

Waste data breakdown and completed projects

The total amount of operational waste produced in 2021/22 academic year was 723,525kg, which equated to 37.0kg per person (staff and student FTE). The table below shows the amount of operational waste generated for each element of the Waste Hierarchy.

Operational Waste Weights 2021/22			
Waste Hierarchy element	Overall Weight (kg)	Overall Percentage	
Reused or Repaired	21,936	3.0%	
Sent for Recycling	332,699	46.0%	
Food to Anaerobic Digestion	68,245	9.4%	
Made into Biofuel	4,953	0.7%	
Sent for Composting	9,120	1.3%	
Energy from Waste Recovery	261,055	36.1%	
Sent for Incineration	13,130	1.8%	
Sent to Landfill	12,386	1.7%	
Total Waste	723,525	100.0%	

impact

Financial Investments

2021/22 saw an investment of £24,736 in waste facilities improvements.

Financial Savings

The re-use of furniture and other items via the Warp-it platform in 2021/22, has saved the University £17,412 in waste disposal and procurement costs.

Since the 2015/16 baseline year, the strategic waste management activities have delivered cumulative savings of £845,000 against the predicted 'business as usual' costs (excluding hazardous waste). This is mainly down to three reasons: long-term trends in reducing the amount of waste generated; overestimates of increases in waste costs which have not materialised within this timeframe; and the reduction in waste generated due to the COVID-19 shutdown at the University during 2020 and 2021. £210,000 of these savings were delivered in 2021/22.



Waste management projects undertaken in 2021/22

Implementation	Location	Description	Cost (inc. VAT)
Summer 2021	University-wide	The University's new Waste & Resource Use Strategy 2021-30 was published, focusing on responsible resource use and sustainable waste management. Headline targets have been set around the themes of 'reduce', 're-use, remanufacture and repair', 'recycle', and 'enable the circular economy'	Included in staffing costs
Sep-21	All campuses	Single Sign On (SSO) enabled for the Warp-it portal, so that any member of staff who has a Warp-it account no longer needs to enter their Warp-it password each time they want to view the portal	Included in staffing costs
Dec-21	University-wide	The University's new Waste Management Contract re-tendered and awarded	Included in staffing costs
Apr-22	Greenlands campus	Compactor and baler at Greenlands swapped for wheelie bins for collecting cardboard and general waste, to enable enhanced waste management practices, reduced odours and improved cost efficiency	No cost, but on- going savings
May-22	Whiteknights and London Road campus	Cleaning Services started trialing the use of clear sacks instead of black sacks for general waste; first in external bins, then in internal bins. This allows staff to easily view the waste inside each sack once removed from the bin, in order to determine if it can be classified as mixed recycling, or treated as non-recyclable waste	Included in staffing costs
Jun-22	Whiteknights and London Road campus	Internal bin improvements at MERL, DTS, Maths and JJT buildings	£5,527
Jul-22	Whiteknights	Summer 2022 graduation ceremonies: graduands and visitors supplied with branded, re-usable cups to be used in cafés/restaurants on campus during the celebrations	Not disclosed
Jul-22	Whiteknights	Replacing external recycling bins, including updated graphics and installation	£18,739
Additional labour charges for all projects			£470
Grand total for recycling projects in 2021/22:			£24,736