

Birmingham City University Carbon Management Programme

Carbon Management Plan (CMP) Executive Summary



Date: 11th November 2010
Version: 2.0

Executive Summary

This document summarises the information in version 2.0 of the University's draft Carbon Management Plan (produced 5th July 2010 and revised 11th November 2010).

This Carbon Management Plan is a revised version of the original plan produced in 2008/09 as part of the Carbon Trust's Higher Education Carbon Management Programme Phase 4. It should be viewed as part of the University's wider environmental strategy.

The reasons for producing this Carbon Management Plan (CMP) are:

- The Corporate Plan commits the University to "the promotion of sustainability in our policies and activities" – the CMP is a key factor in achieving this.
- It will ensure we meet the HEFCE objective which is to "facilitate a carbon reduction culture to significantly reduce carbon emissions across the sector".
- The CMP will address the specific HEFCE requirement, as set out in CIF2, that all Universities develop individual carbon reduction strategies, targets and associated carbon management plans. Failure to meet performance against carbon management plans may affect future capital funding.
- The CMP will set measures over time and against milestones to meet the commitment of the sector to reduce as minimum carbon emissions by 80% by 2050 and in accordance with the Climate Change Act 2008.
- There are significant financial benefits to be gained from implementation of the CMP, particularly with savings from reduced energy consumption.
- There are ever increasing expectations from students and the community to reduce carbon emissions, failure to act could be damaging to our reputation.
- As a major business and employer in Birmingham we will demonstrate our commitment and support to Birmingham City Council's target of a 60% reduction in carbon emissions by 2026.
- The recently introduced Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC) is a statutory obligation and provides both a financial and reputational incentive to reduce carbon emissions. Performance in the first phase is partly based on achieving the Carbon Trust Standard (which we have achieved), which requires a Carbon Management Plan to be in place. Since the government's Comprehensive Spending Review, revenue from the scheme will be retained centrally by government rather than being recycled to participants; this effective carbon tax on participants increases the incentive to reduce carbon emissions.

This Carbon Management Plan consists of the following:

- An assessment of the University's carbon footprint for the HEFCE baseline year of 2005/06: approximately 17,500 tonnes CO₂, of which 95% is from buildings.
- Carbon reduction targets for the University covering scope 1 and 2 emissions (building emissions and University-owned transport): 48% reduction by 2020 based on 2005/06 in line with the HEFCE sector target. This equates to 3.2% reduction per year.
- Proposed projects and policies to contribute towards meeting this target covering: building operational management and occupant behaviour, IT equipment, lighting, building fabric, main plant.
- Organisational structure for the carbon management programme. The Carbon & Energy Reduction Officer, in liaison with the Environmental Committee, will take responsibility for the programme. Reporting to Corporate Management Group, Directorate and Board will be via the Director of Estates.

As part of the programme, the University will commit to monitoring progress towards targets on at least an annual basis.

Targets shall also be made publicly available via the University's website, as required by HEFCE.