



**RISING**  
TO THE  
**FUTURE**  
UCD Strategy 2020-2024



# UCD Climate Action Roadmap

Update September 2023

## President's Foreword

UCD has a long history of leadership and impact in sustainability and climate action. One of our four strategic themes is 'Creating a Sustainable Global Society' and we are fully committed to making a substantial contribution to addressing the climate and biodiversity emergencies as part of the wider agenda laid out in the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



Our ambition is to be a world leader in thought and action on sustainability. We aim to achieve this through the engagement of the whole UCD community and our external partners and stakeholders and through the integration of sustainability across our activities in education, research and operations. In June 2023 UCD appointed a Vice President for Sustainability, Professor Tasman Crowe. Professor Crowe is establishing the Sustainability Unit and Green Team that will lead on the development and implementation of a new Sustainability Strategy for the University.

In line with requirements set out under the national Climate Action Plan, UCD's first Climate Action Roadmap was submitted in March 2023. It lays out the range of UCD's strategies, objectives, plans and activities in relation to climate action under the Public Sector Climate Action Mandate 2022. This update reflects the updated Public Sector Climate Action Mandate 2023 and reiterates our commitment to meet or exceed the targets set out in it. Additional funding from government and other sources will be sought in relation to the more resource-intensive commitments.

This updated Roadmap update builds on and complements the content in the UCD Climate Action Roadmap of March 2023. Each section addresses the requirements specified in the SEAI Public Sector Bodies Climate Action Roadmaps Guidance document and summarises responses to new mandated actions in tabular form.

Working together with colleagues across and beyond the University, we can deliver on our ambitions to substantially contribute to addressing the global challenges facing humanity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Orla Feely'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Professor Orla Feely  
President

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# 1. Our Targets

## 1.1 Achieving the energy related carbon emissions target (51% reduction by 2030)

UCD's total energy related carbon emissions baseline, the average of 2016-2018 emissions, is 25,563,853 kg CO<sub>2</sub> (Figure 1.1). This combines purchased electricity and direct (thermal) emissions. Given that decarbonisation of the grid providing purchased electricity is being addressed at a national level, the focus of each institution's decarbonisation is primarily on direct thermal emissions. UCD's Gap to Target for reduction of direct thermal emissions is 5,347 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, which represents a 51% reduction from the baseline of 10,800 tonnes of thermal CO<sub>2</sub> in 2016-2018 (Figure 1.1).

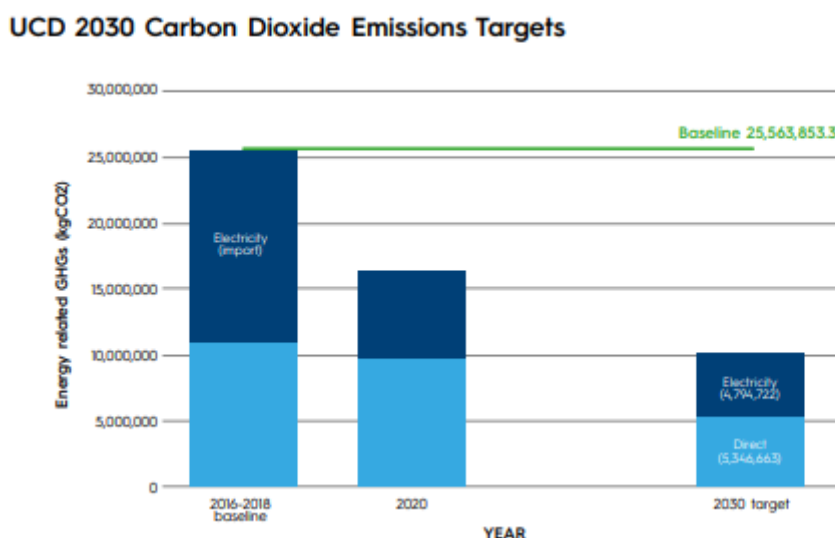


Figure 1.1. UCD's carbon dioxide emissions targets (from UCD Climate Action Roadmap, March 2023).

UCD has identified a de-carbonisation pathway to offset 10MW of fossil fuel-based energy currently consumed on our campuses in order to meet 2030 targets for reductions in GHG emissions and improvements in energy efficiency. This includes long-term planning for capital investment and ongoing measures, including planned building efficiencies along with deployment of heat pumps to migrate heating inputs from fossil fuel to non-fossil fuel sources over time. It is noted that SEAI are soon to publish guidance on Building Stock Plans, which will assist in this long-term planning.

In 2023, UCD commissioned an industrial scale 1 MW heat pump, incorporated onto the district heating system and supported financially by the HEA/SEAI Pathfinder programme. This is a key project for UCD in developing its capabilities and understanding how best to incorporate heat pump technology onto the campus. It will inform future projects within and beyond UCD.

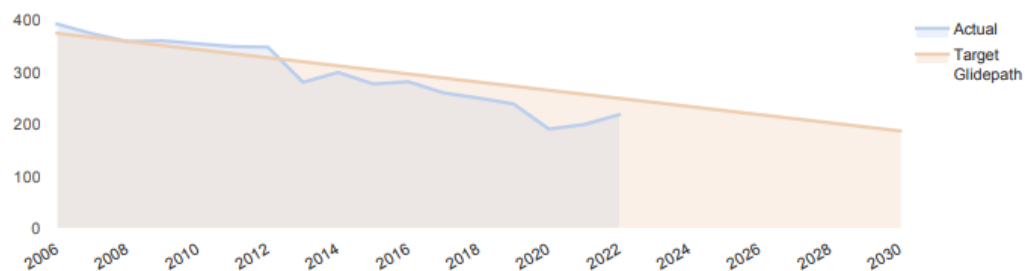
## 1.2 Achieving the energy efficiency target (50% improvement by 2030)

UCD is continuously improving its energy efficiency (Figure 1.2). The mandated improvement in efficiency will be achieved through:

- a) improving operations of the university and the ways in which it uses its building stock,
- b) planned investment in existing buildings to improve their efficiency - for building refurbishments and deep retrofits a minimum target of BER B or better is set which will deliver significant carbon savings as both fabric and plant are upgraded,
- c) designing all new buildings to near-zero energy building standard with BER A and energy efficiency design (EED) techniques incorporated and
- d) establishing further measures to promote individual behavioural change.

### Energy Performance Indicators - 2022

2022 EnPI = 219  
kWh  
Floor Area (m<sup>2</sup>)  
Target EnPI = 188  
kWh  
Floor Area (m<sup>2</sup>)



9.5% worse than 2021  
41.7% better than energy efficiency baseline  
16.6% improvement required by 2030

Figure 1.2. Energy performance indicators and target glidepath (source: SEAI M&R Reporting Tool)

Operationally, on a scheduled ongoing basis, UCD engages with appointed specialist energy services providers to analyse consumption on a campus wide & building basis and, by extension, significant energy users (SEU), effectively 'significant emitters', within the University. Analysis of our SEUs is extended to teams involved with building operations and teaching & research activities in order to enable operational, technical and behavioural efficiencies, including fault detection and correction, thereby contributing to overall energy efficiencies for the University.

## Summary Table - Our Targets

Our Targets 2022	Our Targets 2023	Comment	Response 2023
Reduce GHG emissions by 51% in 2030	Reduce GHG emissions by 51% in 2030		UCD is committed to achieve this target
Increase the improvement in energy efficiency in the public sector from the 33% target in 2020 to 50% by 2030	Increase the improvement in energy efficiency in the public sector from the 33% in 2020 to 50% by 2030	No new mandate requirements	UCD is committed to achieve this target
Put in place a Climate Action Roadmap by the end of 2022	Update Climate Action Roadmaps annually in line with updated Public Sector Climate Action Mandate		UCD is committed to annual updates of Climate Action Roadmap

## 2. Our People

### 2.1 Leadership and governance for climate action

Professor Tasman Crowe has been appointed Vice President for Sustainability. Professor Crowe also acts as UCD's nominated Climate and Sustainability Champion and is responsible for implementing and reporting on the requirements of the Public Sector Climate Action Mandate. He is working closely with UCD's Energy Performance Officer Mr Tadgh Corcoran, who is Director of Campus Development, Energy and Sustainability in UCD Estate Services. A Sustainability Unit is being established, comprising a senior Sustainability Officer, a dedicated communications officer and administrative support.

A Green Team is being established as a sub-group of the University Management Team (Figure 2.1) through which the VP for Sustainability will engage with the relevant key leaders and representatives, as listed below (and see Terms of Reference in Appendix 1) to mobilise action across the university's education, research and operational activities.

- Climate and Sustainability Champion (Chair) – VP for Sustainability
- building management – Director of Campus Development, Energy and Sustainability
- human resources – Chief People Officer or nominee
- learning and development – Registrar or nominee
- finance – Bursar or nominee
- technical support – a nominated Chief Technical Officer

Additional members will represent:

- research – VP Research, Innovation and Impact or nominee
- students – UCD Students' Union President or nominee
- sustainability unit – Sustainability Officer

UCD's Sustainability Strategy is in development through a combined top-down and bottom-up approach. It will be implemented through a series of annual implementation plans by the Sustainability Unit under the oversight of the Green Team and will involve wide engagement and consultation through working groups established in each key area (Figure 2.1).

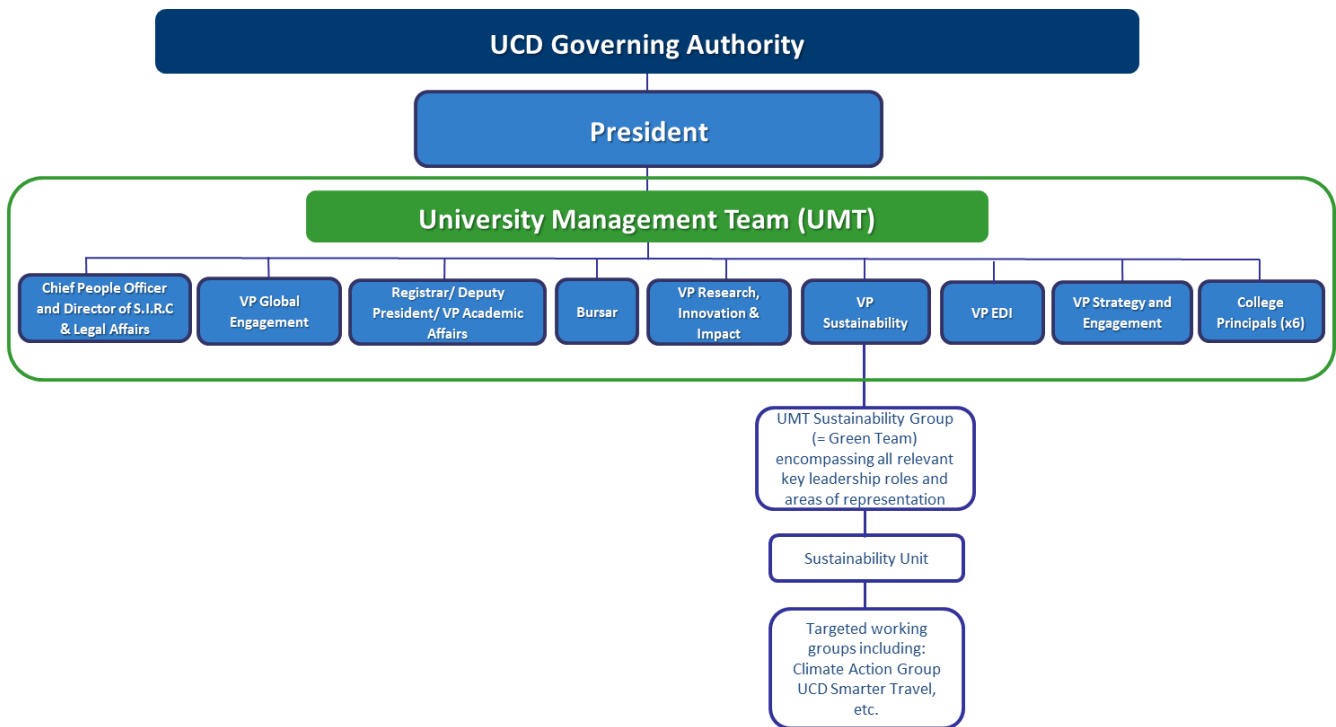


Figure 2.1 Governance structure for sustainability at UCD.

## 2.2 Engaging and training staff

Staff engagement on sustainability and climate issues has been actively underway for a number of years through Colleges, Schools and Institutes such as the UCD Earth Institute and the UCD Energy Institute, SFI Research Centres such as BiOrbic, iCRAG and Insight as well as through initiatives such as Green Campus, the Sustainable Research Initiative and the Sustainable Energy Community. In 2022 a programme of wide consultation and engagement was undertaken by the Steering Group for UCD’s strategic priority Creating a Sustainable Global Society, whose recommendations have underpinned a number of initiatives, including the establishment of the UCD Sustainability Unit and the role of VP for Sustainability. Extensive engagement is planned as part of the development and implementation UCD’s Sustainability Strategy.

Annual staff engagement workshops on climate action will also be put in place by the new Sustainability Unit as part of the activities of the Climate Action Working Group that it will establish. Plans will be developed by the end of 2023 for the initial integration of appropriate climate action and sustainability actions in learning and development strategies for staff.

Research is underway into the most suitable form of climate action leadership training based on the guidance provided by Department of Environment, Climate and Communications and discussions within the IUA Sustainability Working Group. It is envisaged that training will be rolled out initially in Q4 of 2023 as a pilot to the University Management Team comprising College Principals, Vice Presidents and senior Heads of Unit. It will then be provided to the Extended Leadership Group which comprises all Heads of School, Directors of Research Institutes and Heads of Unit.



## Summary Table - Our People

Our People 2022	Our People 2023	Comment	Response 2023
Establish and resource Green Teams, reporting to senior management, to become integrated drivers of sustainability in every public sector body	Establish and resource Green Teams, reporting to senior management, to become integrated drivers of sustainability in every public sector body	No new mandate requirements	A Green Team is being established and resourced and will report to the University Management Team via the Vice President for Sustainability (see below) who will chair the group (see Terms of Reference in Appendix 1).
Nominate a member of the Management Board as the Climate and Sustainability Champion with responsibility for implementing and reporting on the Mandate	Nominate a member of the Management Board as the Climate and Sustainability Champion with responsibility for implementing and reporting on the Mandate		Professor Tasman Crowe took up role of Vice President for Sustainability on 1 June 2023 and is UCD's Climate and Sustainability Champion and a member of the University Management Team.
Incorporate appropriate climate action and sustainability training (technical and behavioural) into learning and development strategies for staff	Incorporate appropriate climate action and sustainability training (technical and behavioural, including green procurement training) into learning and development strategies for staff	Addition of requirement for green procurement training	Learning and development strategies for staff to incorporate climate action and sustainability training, including green procurement training as appropriate.
Organise staff workshops (at least annually) to engage on climate issues, including a focus on decreasing the organisation's carbon footprint.	Organise staff workshops (at least annually) to engage on climate issues, including a focus on decreasing the organisation's carbon footprint	No new mandate requirements	Wide consultation was undertaken in 2022 as part of the work of the steering group of UCD's strategic theme on Creating a Sustainable Global Society. In establishing the Sustainability Unit, working group will be set up explicitly to engage on and address climate issues and decreasing UCD's carbon footprint.
	Ensure all senior management (P.O. level or equivalent and above) complete a climate action leadership training course in 2023, similar to the Local Authority training course as delivered by the CAROs	New requirement	Training is being sourced at this time. It is envisaged that it will be rolled out initially as a pilot to members of the University Management Team and will subsequently be rolled out more widely to the Extended Leadership Group which includes all Heads of School, Directors of Research Institutes and Heads of Unit.

## 3. Our Ways of Working

### 3.1 Energy and environmental management systems

UCD Estates is accredited to ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems for the management of its Energy and Water systems.

### 3.2 Green public procurement

In tendering for goods, services and equipment the University's Procurement and Contracts Function has introduced green public procurement criteria by using the EPA's Green Procurement Guidance and the GPP criteria. All tenders advertised by the University have as a standard evaluation criterion 'Environmental / Sustainable / Social Considerations' which mirrors the approach of the Office of Government Procurement. The weighting attached to this criterion depends on the goods, services or equipment that is the subject of the tender process and the importance of environmental and sustainable considerations.

All print and purchase of printers is managed within the university by the university's campus company Copi Print. Copi Print manages all large volume printing for both staff and students and staff are actively encouraged not to print where possible. Copi Print use the Office of Government Procurement's centralized arrangement to purchase paper which has the certifications listed below. The EU Ecolabel ensures that the paper meets the highest environmental criteria as laid down by the EU:

- ISO 9001
- ISO 14001
- ISO 45001
- EU Ecolabel

Working with UCD Estates Services, who have responsibility for the food outlets on campus, the Procurement and Contracts Function ensure when tendering for catering services that the successful supplier(s) abide by all relevant environmental and health and safety standards and legislation.

The university has 18 food outlets on campus managed by six concessionaires. The concessionaires are contractually obliged to abide by the following legislation:

- Directive (EU) 2019/904 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment. (Single Use Plastics Directive).  
Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2151
- S.I. No. 282/2014 on European Union (Packaging Regulations 2014)
- European Union (Packaging) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (S.I. No. 542 of 2015).

Under the Single Use Plastics Directive, the use of the following single use products is prohibited:

- Cutlery
- Plates

- Stirrers
- Chopsticks
- Straws
- Expanded polystyrene single use food and beverage containers
- All oxo-degradable plastic products

It is planned to retender our concession outlets in the near future and the following environmental criteria detailed in the EPA's Green Public Procurement guidance will be used in the evaluation process:

- How the following environmental impacts will be managed in relation to:
  - (i) Requiring sustainable food production methods
  - (ii) Increased offer of plant-based menus
  - (iii) Environmentally responsible vegetable fats
  - (iv) Reducing energy and water consumption in kitchens
  - (v) Environmentally responsible marine and aquaculture products
  - (vi) Reducing impact of food transport, packaging (including takeaway)
  - (vii) Food and beverage waste prevention
  - (viii) Environmental impact of cleaning materials and takeaway delivery solution

Furthermore, the following narrative will be included in the tender document.

- The Successful Tenderer will be solely responsible for the sourcing and provision of all disposables (napkins, condiments, sachets, containers, etc.) for the take-away service. Disposables and food containers must be manufactured from environmentally recyclable packaging and of an appropriate style and quality.

### 3.3 Low carbon construction methods

UCD is in compliance with the GPP criteria for construction and renovation works. Through its design teams, UCD develops detailed construction and site waste management plans which are submitted to the local authority as part of the planning process. These plans along with any planning compliance requirements are implemented during the construction phases of capital projects.

### 3.4 Resource use

UCD has been active in transitioning from paper based to digital processes in many of its administrative and teaching activities, including a move away from paper research theses at all levels and the adoption of online assessments rather than paper-based exams in many modules. UCD POST – the Programme for Operations and Services Transformation - is a substantial project currently underway to further streamline and digitise a wide range of university processes.

UCD's water consumption is reflective of a research-intensive university with over 3,900 bed spaces on campus (Table 3.1). UCD tracks its water consumption from the UCD Water Tower

on a continuous basis via automated systems and meters which deliver readings at 15 minute intervals. UCD Estate Services monitors usage and conducts investigations and repairs when necessary to the campus water network in addition to identifying and implementing measures to reduce water consumption by the UCD Community.

Table 3.1. Annual water consumption on the Belfield campus over the past six years (Source – ESB/UCD Active Energy – UCD Water Tower)

Year	Consumption (L)
2018	231,353,620
2019	234,668,080
2020	175,705,130
2021	202,117,300
2022	346,840,080
2023*	288,316,460

\*YTD – 12/10/2023

In a typical year UCD generates over 2000 tonnes of municipal solid waste. In partnership with specialist service providers, UCD has begun to implement and record waste segregation processes in academic and amenity/support buildings. Waste segregation facilities are provided in each student apartment and are accompanied with dedicated residential waste disposal facilities within the immediate footprint of apartments.

Comprehensive communication & awareness campaigns are run annually to the UCD community, including residential students on best practice waste management using the principles of the “5 R’s” of the waste hierarchy; Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle.



Source: UCD Green Campus Newsletter No.2, 2021

## New Recycling Study

A new Waste Segregation Study is currently underway in Smurfit School of Business, the Richview Campus and The UCD Village.

This is part of a campaign by the Regional Waste Management Offices that aims to improve waste segregation in workplaces.



This University Study is being conducted as a partnership between Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, the Regional Waste Management Office and UCD Estate Services.

### The study aims to empower organisations to

- Set up a waste management system that works
- Know exactly which items go in which bin
- Engage and train staff to segregate waste properly
- Reduce waste and improve resource efficiency
- Signal a commitment to sustainability to our community
- Comply with environmental legislation
- Embrace the Circular Economy and help tackle Climate Change

Source: UCD Green Campus Newsletter May 2022



## Summary Table - Our Ways of Working

Our Way of Working 2022	Our Way of Working 2023	Comment	Response
Report GHG emissions and sustainability activities in the annual report	Report on the following in the Annual Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o GHG emissions</li> <li>o Implementation of the mandate</li> <li>o Sustainability activities report</li> <li>o Compliance with Circular 1/2020: Procedures for offsetting the emissions associated with official air travel. Using SEAI's Public Sector Monitoring and Reporting System, public bodies are to report annually on implementation of the individual mandate requirements using a 'comply or explain' approach.</li> </ul>	Additional reporting requirements for the Annual Report and SEAI M&R reporting. Previous updates on energy reported via Annual Presidents Report	UCD commits to reporting on an annual basis the updated requirements outlined within the Climate Action Mandate
Review any paper-based processes, and evaluate the possibilities for digitisation so it becomes the default approach	Review any paper-based processes and evaluate the possibilities for digitisation so it becomes the default approach. Eliminate paper-based processes as far as is practicable. Where paper must be procured, ensure that recycled paper is the default.	Additional requirements to procure recycled paper as default	All print and purchase of printers is managed within the university by the university's campus company Copi Print. Copi Print manages all large volume printing for both staff and students and staff are actively encouraged not to print where possible. Copi Print use the Office of Government Procurement's centralized arrangement to purchase paper which has the certifications listed below. The EU Ecolabel ensures that the paper meets the highest environmental criteria as laid down by the EU: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISO 9001</li> <li>• ISO 14001</li> <li>• ISO 45001</li> <li>• EU Ecolabel</li> </ul>
Achieve formal environmental accreditation for large public sector bodies, such as ISO 50001 (Energy	Achieve formal environmental certification for large public sector bodies, such as ISO50001 (Energy	Additional clarity on requirements	UCD has ISO50001 and is committed to annual re-certification.

<p>Management Standard) or ISO 14001 (Environmental Management System), with a view to going beyond ISO14001 to adopting EMAS (Eco Management and Audit Scheme)</p>	<p>Management Standard) or ISO 14001 (Environmental Management System), with a view to going beyond ISO 14001 to adopting EMAS (Eco Management and Audit Scheme). Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All public sector bodies with an energy spend greater than €2m per annum to achieve ISO 50001 certification by end-2024;</li> <li>- All remaining public bodies to implement energy management programmes as per SEAI's energy management guidance (S.I. 426 of 2014) and report to SEAI annually on M&amp;R.</li> </ul>		
	<p>Implement Green Public Procurement (GPP), in line with the EPA Green Public Procurement Guidance and using GPP Criteria Search where appropriate. All public bodies shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cease using disposable cups, plates and cutlery from any public sector canteen or closed facility, excluding clinical (i.e., non-canteen healthcare) environments;</li> <li>- Specify low carbon construction methods and low carbon cement material as far as practicable for directly procured or supported construction projects from 2023.</li> </ul>	<p>Further clarity may be required re: "public sector canteen or closed facility" and how this relates to licenced premises within UCD. Impact re: construction materials &amp; processes.</p>	<p>As described above, GPP is being applied and regulations on disposable items are incorporated in the tendering process for concessionaries that operate food outlets on campus.</p> <p>UCD is in compliance with the GPP criteria for construction and renovation works. Detailed construction and site waste management plans are implemented in capital projects.</p>

## 4. Our Buildings and Vehicles

UCD's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are directly linked to its activities in supporting and delivering education and research. UCD has ambitious student growth targets to meet increasing demand from domestic and international students. We are projecting increased faculty numbers to support this demand and this will also increase our research activities. This population growth will also lead to growth in on campus accommodation. UCD's estate incorporates circa 442,000 sq.m of building floor area including residential accommodation. The UCD Space Policy aims to optimise the efficient and sustainable use of the existing estate such that we reduce the requirement for new accommodation. This will assist in remaining within emissions target limits while supporting projected growth. UCD's buildings' energy performance reflects the age profile of the estate. The Estates Strategy and Campus Development Plan 2016-2021-2026 sets out our plans for developing a more sustainable estate through a series of deep and shallow retrofit opportunities to meet the 2030 and 2050 targets.

### 4.1 Vehicles and transport

UCD is committed to promoting active and sustainable travel choices to our campuses. In 2022, we exceeded our UCD Travel Plan target of achieving 81% of journeys to campus to be taken by sustainable means by 2026 (Figure 4.1). Sustained transport modal shift has been enabled through the provision of over 5,000 cycle parking spaces on our main Belfield and Blackrock campuses and the provision on site of secure cycle parking facilities on campus in close proximity to buildings. Additionally, shared push bike and e-bike providers are active on campus providing further alternative options to the private car. UCD has commenced its application to achieve the NTA Smarter Travel Mark and expects to progress this to completion by year end 2023.



## Travel Mode Share 2022

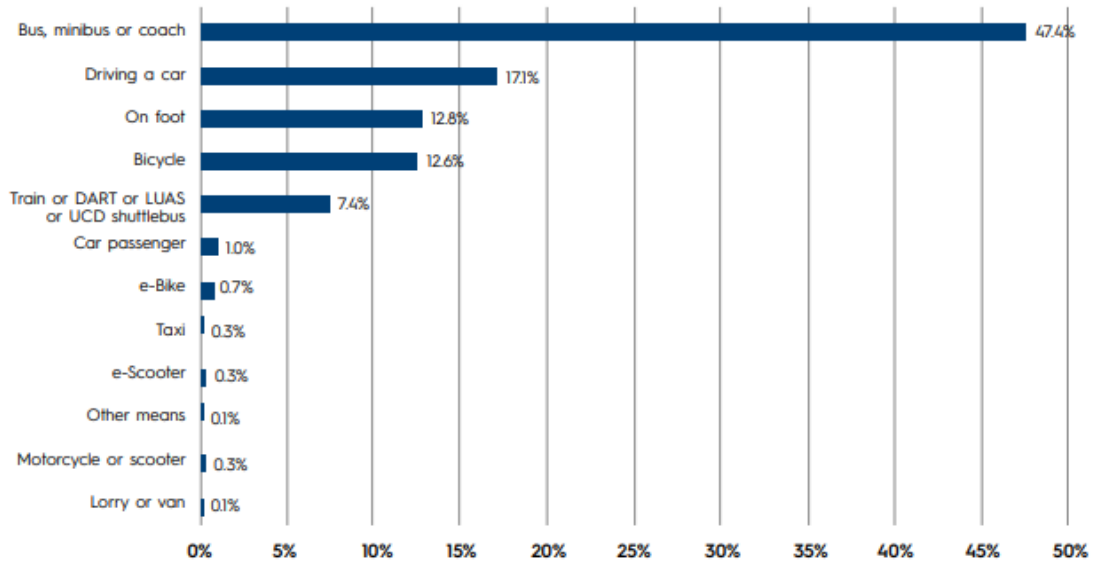


Figure 4.1. UCD travel mode share for campus commuting. Source: UCD Commuting Survey 2022 (no new update since Climate Action Roadmap March 2023)

The University operates a fleet of 31 vehicles which are in use across the estate in a variety of roles, spanning commercial vehicles, the security fleet, agricultural vehicles, minibuses, cars and a non-commercial vehicle (Figure 4.2).

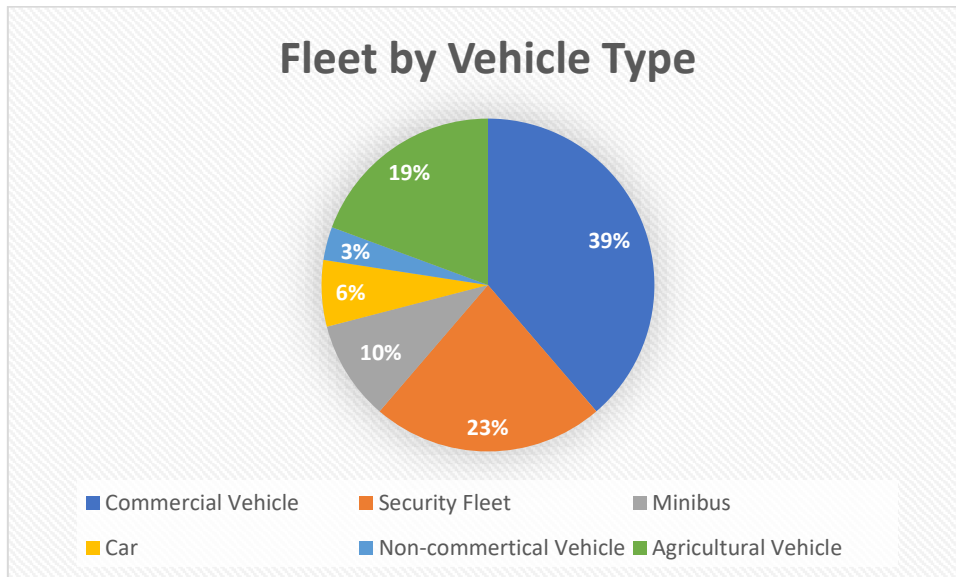


Figure 4.2. Percentages of UCD's vehicle fleet by vehicle type. Total = 31 vehicles.

Some vehicles within the fleet offer a greater opportunity for decarbonisation than others. For example, a reliable low carbon alternative for the University's agricultural vehicles can be difficult to

source, however, electric vehicles (EVs) have been acquired to replace aging diesel vehicles in the security fleet.

The University has been proactive in transitioning to more sustainable transportation options and since 2020 five electrical vehicles have been purchased for use within the campus and wider estate. Further it is planned to sell two diesel vehicles by year end 2023. Operational measures to improve vehicle efficiency are already in place including regular maintenance and tyre pressure checks, which aside from good fleet management practices can contribute an incremental reduction in fleet related emissions.

Continued efforts to promote sustainable transportation practices and explore alternative fuels will be essential in achieving the university's decarbonisation goals. Where possible, UCD will endeavour to go beyond the EU directive on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles and will aspire to act as an international leader in this area, as outlined in the SEAI Roadmap Guidance.

## 4.2 Buildings

UCD commits through procurement and design processes to the measures outlined in the Climate Action Mandate to not install heating systems that use fossil fuels after 2023, unless such an installation is required for operational or technical reasons or results in a net final reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in comparison to renewable systems, as outlined as exceptions within the Mandate.

UCD is in the process of rolling out our updated Display Energy Certificates in each campus building which is open to the public. Details for all but a few buildings have been established. Certificates will be publicly accessible and updated as required.

The UCD O'Brien Centre for Science Phase 3 project is currently underway and constitutes UCD's major retrofitting project for 2023. This project will deliver approximately 14,500 sqm of refurbished space within the Science West and Science North buildings which were among the first buildings of the modern Belfield campus to be constructed in the 1960s. The refurbished buildings, along with an additional ~8,500sqm of new spaces will incorporate low-carbon, energy-efficient designs as standard.

## Summary Table - Our Buildings and Vehicles

Our Buildings & Vehicles 2022	Our Buildings & Vehicles 2023	Comment	Response
<p>Create bicycle friendly buildings for employees and visitors, by putting bicycle parking in place by 2022 – which is secure, accessible, and simple for cyclists to recognise and use</p>	<p>Promote the use of bicycles (including push bikes, electric bikes, and cargo bikes) and shared mobility options as an alternative to car use among employees and visitors by creating and maintaining facilities (both inside and outside of buildings) that support such options, including secure and accessible bicycle parking, shared mobility parking, and charging stations, as appropriate, with a view to achieving the Smarter Travel Mark, which is currently being developed as part of the Sustainable Mobility Pathfinder Programme.</p>	<p>Additional ambition of receiving the "Smarter Travel Mark".</p>	<p>UCD is committed to promoting active and sustainable travel choices to our campuses and in 2022 exceeded our UCD Travel Plan target of achieving 81% of journeys to campus to be taken by sustainable means by 2026. Sustained transport modal shift has been enabled through the provision of over 5,000 cycle parking spaces on our main Belfield and Blackrock campuses and the provision on site of secure cycle parking facilities on campus. Additionally, shared push bike and ebike providers are active on campus providing further alternative options to the private car. UCD has commenced its application to achieve the NTA Smarter Travel Mark and expects to progress this to completion by year end 2023.</p>
<p>Display an up-to-date Display Energy Certificate in every public building that is open to the public to clearly show energy use</p>	<p>Display an up-to-date Display Energy Certificate in every public building that is open to the public to clearly show energy use.</p>	<p>No update on mandate requirements</p>	<p>UCD is in the process of rolling out our updated Display Energy Certificates in each campus building which is open to the public.</p>
<p>The public sector will not install heating systems that use fossil fuels after 2023, unless at least one of the following exceptions applies:                      - the fossil-fuel use is only through the use of electricity from the grid                      - there is no technically viable non-fossil alternative (generally only related to applications for a purpose other than space heating)                      - the installation of a renewable space heating system would increase final CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</p>	<p>The public sector will not install heating systems that use fossil fuels after 2023, in (1) new buildings, and (2) “major renovation” retrofit projects (as defined in the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)) unless at least one of the following exceptions applies:                      - The fossil-fuel use is only using electricity from the grid;                      - There is no technically viable non-fossil alternative (generally only related to applications for a purpose other than space heating);</p>	<p>Additional clarity re: applicable buildings; new builds &amp; major renovations</p>	<p>UCD commits through procurement and design processes to the measures outlined in the Climate Action Mandate to not install heating systems that use fossil fuels after 2023, unless such an installation is required for operational or technical reasons or results in a net final reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in comparison to renewable systems, as outlined as exceptions within the mandate.</p>

<p>- the fossil-fuel use is provided for backup, peaking, or operational purposes (and makes up less than 10% of annual heating energy)  - where the direct replacement of existing fossil fuel heating is required for an emergency maintenance purpose</p>	<p>- The installation of a renewable space heating system would increase final CO<sub>2</sub> emissions;  - The fossil-fuel use is provided for backup, peaking, or operational purposes (and makes up less than 10% of annual heating energy);  - Where the direct replacement of existing fossil fuel heating is required for an emergency maintenance purpose.</p>		
<p>Purchase only zero-emission vehicles where available and operationally feasible from end of 2022, enabling Ireland to go beyond the requirements of the Clean Vehicle Directive and act as an international leader in this area.</p>	<p>Procure (purchase or lease) only zero-emission vehicles from the end of 2022, enabling Ireland to go beyond the requirements of the EU Directive, amending Directive 2009/33/EC on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles (EU Directive 2019/1161, the Clean Vehicle Directive) and act as an international leader in this area. An exception applies where the vehicle is exempt under European Communities (Clean and Energy-Efficient Road Transport Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations (S.I. 381 of 2021).</p> <p>Public sector procurement contracts for delivery and haulage should specify zero emissions vehicles where possible.</p>	<p>Additional clarifications on future requirements</p>	<p>UCD is in the process of transitioning our vehicle fleet to zero emission vehicles as described above. The university uses the Office of Government Procurement centralized arrangement to purchase vehicles.</p> <p>UCD does not have any specific contracts for delivery and haulage. However, the university has a significant number of deliveries from suppliers coming to the campus on an ongoing basis. The Procurement, Contracts and Buying Function recognize that taking actions on the number of deliveries can play a significant role in reducing the universities carbon footprint. To this end the Function is engaging with suppliers who are delivering to campus on a regular basis to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request that where possible electric vehicles are used.</li> <li>• Reduce the frequency of deliveries, e.g. rather than delivering every day that there are set delivery days, once or twice weekly</li> </ul> <p>Furthermore, the Procurement, Contracts and Buying Function is planning to implement a minimum order value rule for purchase orders across the university to reduce the number of orders raised which in turn will assist in reducing the number of deliveries.</p>

	<p>In relation to existing buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Large public sector bodies and sectoral groups with a large estate should commence a deep retrofit of at least one building in 2023 in pursuit of the 2030 51% target;</li> <li>- All public sector bodies should develop a building stock plan, in line with the EPBD, by end-2023 for retrofitting their building stock to meet CAP targets;</li> <li>- As part of the building stock plan, public sector bodies should undertake data gathering and consider the long-term (to 2050) retrofit key performance indicators to upgrade all their building stock to Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) or Zero Emission Buildings (ZEB) as outlined in the EPBD proposal and Energy Efficiency Directive;</li> <li>- In 2023, SEAI will work with sectoral groups with a large estate to develop a renovation target.</li> </ul>	<p>Additional clarifications provided on actions/ requirements</p>	<p>Science Phase 3 constitutes UCD's major renovation and refit for 2023. Plans are in development for further retrofits. Additional funding will be required from government to underpin this commitment in future years.</p>
	<p>Phase out the use of parking in buildings that have access to a range of public transport services and active/shared mobility options for the majority of staff/visitors while providing that sufficient accessible parking is maintained for those with physical mobility issues.</p>	<p>New requirement</p>	<p>UCD has agreed with our external planning and transport partners a maximum number of 3,600 parking spaces which can be provided on the Belfield campus for use by staff, students and visitors. UCD recognises the requirement for accessible parking for staff and students with mobility issues and maintains accessible parking close to buildings for this purpose.</p>



# Appendix 1 – Green Team Terms of Reference



**University College Dublin**

**UMT Sustainability Group**

## **Purpose and function**

UCD aims to be a thought and action leader in sustainability. The UMT Sustainability Group shall be responsible for leading sustainability in UCD, for driving sustainability initiatives and for making recommendations to the University Management Team (UMT) on all matters relating to sustainability.

The group is also constituted to serve as UCD's Green Team as required by law under the Climate Action Plan, with a brief to:

- i) influence colleagues to commit to working and living sustainably;
- ii) influence decision making in public sector bodies so that climate; and environmental criteria are to the fore.

## **Terms of Reference**

- To oversee and provide guidance and direction for the achievement of sustainability objectives identified in the University Strategic Plan, including through working with the VP for Sustainability on the establishment and implementation of a University Sustainability Strategy;
- After approval of the strategy by UMT, the VP Sustainability will make decisions in relation to its implementation in consultation with the Sustainability Group other than where there are substantial resource or other implications for UCD, in which cases recommendations will be referred to UMT for decision;
- To highlight and communicate developments in national, European and global sustainability policy to UMT so that they may be incorporated, as appropriate, by the University;
- To make recommendations to UMT for the enhancement of sustainability at the University and suggest action measures to prevent any shortcomings in the area;
- To ensure the promotion, communication, and mainstreaming of sustainability within and outside UCD and ensure that appropriate and effective training is provided at governance, management, faculty, staff, and student levels;

- To advise UMT on steps necessary to ensure that the University complies fully with all legislative requirements in relation to sustainability, including the Climate Action Plan;
- To contribute to submissions in relation to university rankings, particularly those related specifically to sustainability;
- To consider and respond to issues referred to the Group by the UMT.

### **Composition**

As UCD's Green Team, the group will be chaired by the VP for Sustainability and will include representation in respect of the following:

- building management – Director of Campus Development, Energy and Sustainability
- human resources – Chief People Officer or nominee
- learning and development – Registrar or nominee
- finance – Bursar or nominee
- technical support – a nominated Chief Technical Officer

Additional members will represent:

- research – VP Research Innovation and Impact or nominee
- students – UCD Students' Union President or nominee
- sustainability unit – Sustainability Officer

The Chair may invite other attendees to present or report on individual items as required.

### **Group administrative support**

The group will be supported by members of the UCD Sustainability Unit.

### **Conduct of business**

- The Group shall meet at least four times a year;
- The meetings shall be convened by the Chair with a minimum of seven days' notice of a meeting;
- The members of the Group may nominate others to attend meetings on their behalf if necessary and appropriate.

### **Reporting responsibility**

The Sustainability Group will submit an annual report to UMT on the progress of the Group and an annual statement of risk relating to all areas within the Group's ambit. Interim reports on specific topics will be provided as appropriate.