

## Sustainability Strategy Annual Report 2022-23

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Through its Sustainability Strategy, Sparsholt College Group (the college) is committed to operating all its activities in a sustainable manner, through minimising the adverse impact of its activities on the environment and in promoting sound environmentally sustainable principles and practices through the delivery of its curriculum offer.
- 1.2. The college recognises the key role it plays in responding to the climate emergency, given the stakeholders with which it engages. The Sustainability Strategy sets out our approach to reach the target of net-zero emissions for scope 1 and 2 by 2030, and net-zero for scope 3 by 2040.
- 1.3. In April 2022 the Department for Education published its strategy for the education and children's services systems on 'Sustainability and Climate Change'<sup>1</sup>. As previously reported, this strategy sets out ambitious activities to respond to recommendations for education from the Committee for Climate Change, the Dasgupta Review and the Green Jobs Taskforce report, and will support the delivery of the Government's 25 year Environment Plan and Net Zero Strategy.
- 1.4. This report provides an update on progress to date with Sparsholt College Group's journey to net-zero carbon emissions and its wider sustainability targets.

### 2. Sustainability Strategy

- 2.1. The Sustainability Strategy (Appendix A) was developed in 2020-21 in collaboration with the Green College Group. It identifies those activities which the college has already achieved, activities which are currently in progress this academic year, and those which are planned in the forthcoming years.
- 2.2. Progress towards planned sustainability actions and environmental improvements in 2022/23 includes:

2022-2023 Actions	Progress to date
<b>Climate Education</b>	
Staff induction Sustainability module for 'new staff' - developed and delivered	Completed and embedded into College Staff Induction programme
Sustainability CPD for all staff (building on 'new staff' induction model)	Completed - CPD unit rolled out to all staff, and now additional units offered across range of subjects (Level 2-Level 5)

<sup>1</sup> [Sustainability and climate change: a strategy for the education and children's services systems - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/106421/sustainability-and-climate-change-a-strategy-for-the-education-and-childrens-services-systems.pdf)

Curriculum area sustainability working group established	Completed across both campuses
Student Social action projects embedded into weekly duties activities	<p>Extensive range of projects evidenced across curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hedgerow Restoration and new pathway installed the entire length of Garstons Track by learners from Agriculture and Arboriculture and Forestry</li> <li>• Wetland areas have been managed by Land and Conservation learners around the campus, with larger scale restoration work conducted on the college lake</li> <li>• Horticulture students have supported a local primary school with their grounds work and planting of pond and wellbeing area</li> <li>• Andover learners are taking part in sustainability projects such as cleaning the River Anton on Volunteering day</li> <li>• Foundation learners are developing their awareness of sustainability through the development of their own garden and cultivation of plants and vegetables</li> </ul>
Study+ offer incorporates sustainability awareness and initiatives	Beekeeping Study+ in place with six apiaries now in operation, ECO-Society has been created and is now led by the student body and the Hedgehog Friendly Campus campaign has included several litter sweeps by students
Embed a review of sustainability considerations within lesson delivery as part of the TALO process	As part of Teaching & Learning Value 7 ( <i>'Developing Wider Skills and Knowledge'</i> ), the embedding of sustainability considerations in lessons (theory and practical) is now reviewed as part of the college lesson observation and learning review process
<b>Green Skills</b>	
Installation of electric vehicle demonstration and teaching technologies	<p>Electric vehicle (EV) technology teaching equipment now delivered to both campuses.</p> <p>New EV teaching area constructed at Andover to support delivery of training to learners and employers.</p> <p>Electric car charging points now installed at Hampshire Rural Business Centre, Main Admin</p>

	(Sparsholt) Aquatics Store (for lease cars) and motor vehicle workshop (Andover).
Installation of robotic milking parlour and Agri-Technology to enable research into livestock methane emissions	Project design development continues with the aim to commence works late Summer 2023, subject to planning approval
<b>Education Estate and Digital Infrastructure</b>	
Increase rainwater harvesting on campus (planned new builds)	Rainwater harvesting explored for all new projects; Dairy and Beef Barn projects, and new HE Centre
Reduce water consumption via leak identification	Monitoring by Demeter continues to enable swift response when leaks are identified
Investigate installation of air source heat pump on main admin building and main teaching block	Costings undertaken- awaiting further Salix funding rounds. Further consideration being given to buildings most suitable for this technology and what additional works might be needed to improve the overall thermal efficiency of these buildings. Last Salix round (May 23) restricted to bidding for decarbonisation plans only.
Investigate biomass heating at Animal Health & Welfare Research Centre (AHWRC) or Horticulture	Researching options to pelletise our own bio waste. AHWRC heating on 23/24 capital schedule.
Enhance use of solar energy by incorporating battery storage into existing system	20% of solar energy generated is currently exported- Green Nation accessing viability to incorporate battery storage with initial project to be developed at the Sports Hall. Project to be funded by EFSA Energy Efficiency Grant (23/24).
Extend solar energy harvesting by installing more panels on new buildings	Potential of some additional Solar panels to be incorporated into the AMC currently being as part of the power solution. Project to be funded by EFSA Energy Efficiency Grant (23/24).
Improved boiler controls to reduce LPG and oil consumption	Survey has now been completed and proposals document being drawn up to enable a tender pack to be developed. Project to be funded by EFSA Energy Efficiency Grant (23/24).
Installation of 10 new ponds on SCH campus to promote further insect, amphibian, and bird life	<p>Achieved largely through maintenance to the lake to reinstate an overflow at the western end. This now feeds the mini-chalk stream (built by students in 2018) again and has re-wetted the “wetland area” re-creating a large wildlife pond.</p> <p>Two smaller ponds are being installed around the lake this summer term.</p>

Further tree and shrubbery planting as part of Winter Garden phase 2	College entrance, planting now complete
<b>Operations and Supply Chains</b>	
Transition to 'green fleet' of college vehicles	Two electric vehicles now in use
Installation of EV charging points	Now installed on both campuses
<b>International</b>	
Sparsholt Futures event to showcase green technologies to school children	Over 1300 pupils from 12 different schools attended Futures Day, co-delivered by staff and industry leaders

Sparsholt College Group Sustainability Strategy								
[2021-2023]			[2023-2030]					
Achieved			Planned					
<div>1. Climate Education</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Staff induction Sustainability module for ‘new staff’- developed and delivered</li><li>Sustainability CPD for all staff (building on ‘new staff’ induction model)</li><li>Curriculum area sustainability working group established</li><li>Integration of the sustainability agenda within the tutorial programme to raise awareness and understanding.</li><li>Engage learners in meaningful social action projects which focus on the green agenda and connects learners to wider societal responsibilities.</li><li>Student Social action projects embedded into weekly duties activities</li><li>Curriculum engagement in local biodiversity projects</li><li>Place sustainability at the heart of the Student Council agenda (including leading on initiatives throughout the student community)</li><li>Study+ offer incorporates sustainability awareness and initiatives</li><li>Embedded a review of sustainability considerations within lesson delivery as part of the TALO process</li></ul></div> <div>2. Green Skills</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Delivery of a comprehensive land-based curriculum offer which prepares learners for career paths that support the transition to net zero, restoration of biodiversity and a sustainable future</li><li>Installation of electric vehicle demonstration and teaching technologies (Andover)</li><li>Installation of robotic milking parlour and Agri-Technology to enable research into livestock methane emissions</li></ul></div>	<div>3. Education Estate and Digital Infrastructure</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>New property strategy developed which embeds climate change considerations within capital investment decision making</li><li>Reduced Scope 2 (energy indirect) emissions by c.28% from the base year 2017/18 through energy efficiency initiatives and raising awareness.</li><li>Reduced water emissions by further 10% through increased leak detection, water harvesting, using meters for raising awareness and water saving devices to reduce consumption</li><li>New buildings are built to BREEAM standards with excellent as the target</li><li>Investigated and costed installation of air source heat pump on main admin building and main teaching block. Recommendation for thermal insulation vs ASHP</li><li>All boilers replaced with grade A boilers at Andover</li><li>Planning consent to install a green digester at Sparsholt campus.</li><li>500 KW of Photovoltaics installed providing c20% of our electrical supply</li><li>Monitoring systems installed on water consumption (leak detection)</li><li>Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) produced with priority actions identified</li><li>LED lighting installed on both the Sparsholt and Andover campus</li><li>Building management system (BMS) installed on small number of SCH buildings and all new builds</li><li>Installation of 10 new ponds on SCH campus to promote further insect, amphibian, and bird life</li><li>Well established diverse habitats including an area of wetland, 1 hectare lake, 2 hectares of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland managed for conservation and diversity</li><li>Multiplicity of ornamental tree and shrub variety and garden plants on the campuses</li><li>On-site College apiary re-established</li></ul></div>	<div>4. Operations and Supply Chains</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>SECR data published annually</li><li>Report and manage climate change impact in Strategic Risk Management Plan</li><li>E-tendering system for procurement</li><li>All electric supply is green</li><li>All mains gas supply is from green energy supplier</li><li>Transition to ‘green fleet’ of college vehicles</li><li>Installation of EV charging points</li><li>Zero land fill waste contractor</li><li>All contractors must have green incentives or quality assurances</li><li>Move to Meadow foods for milk sales and accredited to sustainable milk production programme.</li><li>Re-accredited to Red Tractor sustainable farming</li><li>Catering switch to veg-based packaging.</li><li>Reduction in paper and printing consumption (migrate to electronic forms and resources)</li><li>Car share policy for staff</li></ul></div> <div>5. International</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual Sparsholt Futures event showcasing green technologies to school children</li></ul></div>	<div>[2023-2024]</div> <div>1. Climate Education</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>17 Sustainable Development Goal themes mapped to CTP and embedded into curriculum delivery for 2023/24</li><li>Curriculum areas to identify sustainability objectives within CoSSAR and review as part of IQR process</li><li>Further integration of sustainability in learners' social action projects across the local community.</li><li>Development of comprehensive college duties lessons that support the management of the countryside stewardship application.</li><li>Complete the development of the Equine Centre Carbon calculator project and implement at Sparsholt College.</li><li>Achieve full representation at curriculum sustainability termly meetings from both campuses and establish internal sustainability targets for learners.</li></ul></div> <div>2. Green Skills</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>New online learning curriculum offer that promotes sustainability and the low carbon sector</li><li>Curriculum offer delivered in Electric vehicle technology</li><li>Curriculum offer delivered in Heat Pump systems</li><li>Curriculum offer delivered in Solar PV Systems</li><li>Development and delivery of Higher Education short course offer</li></ul></div> <div>3. Education Estate and Digital Infrastructure</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increase rainwater harvesting on campus (planned new builds)</li><li>All remaining boilers replaced with grade A boilers at Sparsholt</li><li>Installation of robotic dairy to improve health in cattle and research feed additives to reduce methane emissions</li><li>Enhance use of solar energy by incorporating battery storage into existing system</li><li>Extend solar energy harvesting by installing more panels on new buildings</li><li>Improved boiler controls at Sparsholt to reduce LPG and oil consumption</li><li>Replacement of Floodlighting to LED</li><li>Explore Wind Turbine energy generation in partnership with College’s energy advisor</li><li>Explore potential for carbon neutral residential additional dwellings</li><li>Participation in Countryside Stewardship focusing on improving the biodiversity of the farm estate</li></ul></div>	<div>4. Operations and Supply Chains</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>LGPS Pension investments –Ensure environmental/ethical investment strategy</li><li>Introduce further electric/hybrid vehicle into college fleet</li><li>Ensure tenders have sustainability scoring criteria</li><li>Carbon sequestration (carbon credit) – use of estate planting strategy</li></ul></div> <div>5. International</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>International trips and study tours to incorporate a sustainability learning objective and to propose Carbon Offsetting opportunities</li><li>Gifted &amp; Talented Sustainability Project for Andover schools</li><li>Creation of Sustainability Pyramid with Winchester primary and secondary schools</li><li>Host sustainability ‘Dragon’s Den’ event bringing together ideas to promote sustainable projects</li><li>Host event for careers advisors with sustainability theme</li></ul></div>				
			<div>[2024-2029]</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fully embed the sustainability agenda into the college curriculum and core business activities</li><li>Develop full suite of courses which support advancement of the transition to net zero and restoration of biodiversity</li><li>Reduce carbon emissions</li><li>Reduce water consumption</li><li>Ensure full college vehicle fleet is electric-powered</li><li>Fully implement the Carbon Reduction Plan</li><li>Review trees species and condition on Sparsholt and Andover campus to evaluate a replacement programme where needed to diversify and safeguard tree stock</li></ul></div>				<div>[2030]</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reach net zero carbon emissions for scope 1 and 2</li><li>Undertake significant work to understand and reduce scope 3 emissions by 2030, and develop an action plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040</li></ul></div>	