Annex A- Commitments, targets and metrics

Theme 1 – Learning & Teaching: Creativity is a vital tool for addressing the challenge of climate change. Together with the potential offered by new technologies, it can drive innovation, power communication and catalyse change. By embedding environmental sustainability content across our degree course portfolio, we will equip our students with the knowledge and skills to make a difference throughout their lives after graduation. Not only will our curricula have the theme of environmental sustainability running through it, it will be delivered sustainably too, ensuring that our learning and teaching activities make the minimal environmental impact.

Commitments

- We will develop and adopt new guidance for our curriculum design process that will support the delivery of learning and teaching that has minimum carbon impact.
- We will embed Environmental Sustainability Learning Outcomes in every course across our undergraduate and postgraduate portfolio, on campus and online.
- To roll out a programme of staff development training to support the ongoing, current and industry-connected delivery of an environmentally conscious curriculum.
- To provide innovative, collaborative extra-curricular initiatives for students, staff and our local community to explore environmental sustainability issues, widen their knowledge and embrace opportunities for climate advocacy.

FALMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

	Goal Statement	Complete	Owner	How to Measure	Relevant Commitment	How we report and when	Cost
THEME 1 - Learning & Teaching							
1	Application across our entire curriculum of a published, peer-reviewed evaluation framework to determine the level of environmental sustainability embedded at the course level.	Sept '26	Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic Services)	i) no. of different FCL-S themes evidenced per course ('breadth') ii) no. of times individual FCL-S themes were evidenced per course ('depth')	To roll out a programme of staff development training to support the on-going, current and industry-connected delivery of an environmentally conscious curriculum.	Annual Environmental Sustainability Report (AB, UEB. BoG, public)	BAU
2	Establishing evaluative evidence of at least three environmental sustainability themes in every course we deliver, based on target 1 data.	Sept '26	Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic Services)	i) no. of new FCL-S outputs from targeted course leads ii) resultant qualitative, course-by-course evidence	To roll out a programme of staff development training to support the on-going, current and industry-connected delivery of an environmentally conscious curriculum.	Annual report (AB, UEB. BoG)	BAU
3	Evaluate student "learning gains" at the course level, in environmental sustainability awareness and knowledge / skill acquisition using established OfS guidance.	Sept '26	Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic Services)	i) distance travelled' data (student feelings, knowledge and agency levels before & after a term / AY) TBC (TEF / OfS-specific criteria / metrics)	To provide innovative, collaborative extra-curricular initiatives for students, staff and our local community to explore environmental sustainability education, widen their knowledge and embrace opportunities for climate advocacy.	TBC	BAU

4	Implement curriculum-based enhancement of authentic learning related to education for environmental sustainability through assessments and projects (including partners and industry).	Annual	Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic Services)	i) no. of environmental sustainability-focused projects / briefs delivered	We will develop and adopt new guidance for our curriculum design process that will support the delivery of learning and teaching that has minimum carbon impact.	Annual Environmental Sustainability Report (AB, UEB. BoG, public)	BAU
5	Adopt an audit & improvement approach to action planning within and across faculties to ensure circularity is embedded into our academic infrastructure.	Sept '26	Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic Services)	i) no of circularity analyses & action plans ii) list of circularity 'actions'	We will develop and adopt new guidance for our curriculum design process that will support the delivery of learning and teaching that has minimum carbon impact.	TBC	BAU

FALMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

Theme 2 – Research and Knowledge Exchange: Our research and knowledge exchange is focussed on delivering impact at a national and international scale, but also on creating benefit for the communities we serve. Our research will actively contribute to the generation of new ideas and innovations that contribute to fighting the causes of, and adapting to the effects of climate change, while our knowledge exchange leverages our resources and expertise to support evidence-based, positive action for change across business and society.

Commitments

- To co-ordinate and nurture environmental sustainability-related research to build critical mass across the institution
- To develop a framework that will ensure environmental impact is a key consideration in our approach to research design and delivery
- To leverage our expertise in creativity and technology to support local and regional partners engage with us on environmental sustainability challenges.

FALMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

	Goal Statement	Complete	Owner	How to Measure	Relevant Commitment	How we report and when	Cost
THEME 2 - Research & Knowledge Exchange							
6	To develop a project-level environmental sustainability tool that will ensure environmental impact is a key consideration in our approach to research design and delivery and to embed the tool across RKE planning processes.	Sept '25	Pro Vice Chancellor (Research & Knowledge Exchange)	i) scale of embeddedness: number of processes using the tool	To ensure environmental impact is a key consideration in our approach to research design and delivery	Annual Environmental Sustainability Report (AB, UEB. BoG, public)	BAU
7	To create a central intranet repository of guidance on environmental sustainability in research and KE by January 2025 (measurement: engagement)	Jan '25	Pro Vice Chancellor (Research & Knowledge Exchange)	i) engagement e.g. views	To ensure environmental impact is a key consideration in our approach to research design and delivery	Annual Environmental Sustainability Report (AB, UEB. BoG, public)	BAU

8	To annually audit current environment-related RKE activity via departmental RKE plans to map against external benchmarks, including UN SDGs, UKRI, and People, Place and Planet starting from July 24 (measurement: depth and quality of report drawn from RKE Plans)	Annual	Pro Vice Chancellor (Research & Knowledge Exchange)	i) depth and quality of report drawn from RKE Plans	To coordinate and nurture environmental sustainability-related research	Annual Environmental Sustainability Report (AB, UEB. BoG, public)	BAU

FALMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

Theme 3 – Physical Estate and Operations: Our net zero vision will be embedded in every area of our operations. As the university for the nexus of creativity and technology, this means leading the way on understanding and mitigating the emissions created by our digital, as well as physical, activities.

We will respond to issues with local and regional salience, aligned to Cornwall's 2050 strategy. Recognising the unique challenges our rural location presents to tackling environmental sustainability, we will collaborate with partners to deliver new opportunities for a cleaner, greener Cornwall.

Commitments

- We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity.
- We will incorporate digital decarbonisation into our net zero strategy.
- We will employ internal expertise to apply creative and design thinking to explore new ideas that will reduce waste and drive the circular economy on campus.
- We will develop an ethical investment policy with environmental sustainability as the key commitment
- Responding to local environmental sustainability priorities, we will:
  - Remove single use plastics in our commercial operations to reduce our contribution to ocean plastic and support ocean health
  - Invest in our campus grounds to contribute to local biodiversity
  - Support local, sustainable businesses through local procurement

FALMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

	Goal Statement	Complete	Owner	How to Measure	Relevant Commitment
THEME 3 - Physical Estate & Operations					
Net Zero & Energy					
9	Achieve Net Zero scope 1 and 2 (energy) emissions by 2040: > 50% reduction by 2025 > 75% reduction by 2030 > Net zero by 2040	2040	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) CO2e emissions towards net zero emissions ii) % reduction towards net zero emissions iii) Using the 2005/2006AY as scope 1 & 2 baseline (2,633 tonnes of CO2e) iv) Using the 2022/2023AY as the scope 3 baseline (13,769 tonnes of CO2e)	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity. We will incorporate digital decarbonisation into our net zero strategy
10	Achieve Net Zero scope 3 emissions by 2050: > 50% reduction by 2030 > Net zero by 2050 *(Categories included within this target: i) procurement of goods and services (includes capital goods and transportation of products), ii) waste & recycling, iii) business travel & field trips, iv) staff and student commuting travel, v) domestic and international student term time travel).*	2050			We will employ internal expertise to apply creative and design thinking to explore new ideas that will reduce waste and drive the circular economy on campus. Responding to local sustainability priorities (single-use plastics, invest in campus grounds, support local, sustainable businesses)
Recycling & Circularity					

11	Increase recycling provision in alignment with our scope 3 emission targets with zero waste going to landfill: > Reduce general waste by 1% per year > 5% increase in food waste recycled per year	Annually	(Director of Campus Services)	i) Tonnes of waste ii) Volume (litres) iii) CO2e emissions iv) Recycling % rate	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity. We will incorporate digital decarbonisation into our net zero strategy. We will employ internal expertise to apply creative and design thinking to explore new ideas that will reduce waste and drive the circular economy on campus.
12	Integrate at least 3 circular economic initiatives across the institution each year	Annually	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) Number of projects integrated	
Water Management					
13	Audit, measure and record water consumption to develop a water saving policy and delivery plan whilst implementing project led water reduction initiatives across campus.	2026	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) M3 ii) CO2e emissions	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity. We will incorporate digital decarbonisation into our net zero strategy
Procurement					

14	Broaden our Responsible Procurement Strategy triple bottom line approach focussing on: > Expanding our local supply chain > Supply chain carbon reduction > Social value integration	2026	Senior Head of Corporate Support and Compliance)	i) CO2e emissions ii) £ in local supply chain iii) % local suppliers.	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity. Responding to local sustainability priorities (single-use plastics, invest in campus grounds, support local, sustainable businesses)
Catering, Retail, Hospitality & Events					
15	Embed a Sustainable Hospitality, Retail and Food Policy that focuses on sourcing, environmental and societal factors	2026	(Director of Campus Services)	i) CO2e emissions towards net zero emissions ii) % reduction towards net zero emissions	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity.
16	Integrate sustainability across campus events and Cornwall Plus	2026	(Director of Campus Services)	i) CO2e emissions towards net zero emissions ii) % reduction towards net zero emissions	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity.
17	Remove single use plastic packaging across commercial outlets and operations	2026	(Director of Campus Services)	i) Measured using products/packaging type	Responding to local sustainability priorities (single-use plastics, invest in campus grounds, support local, sustainable businesses)
Biodiversity					

18	Deliver an environmental net-gain program across our campuses based upon our 2023 baseline:	2026	(Director of Campus Services)	i) Biometric units (habitats, hedgerows, rivers) ii) Biodiversity projects iii) Bee and butterfly survey iv) Wildflower spaces (acres) v) Trees planted	Responding to local sustainability priorities we will invest in our campus grounds to contribute to local biodiversity.
Buildings & Space					
19	Refurbish and design new buildings to BREEAM excellent standard	Ongoing	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) Measured based upon project	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity.
Travel					
20	Deliver an updated Business & Field Trip Travel policy that aligns with our scope 3 emission targets	2026	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) CO2e emissions ii) £ spent on business travel	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity.
21	Publish a new Sustainable Commuting Travel Plan that establishes sustainable and active travel modal shift in alignment with our scope 3 emission targets through annual surveys	2026		i) CO2e emissions ii) % modal split	
Environmental Compliance					
22	Maintain our environmental compliance program so that all aspects are compliant within UK environmental legislation	Ongoing	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) Measured on risk register scoring	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity.
Sustainable Digitisation					

23	Report and measure the energy and carbon impact of our digital programs, assess potential solutions to inform a decarbonisation digitisation policy and implement short term behaviour change initiatives	2026	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) CO2e emissions ii) £	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity. We will incorporate digital decarbonisation into our net zero strategy
Ethical Investment Policy					
24	Apply and use the new Ethical Investment Policy in the process of identifying potential investment opportunities.	2024	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) 'investee sustainability matrix' outputs ii) £ invested in 'ethical' organisations iii) CO2e emissions	We will develop an ethical investment policy with sustainability as the key commitment.
25	Within one year, implement a review of the sustainability impacts of our investment portfolio, and disclose this publicly, and every two years thereafter.	2025			
Community Involvement					
26	Deliver events/engagements with the campus and wider off campus community, each year we aim to: > Organise at least 20 sustainability/climate related engagements with the campus community (students and staff) > Organise at least 5 sustainability/climate related events with the wider off campus community	Ongoing	(Director of Estates, Planning & Operations)	i) number of events/engagements ii) number of participants iii) number of interactions	We will demonstrate sustainable operations across all our estates and operations activity. We will incorporate digital decarbonisation into our net zero strategy

Cost key:

- BAU - to be introduced through integration with business as usual.
- £ - Some cost but relatively low and introduced into BAU.
- £££ - Significant cost attached.

Annex B – Annual Plan - Environmental Sustainability Metrics and Targets

In paper BG/24/055 Annual Plan Metrics and Targets Annual Review, Board members will note the re-profiling of the Environmental Sustainability Metrics, moving away from % reduction against a historic baseline, to actual carbon with an incremental reduction to the net zero targets (Scope 1&2 2040; Scope 3 2050), which have not changed. This is considered to be a more transparent approach to oversight of the journey to net zero than the previous methodology. We will of course maintain records of our journey from this historic benchmarks, which will inform our narrative reporting.

At present, an even incremental reduction is plotted, assuming equal progress toward net zero each year, this will be reviewed and re-modelled on the basis of the 5-year carbon reduction plan.

A summary of the relevant changes presented in the earlier paper is as follows:

No.	Sub-category	Metric	Data definition	Owned by	Actions	2021/22 Baseline	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Target	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target	2029/30 Target	Metric type
11.1	Carbon reduction	**Scope 1 & 2 emissions (% reduction against 2005-06 baseline)**	Annual scope 1 and 2 emissions for both campuses per square metre against a baseline from the 2005/2006 year, our target is to reduce emissions by 75% from this baseline year by 2030. This is an average of the percentage reduction for both campuses.	University Executive Board	Actions with impact	**52.5**	45	**58**	47		48	50	56.25	62.5	68.75	75	Non-financial
		Scope 1 & 2 emissions (Tonnes CO2e)	Annual scope 1 and 2 emissions for both campuses. Net zero target: 2040		Revised:	**2355**	N/A	2248	2116		1984	1852	1720	1588	1456	1324	
										Difference:	Completely different target - actual carbon, not % reduction against baseline						
11.2	Carbon reduction	**Scope 3 emissions (% reduction against 2021-22 baseline)**	% reduction against (new) 2021-22 baseline (8,234 TCO2e). The data for Scope 3 is available later in the cycle (January/March). This is linked to HESA reporting, and extensive supply chain, travel and waste analysis.	University Executive Board	Actions with impact	**0**	6.25	**-67**	12.5		18.75	25	31.25	37.5	43.75	50	Non-financial
		Scope 3 emissons (Tonnes CO2e)	Annual scope 3 emissions (actual carbon). Net zero target: 2050		Revised:	**8,234**	N/A	13769	13259	**Revised:**	12749	12239	11729	11219	10709	10199	
										Difference:	Completely different target - actual carbon, not % reduction against baseline						