

2020-2030 Carbon Roadmap



Introduction

The University of South Wales (USW) is a major player in UK higher education with campuses in Cardiff, Pontypridd and Newport. As a major university, we are aware of the significant carbon impact we can create on the local areas where our campuses are situated as well as the regional and global impact we create from our operations.

Decarbonisation is recognised as an essential requirement to operate and maintain a sustainable university environment for all. The university, like all institutions has a responsibility to address decarbonisation and to meet the UK and Welsh Government's targets. We recognise this, and we are working to reduce our carbon emissions wherever possible.

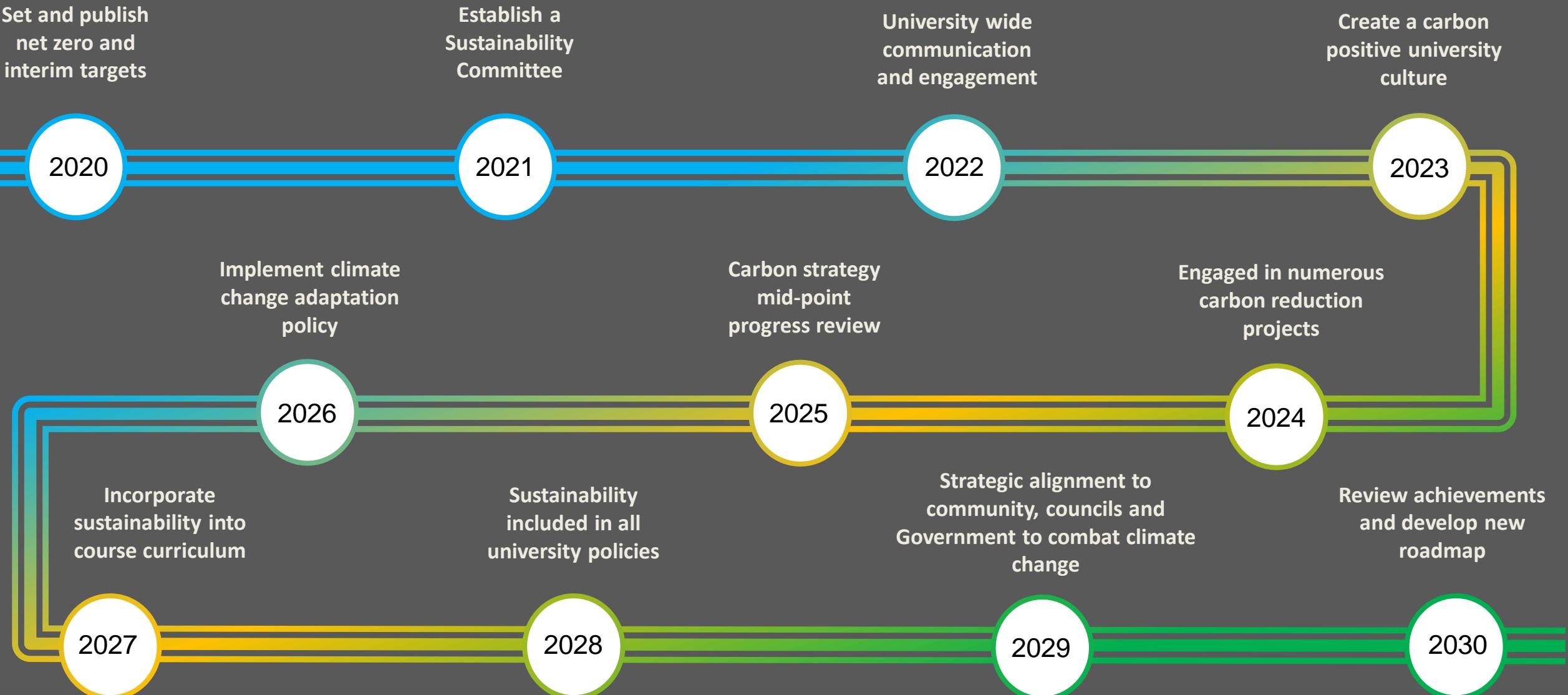
Our 2020 – 2030 carbon strategy is aligned to our USW 2030 strategy and sets our strategic targets against the activities that require the most focus on our journey to decarbonisation over the next 10 years.

This 10-year carbon roadmap will provide the detail on how we plan to work towards achieving our strategic targets over the next 10 years. It outlines clear, feasible and cost-effective actions the university can take to advance sustainability across our estate, governance, teaching and engagement, and respond impactfully to the climate emergency.

**Our Vision is to become
Carbon Neutral
by 2040**

The timeline on the next page shows some of the key milestones we will pass on our journey to becoming carbon neutral. We will report on our progress annually and undertake a mid-point review to ensure we are on track to meet our targets.

USW Key Milestones



Where are we now?

Before we set our out our individual actions to meet our milestones, it is important to know where we are starting from.

The university's 2018/19 carbon footprint has been calculated to be 28,480 tCO₂e. Our carbon footprint consists of emissions in our direct control (known as scope 1 and 2) and those which we can influence (scope 3).

Carbon emissions are generated by a variety of activities at the university. Understanding where emissions are generated enables us to focus on opportunities to make reductions.



How far have we come?

We started recording our carbon emissions from 2012/13 when USW was founded. Since then the university's scope 1 and 2 emissions have seen an overall reduction of around 32%. This reduction has been achieved by upgrading plant and equipment, investing in energy efficiency measures and better working practices through more control of our Building Management System (BMS).

Since 2012/13 we have achieved a

32%

reduction in scope 1 & 2 emissions

Other changes we have made:



Electric vehicle
charging station
installs



LED lighting
upgrades



We purchase
100% renewable
electricity at all
our campuses



Sub-meters are
monitored to reduce
building energy
usage



Introduced new
waste streams to
reduce
contamination



Created soft
landscapes to help
enhance
biodiversity



Staff and student
engagement



Transferring funds
into
environmentally
friendly investment
products

How will we get there?

Our 2018/19 carbon footprint is calculated to be 28,480 tCO₂e and c.98% of our total footprint are created by three key emission categories:

67.5 % of emissions are associated with

Procurement

19.5 % of emissions are associated with

Electricity consumption

11 % of emissions are associated with

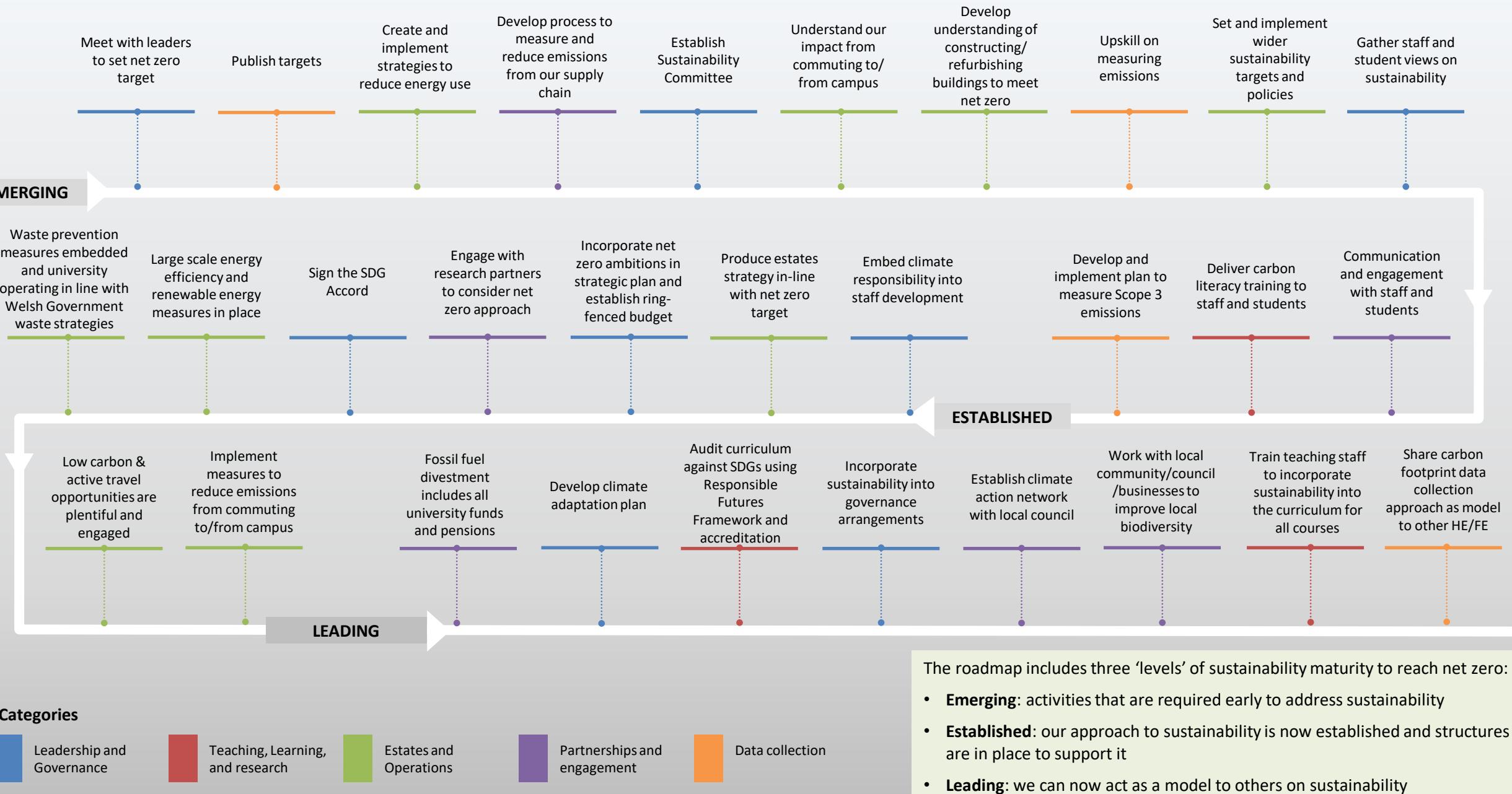
Gas consumption



Therefore, it is these three key areas that require the most focus, investment and ambitious targets over the next 10 years. Emissions from our other activities will not require as large a focus but will still need to be considered, monitored and improved to achieve emission reductions.

The next page demonstrates the journey and actions we will take to meet our milestones and progress to net zero.

USW Carbon Roadmap to net zero



How will we measure performance?

We are committed to achieving decarbonisation through a whole institution approach that relies on a wide range of effective actions across our estate, governance, teaching and engagement activities.

We will work towards the USW Key Milestones and actions in outlined our USW Carbon Roadmap to ensure that we remain on track, and we are taking the necessary measures to achieve carbon neutrality.

Performance will be monitored through the production of an annual carbon footprint to show consistent, measured changes as we work through our carbon reduction activities.

We will report annually on our carbon emissions, internally and externally to communicate our achievements. A mid-point review will be undertaken to ensure our carbon reduction measures are still relevant.

