University of Reading

Emissions within scope of the 2035 and 2040 carbon reduction targets

Emissions (tCO_2)	Baseline year	Baseline tCO_2	2025/26	% change since last year	% change since baseline
		Scope 1			
Land & livestock[1]	2023/24	6,764	TBC	n/a	n/a
VOCs[2]	2023/24	42	TBC	n/a	n/a
		Scope 3			
Purchased goods & services[9]	2023/24	48,932	TBC	n/a	n/a
Capital goods[9]	2023/24	2,395	TBC	n/a	n/a
Hotels[11]	2023/24	440	TBC	n/a	n/a
Employee commuting[6]	2023/24	2,479	TBC	n/a	n/a
Staff home working[8]	2023/24	466	TBC	n/a	n/a
Student commuting[6]	2023/24	5,234	TBC	n/a	n/a
Student start/end term travel[7]	2023/24	9,517	TBC	n/a	n/a
Off-site Halls of residence[3]	2023/24	1,499	TBC	n/a	n/a
Other buildings not UoR operated[4]	2023/24	2,277	TBC	n/a	n/a
Land leased for tenants own buildings[5]	2023/24	1,575	TBC	n/a	n/a
Investments[10]	2023/24	4,950	TBC	n/a	n/a

Out of scope emissions reported for information

Emissions (tCO_2)	Baseline year	Baseline tCO_2	2025/26	% change since last year	% change since baseline
Pensions[12]	2023/24	100,244	TBC	n/a	n/a

Reported scope 3 emissions now cover all 15 categories of emissions in line with the International Greenhouse Gas Protocol. The University has no Upstream Leased Assets.

[1]Covers campus grounds and farmland owned and operated by the University

[2]Applying rules of thumb to a range of identified VOC-emitting products

[3]Utilities supplies for offsite halls of residence are not under the University's supply arrangements, but this data is published in the interests of transparency.

[4]Prior to 2016, emissions for buildings fed from University supplies but not operated by the University were reported in the University's scope. Re-scoping and re-baselining took place in 2015/16 to address this. In 2023/24, emissions from buildings not fed from University supplies have also been included for the first time. NB: the University does not pay utilities costs for staff accommodation (so no separate reporting is required in this regard).

[5]These figures are currently estimated and will be improved over time through annual sustainability questionnaires to tenants

[6]Employee / student commuting figures are based on 2024 Travel Survey data.

[7]The University undertook a first estimate of these emissions in 2021/22. For 2023/24 a new tool, developed by the University of Aberdeen and EAUC Scotland, was used for the calculation. The "Domestic and International Student Relocation Travel Emissions Calculator Tool" utilises student domicile data and university-specific travel assumptions to estimate the distance travelled from each country's capital to the institution, along with the associated emissions.

[8]Staff Home Working estimated from 2024 Travel Survey responses on the assumption that staff were working at home on days when they did not work on campus. Greenhouse gas emission factors are those published by Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (previously Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy), electricity plus heating.

[9]Based on data provided by SUPC using the HESCET tool, which includes Upstream Transportation and Distribution emissions. Waste, water and hotels are removed to avoid double-counting. Capital goods (construction) will vary significantly year-on-year.

[10]Scope 1 & 2 emissions relating to investments. NB: bank holdings could not be disaggregated between scope 1 & 2 and scope 3 and are therefore all included as scope 1 & 2.

[11]Based on data provided by SUPC using the HESCET tool on purchased goods and services

[12]Indicative figures are presented here for transparency, but they are not currently viewed as being within the University's own scope 1 – 3 carbon footprint.