

A close-up photograph of green leaves with serrated edges, some showing small brown spots. A bright, circular lens flare is visible in the upper right quadrant of the image.

Our Place, People & Partnerships

Craven College Sustainability Pledge

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SUMMARY

On 01 May 2019, the United Kingdom became the first country in the world to declare a climate emergency. The UK has set out in law the target of achieving Net Zero by 2050. We pledge to be Net Zero by 2030.

Why?

- The threat is here and now – climate change is already dangerous today
- The threat is rapidly accelerating – and ahead of earlier predictions

Scientists warn that even if all of the Paris emissions commitments were met, temperatures would surpass 1.5°C warming, and increase by 3°C to 5°C by 2100. The last time the world was that hot was 15 million years ago during the Miocene. At this temperature, all of nature will be affected, heralding the beginning of the Earth's sixth mass extinction event. Seas could rise by more than 2 metres this century as more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the world's glaciers melt. An estimated 2 billion refugees would need to relocate to areas of higher latitude, or towards the lower hemispheres where agriculture would still be possible and temperatures tolerable.

"If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilisations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon."

Sir David Attenborough, 2018 UN Climate Summit, Poland.

Craven College pledges to promote both individual effort and collective action focussed on our own sustainability revolution.

INTENT

Be a net carbon zero institution by 2030 and carbon negative by 2040.

All of our students and apprentices benefit from training in environmental awareness issues.

Responsible consumption and production.

Enhanced biodiversity on our campus and in our wider neighbourhood.

IMPLEMENTATION

All energy is procured by renewable means and effective carbon offsetting is in place that balances economic and social factors.

Embed Education for Sustainable Development and Carbon Literacy in all of our provision by 2025.

Our supply chain is sustainable and ethical and we continuously strive for further improvement and innovation.

Focussed undertaking to increase the breadth of ecosystem and habitat on our campus and contribute to local ecological campaigns.

IMPACT

Our college carbon footprint is significantly reduced.

All students and apprentices recognise the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and understand how they can impact them.

All of our partners, whether we procure or collaborate with them, have a shared commitment to environmental action and sustainability.

Promote opportunities for the College staff and students to get involved with opportunities to promote the greening agenda.

"Our PLACE"



We pledge that we will...



A. CAMPUS

Develop our campus woodland and estate to be our green lung capitalising on wellbeing and learning.

Increase the proportion of sustainable food options on our campus.

Achieve ISO 14001 in Environmental Management.

Commit to annually updating our decreasing Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting.

Recycle wastewater across our campus.



B. FACILITIES

Measure college carbon footprint using existing data.

Implement strategies to reduce energy use.

Apply for Salix finance loans to improve our campus energy efficiency and reduce emissions.

Implement renewable energy across all of our estate.

Strive to improve our building BREEAM ratings to "Very Good".



C. SERVICES

Promote the consumption of sustainably sourced food, and encourage plant based options.

Find alternatives to single use plastic items and promote.

Investigate the implementation of sustainable food schemes e.g. Incredible Edible, FareShare, Skipton Food Bank, ReFood.

Promote volunteering roles, aligned to increasing environmental awareness and sustainability.



D. TRAVEL

Implement policies to reduce travel that uses hydrocarbon fuel.

Take positive action to encourage walking, cycling, shared travel schemes and the use of low emission vehicles for college purposes.

Convert our college vehicles to low emission vehicles.

Increase the number of electric charging points on campus.

Secure our technological future to ensure that Working From Home for our staff, and blended digital learning continues to be an equitable alternative to campus attendance.



E. REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE

Set targets to reduce the waste on campus by 50%.

Develop a fossil fuel divestment plan.

Reuse as much as possible and significantly decrease our waste that is going to landfill.

Ensure that we have recycling stations in every building.

Set targets to ensure that all surplus resources that are used for teaching and learning, are recycled, e.g. wood, paper, textiles.

"Our PEOPLE"



We pledge that we will...



F. LEADERSHIP

Use the [Sustainability Leadership Scorecard](#) to measure, report and improve our progress on a whole institutional approach.

Commit to reporting on the SDGs and provide a common framework of understanding by signing the [SDG Accord](#).

Commit dedicated budget towards achieving our net zero ambitions.

Develop a specific College brand in order to unite collective action.



G. GOVERNANCE AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Incorporate sustainability into Governance arrangements.

Establish a cross-College Environmental Sustainability Committee.

Benchmark our performance against other institutions within the sector.

Ensure that all staff have sustainability objectives, and are aware of their responsibilities.



H. INVOLVEMENT

Establish a College-wide Sustainability Action Group involving staff, students and apprentices, led by Sustainability Champions.

Work with our local community to improve local biodiversity.

Lead the York, North and East Yorkshire Colleges Sustainability Group.

Contribute to the AoC Green Thread Policy Group.

Promote an annual Green Week, focussing on sustainability issues.



I. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Ensure that all staff are trained in environmental awareness.

Embed climate responsibility into staff development.

Develop our curricula to specifically include environmental sustainability in a relevant vocational and technical context.

Train teachers to incorporate sustainability into curriculum for all of our courses.



J. TEACHING AND LEARNING

Deliver carbon literacy training to all of our students.

Participate in Global Goals Teach Ins.

Audit our curriculum against the SDGs using the [Responsible Futures Framework and accreditation](#).

Provide our students with information about the greening of jobs and incorporation of green skills.



"Our **PARTNERSHIPS**"



We pledge that we will...



K. SUPPLIERS

Work with our suppliers to ensure that we only use ethically sourced products.

Choose to work with other bioethical partners.



L. COLLEGES

Partner with other colleges to share our carbon footprint data and collaborate on curriculum initiatives.

Become an FE advisor to the EAUC - The Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education.



M. LOCALLY

Strengthen our role in the Craven Climate Action Partnership.

Develop a communications and engagement strategy to be delivered alongside this Pledge.



N. REGIONALLY

Work with the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership to be Carbon Negative by 2034.

Work collaboratively to promote collaborative working between our stakeholders.



O. NATIONALLY

Sign the Global Climate Letter declaring a climate emergency and committing to the societal change that needs to occur.

Achieve a Green Gown or AoC Beacon Award for our work on promoting sustainability.



OUR PLAN



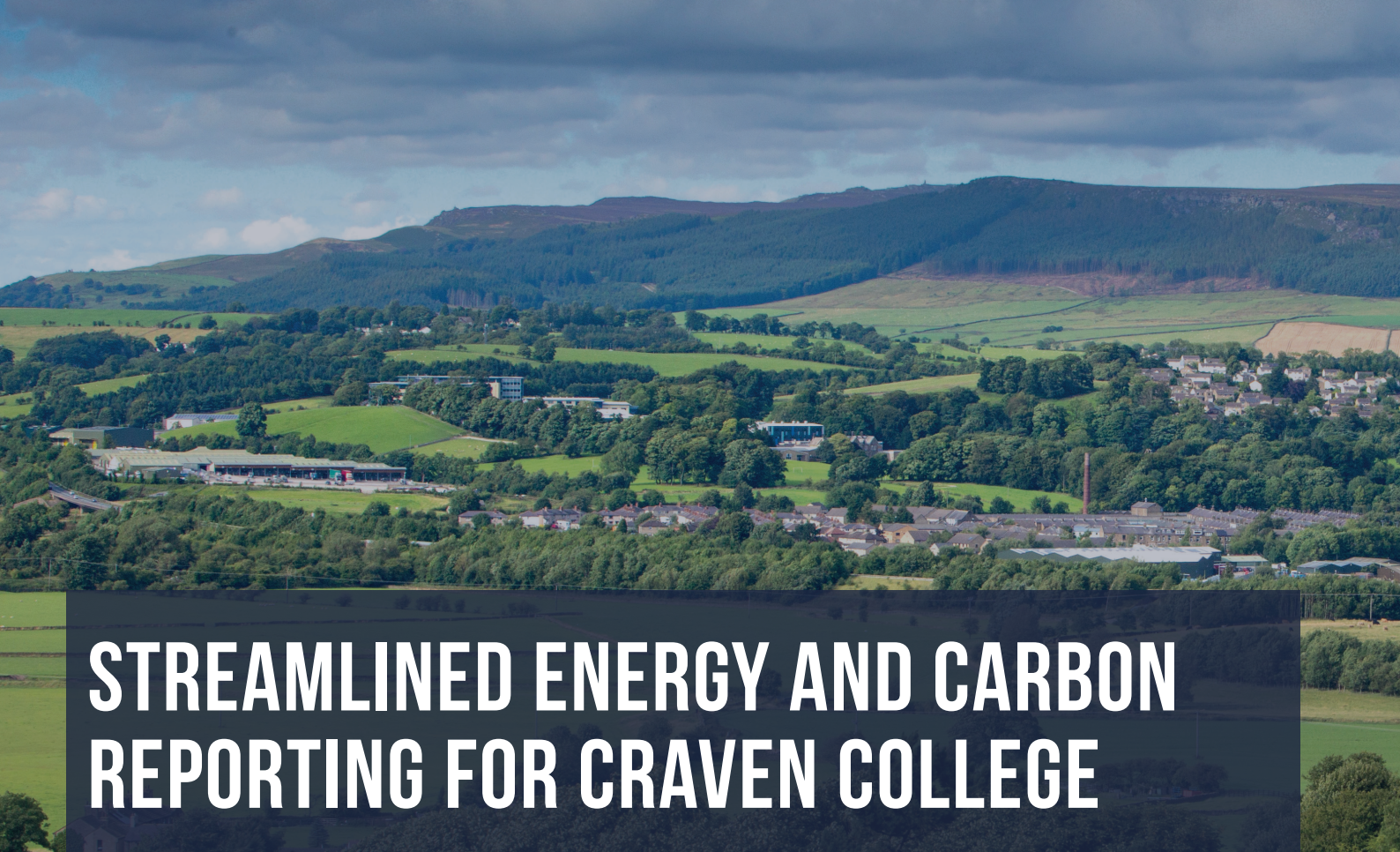
APPENDICES

REFERENCES

[Climate Commission and Nous Group Climate Action Roadmap for UK FE Colleges](#)

DEFINITIONS

KEY WORD	DEFINITION
Climate change	Changes in the large-scale, long-term shift in the planet's weather patterns and average temperatures. For more information on climate change and what causes it, visit the Met Office web page.
Climate emergency	The situation in which urgent action is needed to reduce or halt climate change to avoid catastrophic environmental damage, and its effects on people and communities.
Carbon footprint	The amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere as a result of the activities of an individual, organisation, or community. 'Carbon' is used as a shorthand to also include other greenhouse gases (e.g. methane and nitrous oxide) which cause climate change.
Net zero	Achieving an overall balance between emissions produced and taken out of the atmosphere.
Biodiversity	The variety of life on Earth in all its forms and interactions. Biodiversity on earth is being lost at an alarming rate. This loss of species and natural systems threatens the food we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe.
Environmental sustainability	Maintaining or 'sustaining' the environment by protecting natural resources and preventing damage through climate change.



STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING FOR CRAVEN COLLEGE

The Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting framework – SECR is a package of regulations published by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) that came into effect from 01 April 2019.

The College fully embraces this example of cross-government working understanding fully the role all organisations have to play in reducing energy and carbon emissions and how this is central to delivering the UK’s ambition to reach net zero by 2050.

INTRODUCTION

The College is committed to promoting environmental sustainability, where the needs of the present do not compromise the ability of future generations and is committed to the dual ethos of sustainability and responsible global citizenship.

The College recognises that its activities may sometimes have effects on sustainability and will meet all legislative compliance, and where practicable, exceed this requirement by incorporating sound sustainability management practices into all aspects of College operations.

The College has a major role to play in building the capacity of its students, staff and local communities to effectively participate in translating the rhetoric of sustainable development into reality. Of particular significance is the sector’s role in facilitating social inclusion, sustainable regional development and responsible global citizenship. This College has published a strategy document which details the commitment of Craven College to energy savings and a sustainable environment through the three themes of Curriculum, Campus and Community.

PART 1: DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Name of the company	Craven College
Description of the company	Further & Higher Education College
Chosen consolidation approach (equity share, operational control / financial control)	Operational Control
The reporting period covered	August 2019 – July 2020
The year chosen as base year	August 2018 – July 2019
Rationale for choosing the base year	The college was in the process of disposing and relocating several activities from older inefficient buildings to newer more sustainable sites

PART 2: GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Energy Consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	Base Year Aug 2018 - July 2019	Current Year Aug 2019 - July 2020
Gas (kWh)	1,518,584	1,383,456
Electricity (kWh)	669,426	572,722
Transport Fuel (miles)	248,775	159,984
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e		
Gas Consumption	279.22	254.38
Owned transport	1.67	1.2
Total Scope	280.89	255.58
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e		
Purchased Electricity	169.50	144.78
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e		
Business travel in employee owned vehicles	69.11	43.36
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e	519.50	443.72
Intensity ratio (FTE staff)	238	230
Tonnes CO₂e per member of staff	2.18	1.93

3.1 QUANTIFICATION AND REPORTING METHODOLOGY

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2020 UK Government’s Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

3.2 INTENSITY MEASUREMENT

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e per full-time equivalent staff member, the recommended ratio for the sector.

3.2 MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Ensure all new builds maximise the opportunity to create building and facilities that promote environmental sustainable development including BREEAM certification. (BREEAM very good achieved across all buildings)
- Move out of and transfer activities from older less energy efficient buildings
- Minimise use of energy and scarce resources through good practice, prudent maintenance and use of energy efficient resources
- We have installed building management systems to control environments operate lighting and have converted 70% of all lighting to low energy LED
- Reduce the use of paper by promoting the use of email, VLE, intranet and other technology as far as practicable, alongside double sided and black/white printing and copying where the use of print is unavoidable
- Promote a sustainable world environment through reducing, reusing and recycling wherever possible, and implementing safe and ethical disposal procedures
- Ensure that all staff are aware of the need to apply in practice the aims of the Environmental and Sustainable Development Strategy, particularly in relation to energy savings
- Ensure compliance with any legal requirements concerning the environment, and work towards meeting targets of government initiatives for a sustainable environment
- Minimise pollution by seeking environmentally acceptable economies in the use of transport including the installation of Vehicle charging points and acquiring two new all electric zero emission vehicles for college and staff use
- Reduce the use of water by purchasing water efficient equipment (dishwashers/washing machines), replacing worn tap washers to reduce drips
- Further investigating rainwater harvesting and the use of greywater systems

17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>



1. NO POVERTY

Economic growth must be inclusive to provide sustainable jobs and promote equality.



2. ZERO HUNGER

The food and agriculture sector offers key solutions for development, and is central for hunger and poverty eradication.



3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being for all at all ages is essential to sustainable development.



4. QUALITY EDUCATION

Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to improving people's lives and sustainable development.



5. GENDER EQUALITY

Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.



6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Clean, accessible water for all is an essential part of the world we want to live in.



7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Energy is central to nearly every major challenge and opportunity.



8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Sustainable economic growth will require societies to create the conditions that allow people to have quality jobs.



9. INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Investments in infrastructure are crucial to achieving sustainable development.



10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES

To reduce inequalities, policies should be universal in principle, paying attention to the needs of disadvantaged and marginalized populations.



11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

There needs to be a future in which cities provide opportunities for all, with access to basic services, energy, housing, transportation and more.



12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Responsible Production and Consumption.



13. CLIMATE ACTION

Climate change is a global challenge that affects everyone, everywhere.



14. LIFE BELOW WATER

Careful management of this essential global resource is a key feature of a sustainable future.



15. LIFE ON LAND

Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss



16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.



17. PARTNERSHIPS

Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.



Enriching lives through learning

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