lighting - LED Replacement	£11,218.00	18,346	3.07	2330
FPC -LED Lighting Replacement	£5,638.00	12,480	2.26	1163
	£35,000.00			

6. DISPLAY ENERGY CERTIFICATES

- 6.1. The Display Energy Certificates (DECs) and Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) are the main parameters used to benchmark and monitor the performance of our buildings. New certificates were obtained in June 2025.
- 6.2. As a whole, buildings within the portfolio are performing well, with lighting refurbishments moving our most inefficient building, Block A FPC from a D rating to a C rating.



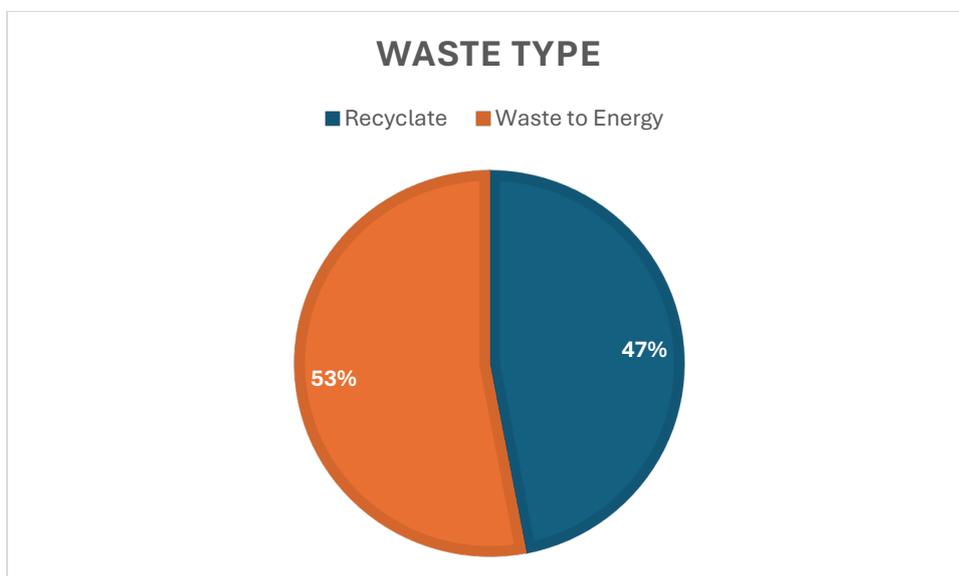
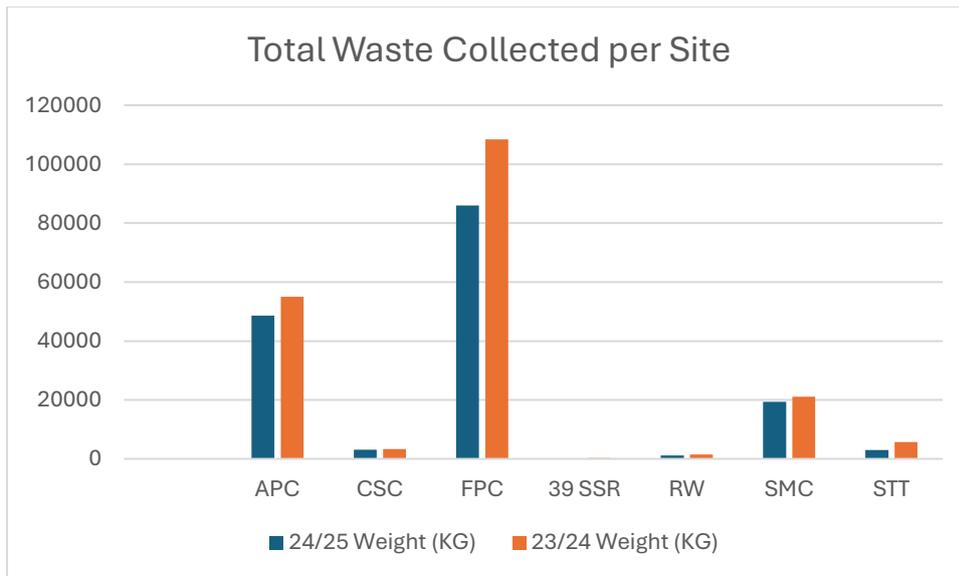
7. FOOD INC REFECTORIES

- 7.1. The College currently operates from three refectories within the main campuses and a newly established coffee cart (post review August 2025). As part of these numerous sustainable initiatives have been completed including:

- Sale of Fairtrade teas, coffee, and chocolate. Sale of Rainforest Alliance with 100% sustainably sourced cocoa chocolate bars.
- Recycling of used cooking oil, glass wear and disposable containers, along with PET1 plastic water bottles fully recyclable, including label and cap.
- Removing polystyrene from take away containers, along with removing plastic cutlery, Now only recyclable/compostable containers and cutlery are used. All hot drink cups and lids used across all Food Incs are UK made, plastic free and fully recyclable. All Food Incs across the campuses now use fully recyclable salad bar containers, removing plastic.
- Food waste goes to an anaerobic digester plant - bio generator.
- Using local suppliers to reduce food miles, adopting LIFE (local, independent, fair, ethical) with a 50-mile radius where possible.
- Buying in season food and vegetables, where possible.
- All Campuses have an increased range of non-meat foods on their menus.
- Bought in sandwich/rolls are in 100% plastic free packaging.
- Food Incs monitor food waste to keep to a minimum.
- Delivery packaging is reused/returned or recycled.
- Coffee Cart uses local suppliers including coffee supplied and roasted in Leicestershire, and all sweet treats handmade in Coalville Leicestershire. All hot drink cups and lids are UK made and are plastic free and fully recyclable. All cold drinks are canned, no plastic bottles and all fruit used within these drinks is wonky fruit to reduce food waste. These drinks are also Certified B Corporation (A Certified B Corporation is a company verified by the nonprofit to meet high standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency). The Cart itself was made in the UK further reducing the carbon footprint.
- All commercial areas display chiller units, fridges and freezers are fitted with SavaWatt devices to further reduce energy used.

8. WASTE

- 8.1. The College commenced contract with a new waste provider in October 2022 and the reporting streams have increased greatly since this date, allowing better data analysis as per below.



8.2. The College continues to divert 100% of waste away from landfill, with an average of 47% recycled. The remaining is used in the UK's large and burgeoning Waste to Energy (WTE) sector in which is incinerated to produce steam for electricity use.

KPI SCOPE WASTE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce waste to landfill to 5% from current level of 7%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of waste now diverted from Landfill

9. AOC ROADMAP

9.1. The College continues to progress along the AoC Roadmap, and this is highlighted within the Appendix. The new roadmap was released in November 2024 and whilst more relevant, there are still areas that are not applicable.

10. LEICESTER CLIMATE PARTNERSHIP

10.1. Alongside 17 other City based organisations the College is a founding member of Leicester Climate Partnership. To date nine meetings have occurred and the outline of work programme has been established with the following work themes:

1. Sharing knowledge on decarbonisation
2. Skills workforce training
3. Procurement – focusing on food procurement
4. Energy networks and grid capacity
5. Communications and engagement
6. Education and research
7. Adaptation and nature recovery

11. GREEN TRAVEL

11.1. Dr Bike was on site four times at each campus during 2024/25 with an extension to Ross Walk. At FPC there were 18 services completed, APC 23, SMC 10 and RW 3. At these Dr bike sessions the police also attend to do security marking on bikes.

11.2. The Cycle2work scheme changed to be open all year round (instead of selected windows), with an increase in the time to repay and a cap on the price of bikes that can be bought (£2,500). In 2024/25, two bikes were purchased for £2,250.00 and £1,500.

11.3. Four abandoned bikes were donated to Northside bikes to recycle for the free bikes to the community project they are running.

12. CURRICULUM DELIVERY

12.1. The Sustainability Curriculum working group supports the whole organisational approach to sustainability, one of the College's core values. The Sustainability Sub-group met in Sept 2024 and the Sustainability Strategy Group met on 11 December 2024. Because of staffing changes, workload and interim leadership arrangements, this Committee has not met during the year.

12.2. ESOL students took part in a variety of activities in Aylestone Playing fields and allotments during the autumn/winter term, including planting, harvesting, organising and sorting stock.

12.3. Launchpad have introduced an Employability qualification which is about debate and action for change, and they will focus on sustainability and the environment.

12.4. Level 1 Business students constructed willow baskets and fat ball feeders for birds and hang in trees around APC to encourage nature and wildlife. They also decorated plant pots and potted plants to disseminate across the campus.

- 12.5. In Construction, students are looking at solutions for moving away from traditional Fossil Fuel Technologies. The department has developed a full cost 'Sustainable Energy and Renewable Technologies course for 2025
- 12.6. In Access programmes, the area is transitioning to online portfolios and work storage and submission All staff have received digital sustainability training and green topics have been included in the delivery model with this being an ongoing topic.
- 12.7. Performing Arts level 2 students took part in an upcycling project to support dementia awareness. The dementia project took place in collaboration with the Royal Central College of Speech and Drama. A fundraising event took place at LBC Depot including students swapping and selling preloved clothes to raise money for The Bridge.
- 12.8. As part of the 'Love Your Campus' campaign, the College was successful in obtaining a grant of £2,000 from the Skills and Education Group Foundation's Resource and Facilities Fund to support the creation of an accessible garden space in front of the nursery at Freeman's Park Campus, which staff and students from Construction and Supported Learning transformed as part of a collaborative project with a seating area with planters was created.

13. OBJECTIVES FOR 2025/26

13.1. Objectives for the upcoming year are set out below:

- Deliver Sustainability Strategy
- Work with Source 4 Business to reduce water consumption
- Rollout additional Savawatt devices to reduce consumption on Air Conditioning units across campus.
- Explore costs around installing PV Cells on roofs around main campuses – Currently working with a new provider to present further options.
- Bid on grants as they become available for sustainable initiatives.
- Producing an annual streamlined carbon usage report and ensure visibility.
- Obtaining annual Display Energy Certificates (DECs) for buildings and acting on any findings.
- Increase Building Management System (BMS) controls to enable more control on occupation times and thermostatic levels.
- Reducing waste tonnage produced by College and increasing the amount of this diverted from landfill
- Obtain tenders for Carbon Literacy Training for SLT
- Working with local partners on delivering the Net Zero agenda.
- Continue to increase the amount of meat free alternatives available in College refectories.
- Curriculum to continue to drive through Sustainability initiatives.
- Completion of out of hours energy audits
- Commencement of measurement of Scope 3
- Increase Bio-Diversity through installation of Swallow boxes and planting of Trees at APC B Block.

- Promotion of new Cycle 2 Work Scheme.

CLIMATE ACTION ROADMAP ACTIVITIES BY AREA

