

ENVIRONMENTAL & SUSTAINABILITY PROGRESS. SUMMARY FEBRUARY - JULY 2018

This report is a combined summary of two quarterly reporting periods (February to April 2018 and May to July 2018).

Carbon reduction up to end of March 2018

Carbon reduction progress for 2017/18 up to end of March 2018 has been monitored against 2009/10 baseline and against 2016/17 information. As of end of March 2018 we decreased our baseline 2009/10 figs by 22.1 % overall and in comparison to 2016/17 we decreased our figures by 6.4 %. The annual energy usage and consumption report for April 2017 to March 2018 will shortly be available.

Carbon reduction up to end of May 2018

Carbon reduction progress for 2018/19 up to the end of May 2018 is currently being monitored against 2009/10 baseline and against 2017/18 information.

As of end May 2018 we decreased our baseline 2009/10 figs by 28.4 % overall and in comparison to 2017/18 we decreased our figures by 5.8 %.

We continue to make steady progress in meeting our objective of exceeding 3% reduction of Glyndŵr University's annual carbon emissions total to ensure our 2020 target is met.

Current notifications / activities for this period, February to July are as below;

Sustainability Action Working Group (SAWG)

A new People and Planet Action Plan has been created for each specific section within People & Planet. The plan clearly defines what evidence is needed and gives individuals actions. (No update on timelines for 2018 People & Planet Headquarters as yet.)

A new Strategy Action Plan has also been created to monitor our progress in achieving the Campus 2025 Environmental and Sustainability vision. The plan clearly defines what actions are needed and by whom.

Ethical University - WGU have committed to Ethical Employment in the Supply Chain which will be in place by the 1st August 2018, meaning all WGU employees and contractor employees must be paid the national living wage. Ethical Investment Policy is due to go through VCB in July.

Waste - The Head of Estates and Facilities Manager are currently working with Veolia to produce a waste management action plan and aim to have at least one area in the main campus complete with a new recycling system for the start of the new academic year.

Plastic - With the drive to cut down on single-use plastic and use more environmentally friendly products gaining a huge amount of momentum, WGU are due to start phasing out the use of single plastic cups that are currently provided for the various water coolers on site. It has already been implemented in the Student Union lounge and at our Northop Campus.

Aramark use disposable packaging from a company called Vegware. The salad boxes are made from recycled sugar cane containing 99% less carbon than polystyrene.

Energy Data – We will be investigating ways of using WGU’s energy data we receive from IEC to raise awareness of energy use in certain areas/departments and to acknowledge the areas that have made savings. IEC delivered a presentation in June for staff involved in energy usage and reduction.

Green Impact – WgSU have achieved an EXCELLENT award.

Green Champions – To date we have recruited 46 Green Champions throughout the organisation including students and staff. We now send out a monthly Green Champions Newsletter with the aim of inspiring action, keeping the champions up to date with WGU sustainability news, events and campaigns and distributing opportunities for sustainability training. Green Champions are running a Campaign under ‘Do Nation’, a social enterprise that helps people commit to make small behavior changes that add up to a better world. ‘Do Nation’ encourages things like cycling to work, driving more efficiently, eating less meat etc. To date, 39 ‘Do Nation’ Pledges have been confirmed, saving a fantastic **16,061kg** in CO₂ a year so far. Pledges confirmed included ditching the lift, changing to a green energy supplier, switching off lights and choosing tap over bottled water. The annual Green Champion Training is due to take place on 11th July, run by Plas Derw Trust where Green Champions will experience a series of practical workshops with opportunities for skill sharing and team building.

External Local Partnerships - GroundWork delivered ‘green’ training, free Energy Saving Advice session for our Green Champions. This was particularly beneficial to WGU as this is one of the areas in which we can raise our marks, providing evidence in our annual submission for People & Planet. The Maintenance Team and Caretakers also benefited on the same date from an internal energy efficiency talk , recommending best practice in saving energy within the University, switching off lights etc. Sustrans also paid a visit and talked to students and staff about nearby cycle routes and the benefits of walking/cycling.

Other SAWG activities include **sharing previous and current energy projects** with the Student Union, for insertion in ‘What’s New WGU’ along with additional ‘green’ activities that we have carried out or are currently researching to assist in their objectives.

MBA students - presented sustainability ideas for the quad included wild flower area to encourage wildlife, outdoor gym equipment and space dedicated to outdoor learning. Ideas are to be costed and reported at the next meeting.

Print Policy – this in the process of being written.

Green Dragon Environmental Standard Award – Work continues to be carried out in participation of the Green Dragon Environmental Standard Award, working in partnership with GroundWork North Wales, a local charitable organisation. Groundwork gave a presentation on a support package proposal at the SAWG meeting held in March. A Green Dragon Baseline Environmental Review Work Book is currently under review.

Sustainability Events, Campaigns & Activities

- **Crispin Lane Clean-up** - Staff and students joined in with a clean-up of Crispin Lane, along with Wrexham county councillor for Grosvenor ward Marc Jones and members of the local community.
- **Go Green Week** – The University’s annual ‘Go Green’ week went well. The purpose of the week is to engage and encourage staff and students within the University to become actively involved with our ‘green’ issues. A whole range of exciting activities took place including biodiversity walks, seed and tree planting and a lunchtime bike ride lead by WGU VC Professor Maria Hinfelaar. Organisations such as RSPB, Groundwork and Veolia attended the Green Fair. We took the opportunity to showcase our own WGU Environmental and Sustainability Strategy, recruited 25 new Green Champions and promoted the ‘Do Nation Campaign’.
- **Scrap Single Use Plastics** – SAWG have been working closely with WgSU to encourage WGU to scrap single use plastics. In March, WgSU and WGU Northop Campus announced they were phasing out single use plastics and the main campus quickly followed and announced that by 1st August 2018 they aim to have phased out single use plastic cups.
- **Fairtrade Fortnight** – We combined the fortnight with ‘Go Green’ which included Fairtrade stall at the fair, a prize draw to win a Fairtrade hamper and Fairtrade banana pancake breakfasts were some of the activities. We took the opportunity to explain what Fairtrade is, why it is important, how it makes a difference and to promote what changes WGU have made towards Fairtrade in the last year at each of the events.
- **World Wildlife Day** – Mandy Cartwright – ARC, gave a talk on the importance of amphibian and reptile conservation at WGU Northop Campus which was well attended by students and staff.
- **Earth Hour** - Corbishley Hall residents chose to get together, light a bonfire and toast marshmallows instead of staying inside with their screens to show support for the ‘switch off’ campaign.
- **Gardening Week** - Working in conjunction with Flintshare, a community lead growing group and Techniquet a Science Discovery Centre, volunteering days were arranged at each campus.
- **National Walking Month** – We encouraged students and staff to count their steps for the month with free apps available and post a screen shot of their achievement. The most steps completed in a day and during the whole month won a prize.
- **Levers Food Donation** - Food collections continue for unwanted tinned and packet food. It has been and still is being donated to our local food bank as residents are departing. We encourage residents through newsletters to get involved to drop off their donated food at our accommodation offices in both Wrexham and Northop before they checkout of WGU accommodation.
- **Bike Week** – We took the opportunity to promote WGU cycle scheme and again asked students and staff to post a photo of them with their bike.
- **BHF** - BHF Recycling drop off points around our campuses. The aim is to encourage staff, students and visitors not to throw away their unwanted items in a bid to save the environment and with BHF,

saving someone's life. The 'Pack for Good' campaign has been in full swing now since the 1st April and the results for the first eight weeks are as follows:

(1st April -26th May)

37 bags collected so far which amounts up to £518 which is a fantastic start to 2018!

Interim data has also been included at the end – this is the data from all permanent sites across campus from 1st October 2017 – 31st March 2018 (49 bags = up to £686 during the winter months!)

Wrexham Schedule 2018												
Scheme	Site Name	Bank Type	Asset Code	T Code	2018 P1	2018 P2	2018 P3	2018 P4	2018 P5	2018 P6	2018 Total	Interim
Wrexham Glyndwr University	Student Village Car Park	Clothing Bank	CL3344	W32	0	25					25	0
Wrexham Glyndwr University	Reservations Office	2 Donation Boxes	40588354	W32	0	12					12	43
Wrexham Glyndwr University	Corbishley Hall	1 Donation Box	40590388	W32	0	0					0	6
					0	37					37	49

This is already an improvement from last year.

- **Internal lighting project** – Internal surveys are taking place, along with energy saving designs and cost saving measures for classrooms and lecture theatres in Plas Coch main building. Upgrades will ensure installation of energy efficient lighting focusing on internal areas to generate a high impact visual effect along with beneficial carbon savings. Funding sources will be internal.
- **CPD Lighting course** – An LED lighting course was delivered to Estates Staff in March by Dextra Group. This CPD course explored the history of LED technology, efficiencies and output. It consisted of a full presentation of 40-45 minutes, along with a 10-15 minute Q&A session. Full certificates were provided for all attendees contributing towards their CIBSE CPD requirements.
- **HESA data collection-** The annual HESA data collection, which opened in January, has now been completed and met with the end of February deadline submission. HESA is the official body responsible for collecting and disseminating information about higher education in the UK. People & Planet use 50% of the scoring from each University's HESA input.
- **Resource Efficient Wales Framework Agreement & Welsh Government** - Work has taken place with Resource Efficient Wales Framework Agreement (Refit) to research the appraisal and specification of an optimum strategy for heating at Plas Coch. Site surveys have been completed and investigations for heating strategy options are being considered, along with best funding sources.
- **Glyndŵr University's annual energy usage and consumption report** for April 2016 to March 2017, plus a summary of progress from our 2009/10 base year is now in the process of being compiled. Once completed it will be available online to showcase our commitment in reducing the Carbon Footprint, implementing energy conservation measures and contributing to a sustainable energy future.

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Email: energy&sustainability@glyndwr.ac.uk **Or Call:** Fiona Begg on Ext. 3020