



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS REPORT

2021/22



Foreword

It is true that we are living through uniquely challenging times. Previous generations felt similar pressures when heading into uncharted waters. But the current era presents an unprecedented array of issues such as protracted global conflicts, runaway climate change and biodiversity loss, emerging infectious diseases, and the potential threat of artificial intelligence. Many of the threats that affect us domestically, such as the cost-of-living crisis, affect other countries around the world: a recent **report by Camfed** found that girls across Africa are quitting school for low-paid work or early marriage.

This situation partly explains why the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), first pitched in 2015, remain relevant today and continue to provide a focal point for governments and institutions. While there has been progress in certain areas, much work remains to be done. Universities have grown into their roles as leaders in addressing the SDGs, both through the work they do that has a global impact and within their respective communities.

To measure this activity and bring more focus to the area, Times Higher Education (THE) launched its Impact Rankings in 2019 to assess universities against the SDGs. The University of Bristol is participating in this exercise for the first time, and it is an important part of our learning journey as a global civic university. Indeed, the principles of sustainable development are writ large in the University of Bristol Vision and Strategy 2030, launched in 2022. One of the three strategy pillars is **‘the transformative power of the global civic university’** and one of the three cross-cutting themes is ‘embedding sustainability’. The civic pillar states that ‘we will increasingly frame our work in the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals’. We see a future through partnership, where we co-create a more equitable, sustainable and prosperous tomorrow, working in partnership with a wide range of organisations across a breadth of local, national and global communities. As a global civic institution, we can make a positive impact locally, nationally and globally by convening conversations and driving action to address the challenges ahead.

Our University was created for the city and we have a long history of working in partnership with local organisations and communities to achieve shared goals – for example with the Wellspring Settlement. That continues apace today with our involvement in Bristol’s One City Plan, with its explicit link to the SDGs, as well as our Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus (TQEC). TQEC will allow us to deliver inclusive economic development and regional growth based on job creation, entrepreneurship, and business formation, as well as offering new education and skills pathways.

Following a pledge made in March 2018, the University of Bristol became the first institution of higher education to completely divest from all investments in fossil fuel companies in February 2020. In 2019, we also became the first university in the UK to declare a climate emergency. Most important though are positive actions and our strategy continues to reaffirm our commitment to net zero. Looking to the future, we are also committed to making sustainability a core competency of a Bristol education by mobilising our curriculum, our student experience and our partnerships in support of the development of tomorrow’s global citizens.

This report gives examples that highlight our progress against the UN SDGs and we are proud of what we have accomplished to date. But we also acknowledge that being a leader in sustainable transformation means constantly reevaluating our position, staying ahead of the curve and anticipating future challenges. We look forward to seeing what we can achieve in the future with our partners.













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1. No Poverty

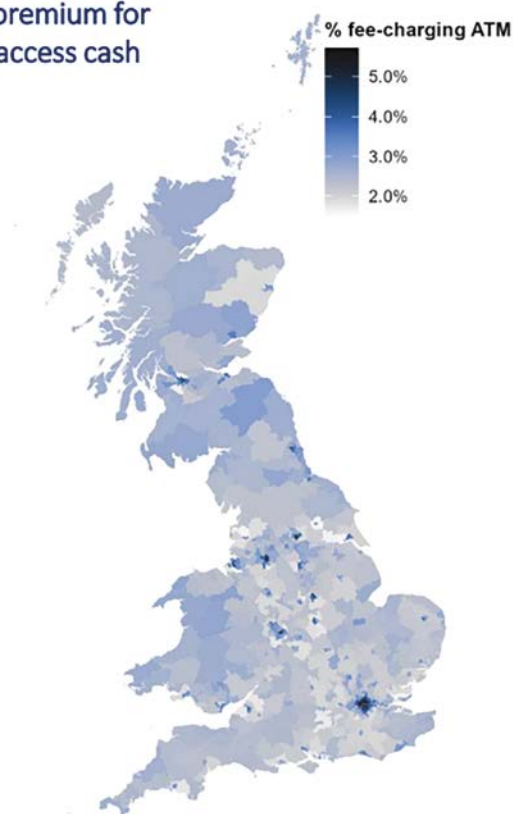
End poverty in all its forms everywhere



World-leading poverty research

In order 'to end poverty in all its forms everywhere', we first need to better understand the nature and extent of poverty in each country to inform effective policy – which is the focus of the world-leading **Bristol Poverty Institute (BPI)**. The BPI provides essential research and data to governments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and private sector bodies striving to reduce poverty in the UK and internationally.

% of households
incurring premium for
paying to access cash



One project is the **Poverty-free Model Village** – a 2022 pilot addressing poverty in rural Bangladesh, where the government are seeking to reduce the poverty rate from over 27% to 7.4% by 2025. Working with the Rural Development Academy in Bangladesh, BPI researchers designed and tested targeted interventions in areas including housing, livestock, life-skills coaching, access to credit, insurance, and links with markets and village fairs as a way to reduce poverty and improve the lives of rural people, as measured by the Multidimensional Poverty Index.

Another BPI project looked at the cost-of-living crisis in the UK and the '**poverty premium**' whereby the poor are effectively paying more for essential services including food and utilities. The report, compiled in 2022, included policy analysis and recommendations including sustainable ways those who are financially vulnerable could be supported in managing their bills, such as permanent social tariffs for essential services.

Access for all

We aim to ensure that students of all backgrounds can access the University, thrive and succeed. This involves initiatives to increase the proportion of our intake from underrepresented groups, including students from low income backgrounds. For example, **Access to Bristol** provides local students with an opportunity to experience life at the University of Bristol. It is aimed at students taking A-levels, BTECs, access to HE courses or equivalents, and priority is given based on criteria



including those who are part of the first generation in their family to go to university, live in an area of low participation in higher education, attend an aspiring state school or college, or are eligible for free school meals.

Prospective international students can apply for funding towards the cost of tuition fees and living costs through our **Think Big** undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships. For current students who are experiencing financial difficulty, there is a **University Hardship Fund** including the Digital Support Fund for IT equipment and the Financial Assistance Fund offering one-off payments to help with living costs. Targeted support is also available for students from refugee, asylum-seeker and other displaced community backgrounds through our dedicated Sanctuary Scholarships scheme. Students receive not just funding support for their studies, but also pastoral support, careers advice and free sports passes, enabling them to engage fully and maximising their chances of progressing successfully through their education. In 2021, the scheme was expanded, with an additional £100,000 of funding enabling more students to benefit.

Free advice and essential services

As a result of economic hardship caused by the pandemic, many people have been confronted with uncertainty surrounding legal issues, including their employment rights or their rights as a tenant. **The University of Bristol Law Clinic** provides free legal advice to members of the local community who cannot afford a solicitor in areas including civil litigation, housing, family law, welfare benefits and Windrush claims. All advisors at the Clinic are current Law students who work under the supervision of qualified solicitors. In 2021/22, students were involved in a wide range of activities including supporting a local resident making an appeal for their disability related benefits, and running specialised drop-in advice sessions for domestic abuse survivors.



2. Zero Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

A plan for change

At the University of Bristol we incorporate sustainability into all aspects of our food systems. In 2021, we introduced a Sustainable Food Action Plan. The plan set out a range of actions around sustainable procurement, local sourcing, fair trade, carbon mapping and the promotion of healthy eating. For example, our catering team ran a trial at one of our catered halls of residence that mapped the carbon footprint of the main course dishes. This

resulted in the University investing in an app called Klimato that will allow us to accurately produce carbon data for all items produced in-house, enabling us to change the way we work and record further reductions on our carbon emissions by the target date. The Action Plan was then developed further into a **Sustainable Food and Beverage Policy (2022-24)**, which sets out the University's commitment to addressing sustainability in all catering on campus and to promoting healthy, sustainable choices for staff, students and visitors.



Community action

The University supports all staff to take one day of **volunteering leave** per year to help make a positive impact in the local community. In December 2022, the Bristol Poverty Institute brought together teams of staff from across the University to volunteer at a **local food bank and Social Justice Hub** in the run up to Christmas.



Innovation in agriculture

The **Bristol Centre for Agricultural Innovation** promotes and supports plant and agricultural research, with a particular focus on arable, fruit and vegetable systems. The Centre delivers research, innovation, engagement and translation on themes including plant-insect interactions, crop genomics, and ecology and sustainable agriculture. One project funded in 2022 is examining winter foraging in honeybees, comparing agricultural and urban landscapes. Honeybees are important pollinators of agricultural crops, yet a major factor implicated in poor bee health is agricultural intensification.



In 2021 the University of Bristol achieved **Fairtrade status**, an award given to those that have embedded ethical and sustainable practices into their catering, supply chains and curriculum - one of just four HE institutions to achieve the award that year.

Another project in 2022 is looking at the impact of the UK Government's climate mitigation and ecosystem restoration commitments on future food security.

Another research institute, the **John Oldacre Centre for Sustainability and Welfare in Dairy Production**, offers a 'living laboratory' for livestock. Through its research, the Centre aims to tackle the global challenge of ethical food security and train the next generation of vets and agriculturalists. Ongoing work and collaborations include a behaviour testing arena to identify small behavioural and physiological changes in animals at the beginning of a disease such as mastitis.

1 in 5 children now living in households where people are going hungry (according to University of Bristol research)

66% of our catering menu was plant-based from 2021 (increasing from 45% previously)

6% catering meat offerings (reducing from 16%)

15% reduction in overall menu sugar content



3. Good Health and Well-Being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

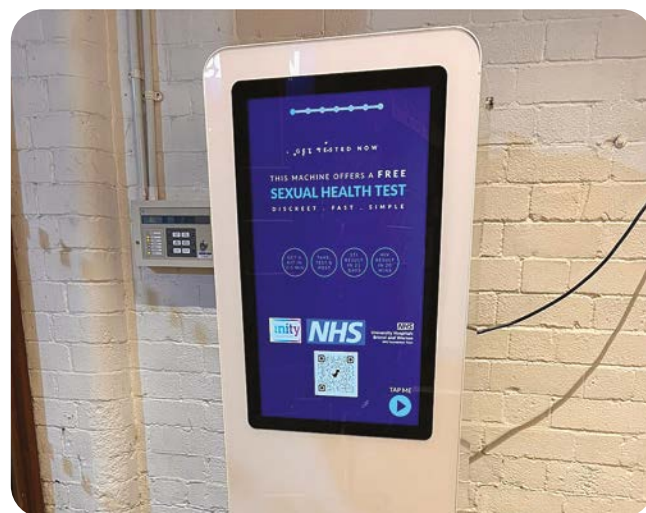
Cutting-edge health research

Health and care research is a key strength of the University of Bristol, with **Bristol Medical School** hosting a number of world-leading research institutes including the **Elizabeth Blackwell Institute for Health Research**, the **Bristol Heart Institute** and the **Bristol BioDesign Institute**. Population Health is also an area of particular expertise, and 2022 saw the 30th year of our Children of the 90s study, also known as the **Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children**. This collaborative piece of research, led by the **Bristol Population Health Science Institute**, recruited more than 14,000 pregnant women in 1991/2, and has obtained rich long-term data on their health and well-being, and that of their children and their partners. The study has resulted in many discoveries, including, most recently, data on the **impact of the pandemic on physical and mental health, the effects of fertility treatment on children's development, and new evidence around the safety of eating fish during pregnancy.**

Partnership is vital to the success of health research. **Bristol Health Partners (BHP)** is a collaboration between the University of Bristol and 12 local partners across research, health and social care. It allows researchers to take a coordinated approach to tackling health problems such as dementia, chronic pain and eating disorders through an innovative model of **Health Integration Teams**. In 2021/22, BHP secured more than £10m in research funding for a range of projects, including work to reduce inequalities for people from Black and

minority ethnic backgrounds in relation to organ transplants.

Tech for health



The University of Bristol is developing and testing a number of new technologies that will help transform community health. For example, working with **Tommy's National Centre for Maternity Improvement**, in 2022 we launched the Tommy's App, a clinical decision support tool that enables midwives and doctors to more accurately assess each person's needs during pregnancy and to personalise their care, using latest evidence and national clinical guidelines. The app could also help reduce health inequalities for Black, Asian and other minority ethnic pregnant people.

New vending machines offering free sexual health testing kits were launched in 2022 in four

39,000 women taking part in the Tommy's App trial each year (run by University of Bristol)

venues across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire by Unity Sexual Health, the sexual health service led by University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust. The vending machines aim to provide an easy, free, fast and confidential way to test for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. The University of Bristol is hosting two machines, with North Somerset and South Gloucestershire benefitting from one each. The service is being evaluated by researchers including from **Health Protection Research Unit in Behavioural Science and Evaluation (HPRU)** at the University of Bristol.

Keep smiling

A dedicated team of staff and students from the **Bristol Dental School** provide free-of-charge dental treatment including check-ups, fillings and oral-hygiene advice for people who do not have a dentist in the catchment area for South Bristol Community Hospital. Dental students have also helped communities further afield – for example, in 2022 two students delivered workshops to schools in Peru on dental and oral hygiene, also distributing toothbrushes and showing children how to use them effectively.



Student health and well-being

Students are also supported in their own health and well-being, including through our innovative **Healthy Minds Programme**. Run through our Sports, Exercise and Health department, Healthy Minds offers students at Bristol a route to improve mental and physical health through engagement in physical activity. This free, targeted programme offers support to students identified as being in need. Each participant is given a bespoke, personalised programme that fits their circumstances and interests, with support from the fitness team and peer engagement via small group activities. This ongoing programme has already helped more than 500 students to develop new skills and interests, boost their well-being, and make new friends.



4. Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

A taste for knowledge

The University of Bristol is committed to building an inclusive environment where opportunities are open to all, diversity is valued, and where everybody can reach their full potential. Taster courses, which run over 7-8 weeks, are an important part of this. They are offered in areas across language, literature, and literacy, the arts, social sciences, and science, technology, engineering and maths. Attendees are well-placed to then apply for our Foundation programmes.

Foundation programmes and flexible degrees are one of the ways the University has worked to diversify entry routes. Our **English Literature and Community Engagement (ELCE)** degree and our **Foundation Year in Arts and Humanities (FYAH)** were both designed specifically to recruit and support students from under-represented groups, including mature students. From 2022, we will be expanding the FYAH programme

into Social Sciences and Law and exploring the implementation of a STEM foundation year to create a route into degrees in our Science, Life Sciences and Engineering Faculties.

Unleash Your Potential

Our **Unleash Your Potential** programme, which is open to staff, students and external learners, provides an introduction to major global challenges and transferable skills for the workplace of tomorrow. The programme consists of three online courses that explore sustainability, global citizenship, and innovation and enterprise. At the end of the programme, participants have gained a greater understanding of the social, economic and development issues facing the world today, and how they can take action to address them on a local and global scale. Participants also practice and develop key skills to help engage with the challenges and opportunities life brings, both within and beyond the workplace.



“Coming from a working-class background with a poor academic history behind me, and after being out of a learning environment for approximately 40 years, I enrolled on the course in order to gain an insight into what life would be like returning to study as a mature student.”

Mick, 2022 attendee, Building Academic Language and Literacy taster course



Staff also have the opportunity to develop their scholarship and undertake personal development through engagement with the **Bristol Institute for**

Teaching and Learning (BILT). BILT work with staff and students to maximise the quality of educational experience at the University of Bristol, running staff development programmes, sharing best practice, and funding education research. They also hold an annual conference – with a 2022 conference theme of **The Compassionate Conference: transforming learning through pedagogies of care** – and the annual Bristol Teaching Awards, which, in 2022, saw almost 900 people nominated for their outstanding contributions to teaching and to supporting students.

Education for more inclusive societies

The University of Bristol **School of Education** is a globally renowned centre of education, research excellence and methodological innovation. Its aim is to ensure education positively contributes towards the realisation of more inclusive and sustainable societies. It carries out interdisciplinary, co-produced and open research that addresses local, national and international priorities. In 2022, researchers from the School carried out a detailed analysis of inclusive education policies following a major system reform in Wales – the most significant changes to its education system since political devolution. They made valuable contributions on the clear steps being taken toward both social practices and the valuing of diversity, and the need for greater coherence and consistency.



5. Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Committed to inclusion

A commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion is fundamental to the University's core values, ensuring our success as a high-performing global civic institution with a positive and supportive culture, where all staff and students feel empowered and respected. We are active participants in schemes to address gender inequality, such as the Women into Technology and Engineering Compact, and British Council scholarships for Women in STEM.

We are also seeking to understand and address our gender pay gap, taking an evidence-based approach to understanding the reasons for the gap and working with our staff and unions to reduce it. The 2022 Gender Pay Gap Report found a median pay gap of 11.1% in men's favour, which has reduced by 5.1% since the first report in 2017 and is below the HE sector median pay gap of 16.2%. Actions being taken to address this include the University's wider work-life balance initiative, reviewing Home and Family policies, enhancing entitlements, increasing flexibility and improving processes to support all staff.

Trans and non-binary inclusion

Trans and non-binary staff and students are integral to, and valued within, our university community. The University benefits from their diverse experiences, and is committed to ensuring all trans and non-binary staff and students feel included and respected. **Our Trans and Non-Binary Staff Inclusion Policy** reaffirmed this in 2022, accompanied by our

Guidance for Trans and Non-Binary Staff and those supporting them, and supported by our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Team.

We also offer a Trans and Non-Binary Mentoring scheme where students can apply for a mentor at any time during their university experience. Mentors receive training that is tailored to supporting trans and non-binary students, including how being trans can affect mental health, social engagement, and the university experience.

Ending male violence

Men's violence is one of the biggest single health risks facing women, girls and people of marginalised genders. The University of Bristol hosts the **Centre for Gender and Violence Research**, which conducts high quality research to inform policy, practice and action on gender-based violence, as well as other research groups across the University that focus on the topic. In 2022, our researchers hosted a conference, discussion and workshop titled '**Boys at the Crossroads**', sharing evidence and best practice on how to end male violence and challenge harmful masculine norms and cultures that affect people of all genders.

31% female professors
in 2021/22, exceeding
our 28% target



2030 target:

50% female professors
and eradicating the
gender pay gap



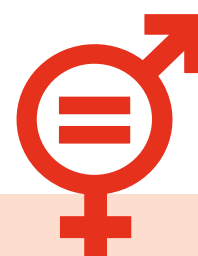
Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Squires and Suzy Cheeke,
Vice-President of Bristol UCU, sign the Collective Agreement

Gender equality initiatives

- **Athena Swan Charter** - to transform gender equality within higher education (HE) and research (with an Institutional Silver award and 19 awards for academic departments ranging from Gold to Bronze)
- **Bristol Women's Mentoring Network** - helps foster women's career development across the University of Bristol
- **Female Leadership Initiative** - aims to support women, to develop their sense of personal agency and impact
- **Returning Carers' Scheme** - funding for academic staff across all faculties to help re-establish research after returning from extended leave due to parental or caring responsibilities

“ All the women in my feedback group had been given sufficient increased confidence to apply for promotions/jobs for which they would have hesitated before. I am applying for accelerated progression as a direct result of my mentor.

Participant on the Bristol Women's Mentoring Network



6. Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

World-leaders in water science

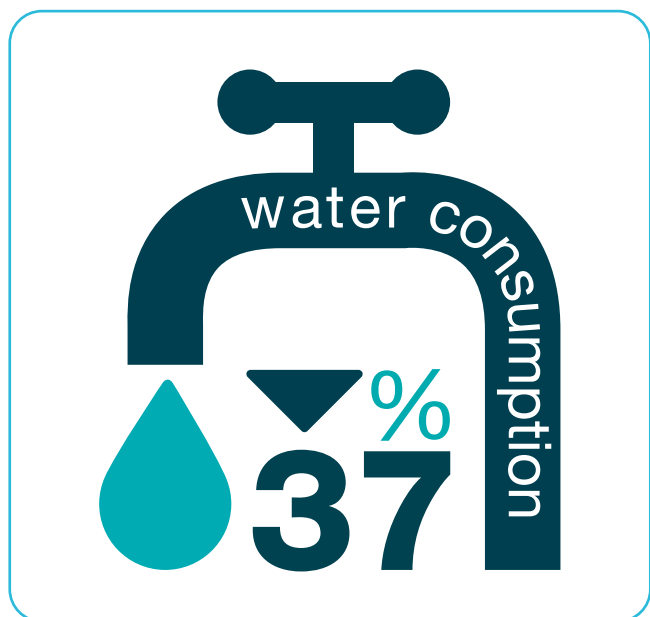
The University of Bristol is a world leader in research relating to water security, water and climate change, and water as a resource. **The Water and Environmental Engineering** research group focuses on developing the theory and tools needed to address the complex issue of water security in a changing world. The Water group in the **Cabot Institute for the Environment** offers world-leading research, training and innovation in hydrology, biogeochemistry and water resources. In 2022, researchers from the Cabot Institute worked in collaboration with partners in Nepal and Ethiopia

to assess the climate resilience of community-managed water supplies, finding that many water supplies in rural and small-town communities are unlikely to be resilient to future climate change without increased investment and support.

Students also have the opportunity to get involved in this research through **WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)** - a group of researchers and students interested in sustainable and resilient water and sanitation services in low- and middle-income countries. In 2021, the group launched a project in Senegal to understand linkages between sanitation services and climate change.



Downloading data on rainfall patterns from one of the weather stations in Chitwan, Nepal (WASH project)



Water consumption down by 37% in 2021/22 in comparison to the baseline year of 2007/08.

Two-pronged approach

The University of Bristol's **Carbon and Water Strategy** was updated in 2020/21, reflecting the growing need to reduce our reliance on water resources in order to play our part in climate change adaptation in an increasingly water-stressed world. In 2021/22, our water consumption was down by 37% from the baseline year 2007/08. In the last decade, many reductions have been due to the wholesale replacement of the ring mains at our Clifton Campus, and sites in Langford and Stoke Bishop. The avoidance of tap water for cooling electrical equipment is now a key strand of our water conservation activity. Bottled water is no longer sold at the University, we have removed plastic straws, and offer a deposit system for glass bottles. We support **City to Sea** and **Surfers Against Sewage Plastic Free Communities** and continue to sell at cost sustainably sourced

reusable hot drink cups and stainless-steel BPA free reusable water bottles that can be filled at the 300 refill stations at the University.

“ **Water security is a major societal challenge. Will we have enough clean water? What are our flood and drought risks and how do we manage them? Our group develops new understanding and solutions to address these challenges.** ”

Dr Ross Woods, Head of Water and Environmental Engineering Research Group

Be the Change

In 2022, the University launched the **Be the Change** campaign, aiming to empower staff and students across the university community to take tangible decisions and small actions that can make a big difference. Challenges to reduce water use and minimise waste included identifying and acting on inefficiencies such as leaking taps, taking shorter showers, reusing rainwater for gardening, and identifying and reporting potential ways to save and reuse water within the University.

In 2022/23, the University's Sustainability Department will also offer Be The Change grants of up to £1,000 for student-led projects seeking to address issues across climate action and sustainability. Initiatives in partnership with staff, the University or the wider community will be welcomed, with projects expected across a range of sustainability issues, including water use.

In 2022, the University of Bristol was **1st** in the UK for water resources research and 14th globally according to Shanghai Ranking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects (GRAS)



7. Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



A project in our Life Sciences Building to upgrade the energy management system and refit lighting with state of the art LED lighting

A net zero campus

The University of Bristol's pledge to become a net zero carbon campus by 2030 means making significant and rapid changes to reduce carbon emissions. Improving energy efficiency and decarbonising energy use in buildings is key to reaching our net zero target for scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030. In 2021/22, a pilot project of £650,000-worth of efficiency work at Dorothy Hodgkin Building enabled us to upgrade its energy management system and completely refit it with state-of-the-art LED lighting with occupancy controls in individual rooms, saving a combined total of 150 tonnes of CO₂. Our newly upgraded Building Energy Management Systems also enable us to reprogram our control systems to identify and eliminate energy waste, for example making sure that a building is not being cooled when it is also being heated.

150 tonnes of CO₂
saved through state-of-
the-art LED lighting with
occupancy controls



Partnership for change



The University of Bristol is a partner institute in the EU Horizon 2020 **Re-Cognition** project. This project aims to pave the way for large-scale deployment of building-level renewable energy sources, leveraging energy production from multiple renewable energy technologies and enabling their optimal pairing with storage technologies to meet the buildings electricity, heating, cooling, and hot water demand, efficiently and exactly when it is needed. The Public Engagement team from Bristol worked with partners from industry and academia across Europe, contributing expertise on public engagement and responsible innovation, ensuring that the societal value, expectations and benefits of the research formed a core part of the design and delivery.

Energy innovation

The Low Carbon Energy team at the **Cabot Institute for the Environment** is developing sustainable energy policy and technologies crucial to providing a safe, reliable and low-cost energy supply for a growing global population. They innovate in every part of the energy system, from generation and storage to regulation and end-user demand. One current project is examining the opportunities and pitfalls of decentralised energy systems through field studies in Uganda and The Gambia. The Cabot Institute teams also work with a wide range of industrial partners in the low carbon energy sector and leading major collaborative programmes such as the **South West Nuclear Hub** and **the Wind Blade Research Hub**.



8. Decent Work and Economic Growth

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Support for local enterprise

The University of Bristol has a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem which makes a significant contribution to the growth and prosperity of the local and national economy. This includes programmes and facilities that support aspiring start-up and scale-up companies including **Basecamp Enterprise**, **Runway**, **The Quantum Technology Enterprise Centre**, **Pervasive Media Studio**, **SETsquared Bristol** and **Engine Shed**; and we are partners in

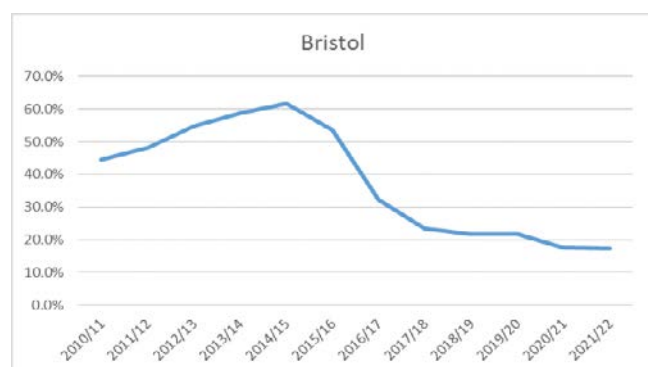
Science Creates. This activity will shift up a gear with the creation of our flagship new **Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus**, which will enable a dynamic ecosystem where our academic community can grow their ideas alongside community stakeholders, industry partners, and business connections. The focus is on strengthening Bristol's economy while creating a more sustainable, prosperous and equitable society.



“ The Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus will allow us to deliver inclusive economic development and regional growth based on job creation, entrepreneurship, and business formation, as well as offering new education and skills pathways

Professor Evelyn Welch,
Vice-Chancellor and President

Bringing more job security



A chart showing the reduction of researchers on fixed-term contracts.

The University of Bristol has continued to review the balance of open-ended, fixed-term and hourly paid contracts, resulting in more secure employment opportunities for more colleagues. Over the last ten-years, Bristol has made significant progress in moving our researchers onto open-ended contracts with fixed funding, going from a peak of 62% of researchers on fixed-term contracts in 2014/15 to just 17% by 2021/22. In terms of teaching, since 2019 we have reduced our reliance on hourly-paid teaching staff in favour of more certain fixed-term Pathway 3 teaching colleagues.

Understanding and tackling national and global business challenges

The **University of Bristol Business School** aims to tackle the big global issues impacting the economy and society, ranging from environmental and economic sustainability, to globalisation, social justice and equality. In 2021, a team from the School looked at **corporate responses to tackling modern slavery in Australia, France and the United Kingdom**. They found that overall, businesses are using less demanding measures such as introducing policies and delivering training rather than more resource-intensive activities such as audits. They concluded that researchers and civil society remain critical stakeholders and effective oversight and analysis of business reports is essential in effectively tackling human rights abuses and modern slavery around the globe.

Bristol is also a key partner in the **Economics Observatory**, a project that aims to bridge the gap between academic research, government policy and the public in relation to questions of economics and the economy. The Observatory offers a way of sharing research on topics including banking and finance, business, charities and the voluntary sector, energy and climate change, health, inequalities, pensions and savings, interest rates, taxes, public spending, trade and supply chains, and transport and infrastructure, in a clear, easily understood, accessible way. Pieces shared by Bristol researchers in 2021/22 via the Observatory include research into **inflation and prices, the UK economy following the September 2022 “mini budget”**, and the **connection between the cost-of-living crisis and net zero policies**.



9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure,
promote inclusive and sustainable
industrialization and foster innovation

Smart industry

The **Bristol Composites Institute (BCI)** is a world-leading institute for composites research and education, combining cutting-edge fundamental science with strong industrial links for technology transfer. In recent times, composites have been replacing traditional materials at an unprecedented rate, with global growth in their use expected to be rapid. The drivers for this increased need for lightweight composite components include fuel efficiency and reducing emissions, but also improved operational performance and functionality.

In 2022, the University of Bristol strengthened our work with our subsidiary, the **National Composite Centre (NCC)**, with the appointment of Professor Ian Hamerton (BCI) was appointed NCC Chair in Sustainable Polymers and Composites, and from the NCC, Dr Enrique Garcia, Chief Technology Officer, and Dr Tim Young, Head of Sustainability,

were made Visiting Industrial Professors at the BCI. This close collaboration between the BCI and NCC enables research that will contribute to the UK's net zero ambitions, as well as supporting industrial innovation.

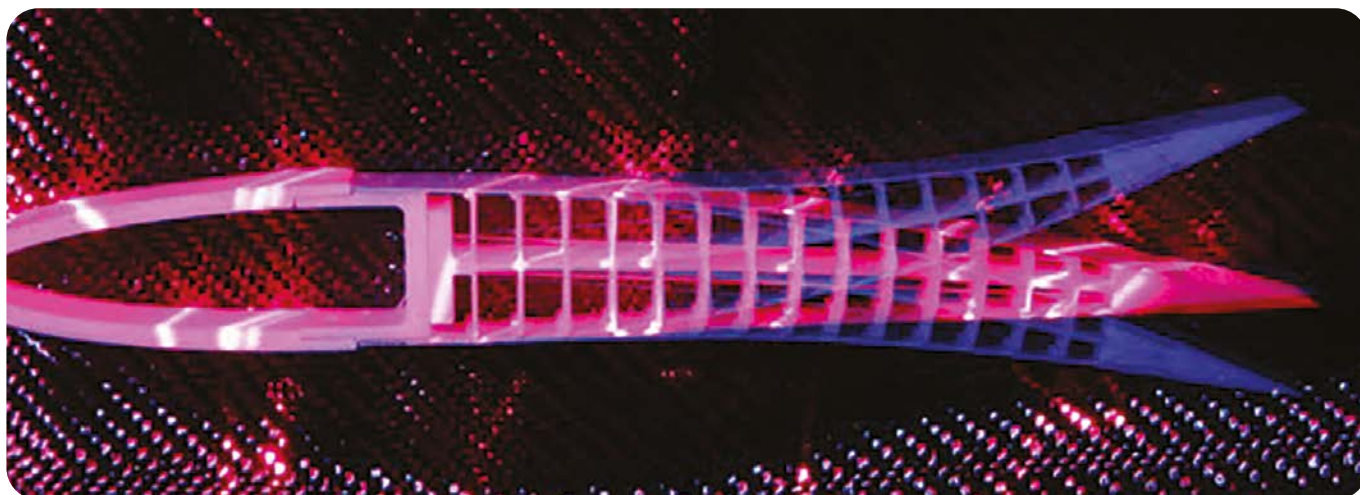
A digital future for all

Global connectivity, smart technology and automated systems are part of our daily lives and we need to better understand how technologies and people are shaping the future together. At the forefront of this is the **Bristol Digital Futures Institute**, shaping a digital future that works for everyone. Its mission is to transform the way we create new digital technology for inclusive, prosperous and sustainable societies. In 2022, the Institute was part of a consortium that **secured £10m to launch a UK Telecoms Innovation Network** to boost creativity in the telecoms supply chain.



“ **Innovation has set us apart from the thousands graduating every year. I'm now running a product design startup and I couldn't have done it without the help and support I received at the Centre.** ”

Amber Probyn, MArts Anthropology with Innovation graduate



Creating the industries of tomorrow

The aim of the **Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CfIE)** is to create the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs with the adaptability, transdisciplinary and innovative thinking to make positive differences in an ever-changing world. This is achieved through a collaborative and interdisciplinary team of academics and industry professionals who passionately engage with students as co-creators. The four-year Masters programme for undergraduates is split between their main subject and the study and practice of Innovation. In 2022 the CfIE launched **Runway**, an accelerator programme where student startups

take flight. It gives students and recent graduates access to co-working space, mentoring and funding. Crucially, all of the Centre's teaching staff are entrepreneurs who can help with everything from patenting ideas to connections with funding teams.

Business innovation is also supported through our incubation and startup spaces, including **SETsquared** and **Engine Shed**, and through our new **Bristol Innovations** virtual network, launched in 2022 to better connect researchers and students with industry partners.



10. Reduced Inequalities



Mictroy Mitchell, Research Technician, Earthquake Laboratory (and former apprentice)

Recruiting the workforce of the future

The University of Bristol's **Diversify** initiative provides a range of measures to improve representation of marginalised groups across all levels of our workforce. With a particular focus on professional services, Diversify seeks to attract, develop and retain talented individuals from different backgrounds and heritages. A key Diversify measure is our **eXcelBristol Apprentices** scheme, creating entry-level roles and career pathways for under-represented people in areas across administration, laboratories, engineering workshops, IT services, estates, finance services, and legal services.

Similarly, our **JOIN US!** outreach scheme was developed following engagement with local communities to provide a supported route into employment for people from a diverse range of backgrounds who might not otherwise enter employment in general or consider the University as a potential employer.

Ensuring all students thrive

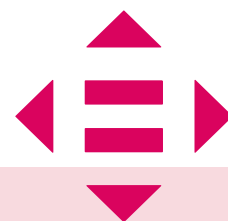


At the University of Bristol we aim to ensure that students of all backgrounds are supported to thrive and succeed. Specifically, we are working to support more disabled students to progress to employment and further study when they graduate by partnering with **EmployAbility**, who provide specialist careers support for disabled students. This includes one-to-one advocacy for final year students to help them navigate the graduate recruitment process, practice interviews, and workshops on topics such as mental health and well-being, and rights under employment law. Bristol also hosts the **Norah Fry Centre for Disability Studies**, a leading national centre of excellence that strives to make a positive difference to the lives of disabled people through its research and teaching.

In 2022, **8%** of our staff reported as disabled (compared to a 5.5% sector average)

Community-led equality

Research, data and evidence are critical to the campaign for race equality, but those who need information do not always have access to it. To address this, in 2021 the **Research Action Coalition for Race Equality (RACE)** was launched as a partnership between **Black South West Network** and the University of Bristol. It aims to connect data to community-led approaches in ways that recognise, value and respond to communities' lived experiences and diverse forms of knowledge and expertise, through partnership, collaboration and co-production between academics, community groups and policy-makers. One project undertaken as part of RACE was the RACE Ecosystem Map, developed with students from the University, which shows the race equality space in Bristol and the wider South West region. It provides a comprehensive picture of the nature of the work being undertaken by local organisations.



11. Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



A global civic institution

The University of Bristol was created as a university for the city and has a long history of working in partnership with local organisations and communities to achieve shared goals. As a global civic institution, we can make a positive impact locally, nationally and globally by convening conversations and driving action to address the challenges ahead. In keeping with our long tradition of community engagement, in 2020 **the University opened a micro-campus** at Wellspring Settlement in Barton Hill. Housed in three brightly-coloured shipping containers, the space is designed to bring together staff and students with a range of partners and communities in east Bristol. This has supported projects such as research examining the impact of COVID-19 lockdowns, student internships with fellow Wellspring Settlement tenants Bristol Refugee Rights, and a Digimakers Engineering summer school. With activity ramping up in 2022,

as the pandemic receded, the micro-campus now also hosts employability initiatives to support progression into jobs at the University, a free 'Little Library' service, free legal advice via the University of Bristol Law Clinic, and coffee mornings for women, jointly run with **Bristol Somali Resource Centre** and **Barton Hill Activity Club**.

One city, many neighbourhoods

Bristol City decision-making is currently driven by the **One City Approach**, which sets out a longer-term vision for change across the city to 2050. Building on this is the collaborative **Many Neighbourhoods, One City** research project, which, working with a wide range of local community partners, aims to bring about a rebalancing of decision-making processes in the city. In 2022, the research group published a discussion paper on phase one of the project, concluding that greater recognition of the essential social value of the work that community anchor

organisations are doing would help catalyse their role in transforming the city into a place of opportunity that is more inclusive, kinder and is better able to face future challenges.

Modernising the fleet



As a city centre university, transport is a key issue. We encourage all our students and staff to use active modes of transport, such as walking, cycling or public transport, wherever possible. By travelling sustainably, our students and staff help reduce congestion and improve the air quality of the city by limiting the amount of carbon that is released into the atmosphere. In 2022, we published our **Sustainable Travel and Transport Delivery Plan**, which promotes sustainable travel choices and aims to reduce car reliance, in particular the number of single-occupant trips. Notably, the Cleaner Fleet Programme has begun the process of modernising our vehicle fleet, with around 30 new electric vans and a fleet of 10 e-cargo bikes.

Reflecting Bristol's history

Bristol is a city with a long history and a rich cultural heritage. Researchers across the University have helped explore and understand the city's legacy as a port, an industrial centre, and a home to people of many backgrounds and experiences. In 2021, the Citizens Researching Together project enabled academics in the Department of History and the **Centre for Black Humanities** to work with local people and groups to explore the city's legacy in relation to the trafficking of enslaved Africans. One strand of this project involved a collaboration with

creative partners to identify 'sites of memory' around the city that had links to enslavement. These were then memorialised through dance and movement that drew on the culture of the African diaspora. The creative performance was shared publicly for free via an augmented reality app, enabling people to engage with and explore the city in a completely new way.

Experts at the University also published a report and **practical policy guidance** in November 2021 to help public bodies facing decisions on how to address their own historic legacies, in the wake of strong public feeling on the naming of streets and buildings after controversial figures, and the retention of related statues and other monuments.



Art and culture have been part of the University's contribution to understanding and exploring Bristol's heritage and place, and its future. In 2022, artwork commissioned by the **Bristol Digital Future Institute** celebrating the city's industrial past was unveiled at our new Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus. Across the city, University researchers worked with artists, architects, designers, school children and the public to help co-create an art installation, **Building a Martian House**, which explores the possibility of future living on Mars as a way of thinking creatively about living more sustainably here on Earth.

865,532 passengers carried by the U1 and U2 buses, an increase of 175% since 2020/21

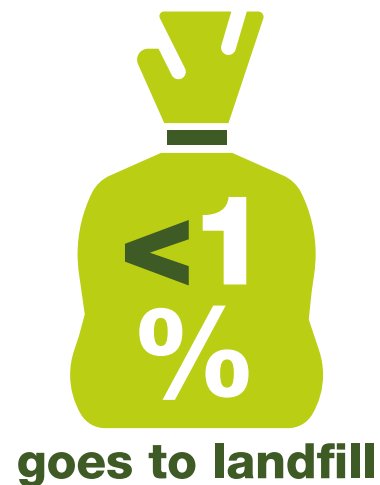


12. Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

A virtuous circle

The University of Bristol has put in place a **Circular Economy Strategy**, offering potential cost savings as well as sustainability improvements. This redefines how our institution manages its resources, away from a linear model of 'make, purchase, consume and dispose' to one that prioritises the use of regenerative resources, preserves and extends the life of what has already been made, turns waste into a resource, and designs for the future. For example, we collect food waste from all staff kitchens and student residences. It is taken to a local facility where it is **anaerobically digested** into compost and energy to power local homes. We also give unwanted wood to the **Bristol Wood Recycling Project**, a non-profit social enterprise who work to provide affordable timber to the local community.





Designing the future

The University of Bristol's Faculty of Engineering hosts the **Engineering Systems, Design and Innovation (ESDI)** research group. Its approach is to combine deep domain knowledge and cutting-edge science with design thinking, systems thinking and industrial links for knowledge exchange. The ESDI is a varied and wide-reaching research centre, with projects spanning a large number of sectors. There are two ESDI projects working on advanced chain drive technology for cycling and industry. One of these projects, co-sponsored by the British Olympic Cycling Team, developed and tested super-high efficiency chains for the Tokyo Olympics and other competitions. The other involves applying new technology to help improve industrial chains to make factories more efficient, thus saving energy and reducing carbon footprints.

Embedding systems thinking

The **University of Bristol Business School** incorporates circular economy and sustainability-related topics into the undergraduate and postgraduate curriculum. For example, the Design and Systems thinking for Innovation unit is mandatory for undergraduate programmes offered by the **Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CfIE)**. The CfIE programmes, the first of their kind in the UK, are designed for people who want to pursue their academic specialism in a way that enables them to apply it in an innovative and entrepreneurial way in a rapidly changing world.



13. Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Responding to an emergency

The University of Bristol **formally recognised the climate emergency** in 2019, reaffirming our strong positive commitment to take action to address climate change. Our **Sustainability Policy** was launched in 2017, setting out our targets and ambitions across a range of areas, including embedding sustainability within the curriculum, creating opportunities for students and staff to learn and change, and shifting our institutional behaviour as an organisation, an employer, and a part of our community.

Our goal to become carbon neutral by 2030 was set in 2015, and we have so far reduced emissions by 46% from our 2005/6 baseline, although we still have further to go. We have invested in resources, tools and improvements, saving 150 tonnes of carbon dioxide through upgrading systems, and allocating £235,000 to electric vehicles. Less than 1% of waste now goes to landfill, while 55% is reused, recycled, composted or anaerobically digested. 35 of our 40 Schools and Departments have now started their own Climate Action Plans for further, localised action.

Student action

Local organisations are also being assisted to develop and implement local Climate Action Plans by University of Bristol student volunteers, through the **Climate Action Bristol** project. Training and support are provided to student volunteers before

they are matched with local organisations keen to take climate action. Students help to develop and implement a Climate Action Plan for the organisation using a bespoke online tool. Developed with **NETpositive Futures**, this provides focus and guidance across four key areas: energy and efficiency; travel and transport; sustainable sourcing; and people and engagement. The University also offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate units and programmes that enable students to explore the issues around climate change, and to become the change the future needs. Specialist Masters programmes include our MSc in Global Development and Environment, our MSc in Climate Change Science and Policy, our MRes in Sustainable Futures, and our unique Cabot Institute MSc by research in Global Environmental Challenges.

A changing climate

The University's **Cabot Institute for the Environment** undertakes world-leading research in relation to global sustainability and climate change, with specialisms in food security, water, low carbon energy, city futures, environmental change, and natural hazards and disaster risk. The Institute also offers expertise and policy guidance to governments and NGOs, as well as undertaking public engagement and communication activities. Six climate scientists from the Institute were among the authors of the **6th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on**

Bristol was the **1st** UK university to declare a climate emergency

Climate Change (IPCC), published in 2021, and the University made contributions to both decision-making and awareness-raising globally, nationally and locally around the **United Nations COP26 Climate Change Conference**.

The impact of climate change on the global south is a key area of concern. **Research commissioned by the charity WaterAid in 2022**, involving scientists from the University of Bristol and Cardiff University, found that vast swathes of Africa have been experiencing more frequent and intense episodes of drought since 1983. Their analysis showed there has been an increase in the annual number of dry and severely dry months in these African regions, as well as an increase in the percentage of their landmass experiencing drought between 1983 and 2021. These newly identified drought trends, likely related to climate change, will further exacerbate challenges faced by rural and urban communities across Africa. Urgent action is needed to ensure

people have access to food, clean water and decent sanitation now and in the future.

“ **Climate change, together with the urgent need to decarbonise the world’s economy, is arguably the greatest challenge we face. Making our region the UK’s first hydrogen ecosystem acknowledges our capacity to pioneer research that has the potential to change the future of how we power transport, heat our homes and decarbonise industry.** ”

Professor Phil Taylor, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Enterprise

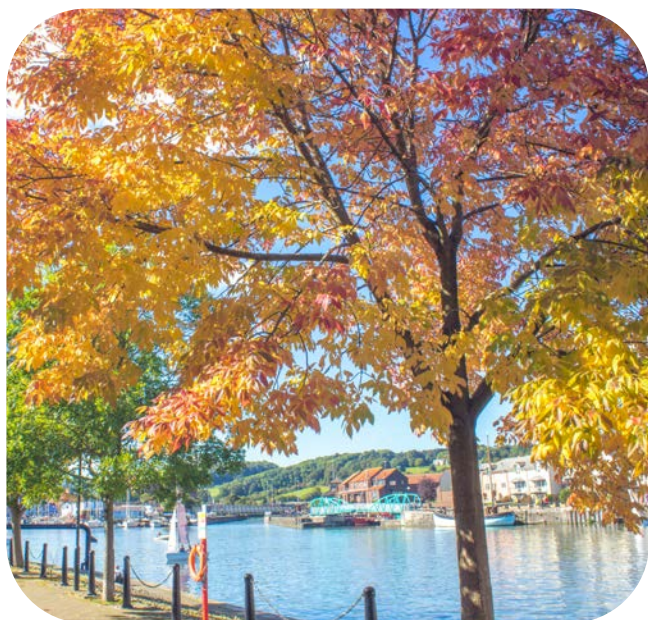


The Mandrare river, now a dried up river bed, Amboasary Antsimo, Anosy region, Madagascar, September 2021. Image credit: WaterAid/ Ernest Randriarimalala



14. Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development



Bristol: A port city

Located as it is on the River Avon, near the confluence of the River Severn and the Bristol Channel, and surrounded by the lakes and rivers of south Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Somerset, water has always been important to the city and the University of Bristol. Working with partners from across the city as part of the One City programme's **Environment Board**, we are contributing to the delivery of the **One City Ecological Emergency Strategy**. The Strategy specifically recognises the importance of water and the need to work together to restore the environment, with a specific target

that by 2030 100% of the city's waterways will have water quality that supports healthy wildlife.

The University also works to **proactively manage its estate**, in line with our **Living Estate Strategy**. We manage our land and water as valued habitats for wildlife, monitoring and supporting biodiversity through our annual surveys to monitor key indicator species including amphibians.

We also offer a specialist **MSc in Water and Environmental Management**, which gives students the opportunity to specialise in tackling local and global water and environmental challenges.

“ When livestock excreta are flushed to waters it drives changes in their physical, chemical and ecological quality and function. This material contains inorganic nutrient contaminants typically included in routine water quality monitoring programmes across the UK, but also many other compounds which are not being monitored.

Penny Johnes, Professor of Biogeochemistry in the School of Geographical Sciences

A focus on freshwater



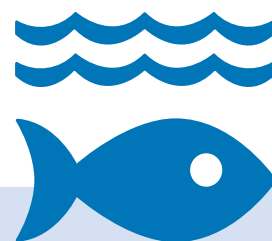
A £1.6 million University of Bristol-led project is **investigating how livestock farming practices affect UK water quality**. Freshwater ecosystems are facing multiple pressures from a cocktail of pollutants, including chemicals, microplastics, pharmaceuticals, invasive species and land management practices. Consequently, the majority of UK rivers fail to have good ecological status. Poor water quality can result in loss of aquatic invertebrates and fish, threaten the structure and stability of the aquatic food chain, be dangerous for bathing, and lead to enhanced drinking water treatment needs and costs. Livestock farming is the main farming type and source of organic matter pollution in UK freshwaters, so this project will explore exactly how the practices, environmental consequences and management decisions of farming impact on changes to the quality of water in the UK.

Just **14%** of waterways in England have good ecological status

Local change makers

In 2021, students from the **Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship** worked with the **Bristol Avon Rivers Trust** on an education package, **Project Medusa**, which aimed to raise awareness of pharmaceutical pollution products, which enter our waterways by monitoring local rivers and streams. The students carried out testing to see which of 75 common pharmaceutical elements could be found at various sites, including the shallows at Saltford on the Bristol Avon between Bristol and Bath.

Another group of University of Bristol researchers from across Civil Engineering, Physics and Mechanical Engineering, supported by the **Cabot Institute for the Environment**, have built a **smart water quality monitoring system** for the entire Floating Harbour in Bristol. Previous measurements of water quality have only been possible at fixed points. The harmful chemical substances and high populations of certain microorganisms in the water are potential threats to human activities, such as the Bristol annual triathlon event, as well as the harbour aquatic ecosystems.



15. Life On Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Nurturing a 'living estate'



At the University of Bristol our estate expands well beyond our urban campus and spreads over 1000 acres. It includes two farms, **Bristol Botanic Garden**, scrub, woodland, species-rich grassland, and open water – habitat types of local and national importance. These habitats are home to a wide range of flora and fauna, including the locally important brown hare, song thrush, great crested newt and slow worm. We therefore have a **Living Estate Strategy** to ensure we preserve and enhance our estate, monitoring biodiversity and working to negate or lessen the effects of activities and development.

The University also undertakes important conservation and outreach activities. Bristol Botanic Garden has more than 4,500 species of plants, including **collections of local and rare native flora**, and received more than 24,000 visitors in 2021/22. At **Fenswood Farm**, we have 62 hectares of agricultural land with extensive research facilities including glasshouses, laboratory spaces, and controlled environment units that enable cutting-edge farming and agricultural research.

Battling biodiversity decline

Reversing the biodiversity crisis is a key research theme of the University of Bristol's **School of Biological Sciences**. Degradation of the natural environment is driving biodiversity loss on a global scale, affecting our own health and well-being. One of the critical challenges of this century is to anticipate and prevent further loss of biodiversity given rapid climate change. The School's research helps increase understanding and seeks to develop new approaches to mapping, monitoring and restoring species and habitats, in partnership with academics across disciplines and with industry and policy-makers.

1000 acres: the size of our 'Living Estate'

A **recent collaboration** with colleagues at the University of Sheffield led to the development of a predictive timeline that enables ecological forecasting of the decline of real-world species populations. Another **new project**, funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), will explore how Europe's forest ecosystems are responding to extreme heat and what this means for people, the climate, and biodiversity.

Tech for conservation



Drones are becoming an increasingly common technology within conservation, with uses ranging from mapping vegetation cover to detecting poachers to delineating community land claims. As well as their benefits, they do pose a number of issues regarding personal privacy rights and can be difficult to navigate in environments like dense forests. However, there has been limited discussion between drone practitioners and scientists across disciplines about what a drone can do, and how it should be done.

In 2021, the University of Bristol hosted a workshop, **Drone Ecologies**, with over 60 participants representing various disciplines across the social and natural sciences, as well as experts from the arts, industry, and NGOs. The workshop aimed to create an open space for important interdisciplinary dialogues on the use of drones for conservation purposes. Sessions explored opportunities for the

use of drones in biodiversity conservation work, practical ways to use drones for research that benefits wildlife and communities, using drones and other technology to strengthen biocultural research, and coproducing cross- and interdisciplinary understandings around the use of drones to support biodiversity conservation.

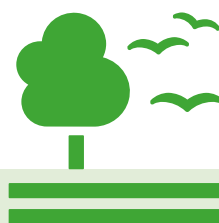
Sustainable food on campus

As part of the University of Bristol's new **Sustainable Food and Beverage Policy** and our commitment to reach net zero carbon by 2030, we are working to reduce the environmental impact of food consumption on campus, while also encouraging healthy choices as set out by our **Food Charter**. One of the first steps was to introduce meat-free Mondays, removing beef from retail outlets and reducing ruminant meat from all our menus.

Our food and drinks are ethically sourced, with the University achieving **Fairtrade status** in 2021, while our **Animal Welfare Policy** set out our expectations on welfare standards for our food suppliers. We have set ambitious goals for 2022 to 2024, including increasing our proportion of local suppliers from 50% to 60%, reducing plastic packaging with 95% of products sold plastic free, and making non-dairy milk alternatives more accessible and increasing their sale by 10%.

Ecology-themed events & awards

- Hedgehog Friendly Campus Award (2021-2022)
- Green Flag Award (for Royal Fort Gardens) (2022)
- Bee and Pollination Festival (2022)
- Insect Week (2022)
- Festival of Nature (2022)



16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Having a say

Student voices are an important part of decision-making at the University of Bristol. Staff and students work together at all levels to improve the student experience and reflect students' needs, values and priorities. Students can have their say and bring about change by voting in elections, attending meetings or standing for election in academic societies or Students' Union committees and roles.

Students are also included in important decisions about the university. In late 2022, **a consultation was launched** to seek input from the whole University community on how the University can best reflect on and recognise the legacy of the trafficking of enslaved Africans, and specifically on whether University buildings whose names are linked to transatlantic slavery should be renamed. Sessions will also be run to enable people in the local community to share their views, with a final report and recommendations due in 2023.

Local governance

In 2022, the city of Bristol held a referendum on its government structures, specifically asking the people of the city whether they wanted to continue to have an elected mayor. To support discussions

around the referendum, researchers from the University of Bristol **produced a report**, in partnership with colleagues at the University of the West of England (UWE), exploring the advantages and disadvantages of the two options – keeping the mayoral system, or replacing it with a committee structure.

As well as setting out how the two systems work, and what each would mean in terms of leadership, accountability, stability and representativeness, the report also explored a third option of returning to a 'leader and cabinet model' of governance. The report was produced as part of the **Bristol Civic Leadership Project**, a research collaboration between the University of Bristol and UWE set up in 2012 when the city first moved to a mayoral structure. Over the last 10 years, the project has produced policy reports and academic outputs, and has involved researchers from Bristol and beyond in discussions around local governance and civic management.

Building a just society

Since 2016, the **University of Bristol Law School** has doubled in size, with twice the number academics and PhD students, and a greater



“ **Being an Ambassador for Student Services has made me aware of the breadth of issues students face and I have come to learn about the many ways the university can provide support**

Siham (Biochemistry with Molecular Biology and Biotechnology),
Student Ambassador

proportion of staff from black, Asian and other marginalised backgrounds and women in senior roles. It has also seen its research grant income triple to over £5 million. The School offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, including specialised LLMs in company law and corporate governance, employment and equality law, human rights law, and, starting in 2023, environmental and sustainability law.

The School also undertakes research in a range of areas, including employment and work law, health and society, law and history, global law

and innovation, human rights implementation, and private and commercial law. Within the Law School, the **Centre for International Law** was launched in early 2022, bringing together a diverse community of international lawyers to drive world-leading collaborative research. In late 2022, the Centre held a **joint event** with the Centre for the Legal Study of Borders and Migration at Queen Mary University of London, launching a co-authored practitioners' handbook on the Common European Asylum System.



17. Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Localising the SDGs in Cities

An increasing number of cities around the world are now engaging with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Why and how is a question that researchers from the **School of Geographical Sciences, Cabot Institute for the Environment** and **Global Insecurities Centre** are examining. They provide a critical reflection on SDG 'localisation', derived from an action research project in the city of Bristol. Through a research partnership with local government and non-governmental stakeholders, our researchers supported integration of the SDGs into local policy and urban monitoring efforts.

In September 2022, an **update on progress** on the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the city of Bristol, developed by the City Office in partnership with the **Cabot Institute for the Environment** and **Policy Bristol**, was launched. The report reflects Bristol's citywide efforts to tackle the SDGs and includes information on the activities of Bristol-based organisations working to make the city more economically, environmentally and socially sustainable.

Bringing global change together

The **Cabot Institute for the Environment** seeks to address several of the UN SDGs through its research and policy engagement, frequently working in partnership with government and policy-makers to affect positive change on environmental policy

and laws worldwide. This includes being a member of the All-Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group (APPCCG), which advances understanding among UK parliamentarians of policy issues surrounding climate change. The Institute also has close working connections with the Government Office for Science and the Departments for Business and Trade (DBT) and for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ).

Experts from the University of Bristol Law School also contribute to government policy. In 2022, **research from the University** was cited in the House of Commons International Trade Committee's report on UK trade negotiations with Australia, the first trade agreement after the UK's departure from the European Union. The University's research was used to help clarify the implications of the trade deal in relation to departures from other, similar trade deals, and in relation to procurement and World Trade Organization agreements. Evidence was given orally and in writing, both to the Committee directly and through participation in workshops with other experts and stakeholders.



Community partnerships

The University of Bristol is also active in partnering with local organisations on various initiatives – for example, we worked alongside **Bristol Autism Spectrum Service** and **Golden Key**, to create an autism and homelessness working group. The aim is to improve local services for autistic people experiencing homelessness. Autism is disproportionately over-represented in homeless populations, but little is known about how autistic people experience homelessness and how best to support them. The project led to the **Autism and Homelessness Toolkit** in 2022, aimed at improving access to, and engagement with, homelessness services for autistic people.

The **Brigstow Institute** brings researchers from different disciplines together with a range of partners across the city and beyond to experiment in new ways of living and being. One experimental partnership in 2022 brought together academics from the University of Bristol and members of **Boost Finance**. Boost Finance is a collective of advice agencies (debt, benefits, housing and employment advice) at the Wellspring Settlement set up to deliver services differently and with the mission to empower local people to take control

both individually and collectively. In collaboration with Boost Finance, this research project took a community-centred and co-design approach to defining and supporting financial resilience.

Preparing future leaders

The University of Bristol offers interdisciplinary postgraduate degrees that give leaders of the future the skills to work collaboratively with partners in industry, government and the third sector. These include:

- MSc Management with a specialism in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainability
- MSc International Business and Strategy: Global Challenges
- MSc Society, Politics and Climate Change
- MSc Climate Change Science and Policy

