ESG Newsletter | October 2026

Walsall Decarbonisation Project Nearing Completion





The University's flagship decarbonisation project at the Walsall Campus is now nearing completion, marking a significant milestone in our journey towards Net Zero.

The new low-carbon heat network and solar photovoltaic (PV) panels are fully commissioned and operational, providing renewable electricity and low-carbon heating and hot water across the campus. Since commissioning, the solar array has generated **85 megawatt hours (MWh)** of renewable electricity, equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of approximately **28 average UK homes**.

Final project works are now underway, and training has been delivered by Vital Energi to ensure the long-term success of the new systems. The next steps include measuring the benefits of the system and supporting research through creation of a Living Lab.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this transformational project.

ESG Champions Webinar Coming This December

Interested in helping drive environmental, social and governance (ESG) initiatives within your area? A **Staff ESG Champions Webinar** will be hosted in December, providing colleagues with an opportunity to learn more about the ESG Champion network and how they can contribute to positive change across the University. Look out for an invitation and further details soon.

Food Waste Recycling Comes to Campus



Food waste recycling bins will soon be introduced across university catering outlets, providing staff and students with a simple way to reduce waste and support our sustainability goals.

How to use the bins:

✅ Food scraps and leftovers

❌ Packaging, napkins, cutlery and other non-food items

Food waste collected on campus is processed through **anaerobic digestion**, converting waste into renewable energy and nutrient-rich fertiliser rather than sending it to landfill. Following the introduction of food waste caddies in Walsall student accommodation, we hope to expand the scheme to City Campus after a successful trial period. Every small action helps. Thank you for supporting a greener University.

🎓 **Earn a Sustainability Digital Badge**



Did you know you can gain recognition for developing your sustainability knowledge and skills?
The University's Sustainability Digital Badge allows you to:

- Learn about sustainability challenges and solutions
- Learn about the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- Demonstrate your commitment to sustainability

The badge is available on Canvas for students and staff. Please promote the badge to students.

Link to course: https://canvas.wlv.ac.uk/enroll/XFGJXA!



Sustainability Event for Students

On **20th October**, the Sustainability Team and Students' Union will be hosting a student sustainability event designed to promote environmentally responsible behaviours and showcase opportunities to get involved in sustainability initiatives across the University.

Staff are encouraged to help spread the word and support student participation.

Sapling Planting Volunteers Needed

Help us enhance biodiversity across our campuses.

The WILD Team is seeking volunteers to support upcoming sapling planting activities. Whether you can spare an hour or a full session, your contribution will help create greener spaces for wildlife and our campus community.

📧 Contact: WILD@wlv.ac.uk



ESG in Action

From major decarbonisation projects and sustainable refurbishments to food waste recycling and biodiversity initiatives, colleagues across the University are playing an important role in helping us deliver our environmental and social commitments.

Thank you for your continued support in making the University of Wolverhampton a more sustainable place to work, study and thrive.

Campus Energy and Renewable Performance

Monitoring energy performance helps us understand how efficiently our campuses operate and identify opportunities for further improvement. While factors such as building age, campus activity and heating systems influence performance, comparisons show the positive impact that investment in renewable technologies is having across the University. The increasing contribution of on-site renewable energy generation is helping to reduce carbon emissions, improve energy resilience and support our sustainability commitments. *Energy intensity and renewable generation comparisons are shown below.*

Solar Generation	**Generation (kWh)**
Building	**Q4 25-26 academic year (May 26 - July 26)**
Housman (MX)	61,700
RMA-C City Accommodation	18,006
Harrison (MD)	31,642
Science Park PA	19,307
Science Park PD	8,241
Lady Aruna (SPB)	4,215
National Brownfield Institute (SPI)	2,228

Energy Intensity	**Q4 25-26 academic year (May 26 - July 26)**	
Campus	**Gas kwh/m2**	**Elec kwh/m2**
Wolverhampton City North	11	12
Wolverhampton City South	79	7
City Residences	16	7
Walsall Campus	17	16
Telford Campus	14	15
Wolverhampton Science Park	13	17
Springfield Campus	9	14

Campus energy use and recycling rates will be made available on the ESG Webpages under 'Dashboards'. We have changed the way we present the recycling data. Do segregate your waste and switch off devices to support efficiency measures in place. Webpage available here: https://www.wlv.ac.uk/about-us/corporate-information/environmental-social-and-governance/

Contact the Sustainability Managers if you have good news to share in the next newsletter

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