

INTRODUCING  
OUR **NEW**  
CARBON  
TARGET

**HALVE PEAK EMISSIONS BY 2030**



## INTRODUCING OUR **NEW** CARBON TARGET

### Halve peak emissions by 2030

We already have lots of projects and ideas lined up that will help us to reach our target. But of course there's always more we could do.

Read more about our big ideas and ambitions in this brochure.

We hope these will trigger discussions, challenge the status quo and help to make Oxford University a truly sustainable place to work and study.



# WHAT IF...

YOUR  
DEPARTMENT  
USED SPACE MORE  
EFFICIENTLY?

## WHAT IF...

### YOUR DEPARTMENT USED SPACE MORE EFFICIENTLY?

#### WHY SHOULD WE DO THIS?

The University's estate includes more than 200 buildings. Collectively, these emit almost 55,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year.

#### WHAT COULD BE ACHIEVED?

If we used space just a little more efficiently we could achieve a lot. **10% less space and energy** consumption would save almost **5,500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>** and over £1.9 million on energy bills. Currently the top consuming 10% of the estate is responsible for 30% of total emissions. Most of these are labs, because they need lots of energy.

#### HOW DO WE START?

Lots of space is wasted on unnecessary clutter, so an easy start would be to have a clear out. You can use WARPit to reuse/recycle surplus items. The next step could be to use more agile working and hot desking. The best start for labs is to share more equipment and facilities.



14% OF TARGET

# WHAT IF...

WE REPLACED ALL ULTRA-LOW TEMPERATURE FREEZERS WITH ENERGY-EFFICIENT MODELS?

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WE REPLACED ALL ULTRA-LOW TEMPERATURE (ULT) FREEZERS WITH ENERGY-EFFICIENT MODELS?

### WHY SHOULD WE DO THIS?

ULT freezers are used to store samples at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$ . On average they need as much energy as two UK households, and we have over 600 of them across the University.

### WHAT IF WE USED MORE EFFICIENT UNITS?

If we replaced all ULT freezers with the most energy-efficient model on the market, we could save over **500 tonnes of  $\text{CO}_2$**  and **£250,000** of electricity.

### WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO?

Lots! We could use a lot less freezer space through better organisation, sharing, and regular clear-outs. Also, did you know that  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$  is sufficient for most samples? All of these help to save money and emissions.

### HOW DO WE START?

We have already replaced the 15 worst freezers with super-efficient units. We support departments to do the same – find out more on our website.



1.3% OF TARGET

# WHAT IF...

YOUR COLLEGE  
MATCHED OUR NEW  
TARGET FOR 2030?



## WHAT IF...

YOUR COLLEGE MATCHED OUR  
NEW TARGET FOR 2030?

### WHY SHOULD WE DO THIS?

Climate change is a pressing global issue and everyone has a role to play. However, our new target doesn't cover the colleges.

### WHAT COULD BE ACHIEVED?

If all colleges were to adopt our new target, emissions in Oxford could be reduced by **10,200 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>** a year and collectively colleges could save around **£2.85 million** on energy bills!

### HOW DO WE START?

There are lots of opportunities: The easiest one is to participate in Green Impact. You could also try to look for efficiency opportunities in your college and how emissions can be reduced, or even encourage your college to adopt a stretching carbon target like this.

Visit your Student Union  
**[www.oxfordsu.org](http://www.oxfordsu.org)** to find out  
about their environmental  
campaigns.



# WHAT IF... WE DID ALL OF THESE TOGETHER?

Together with the colleges, we could save a total of **16,200 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>** – that's **40%** of our target!



## WHAT ELSE COULD WE DO?

Of course we have lots more ideas!

## WHAT IF...

...ALL BUILDINGS ACHIEVED ENERGY EFFICIENCY LEVEL B?

...EMISSIONS PER PERSON FELL BELOW THE AVERAGE OF SIMILAR UNIVERSITIES?

...WE ALL WORKED 4 DAYS A WEEK?

...WE BANNED SINGLE-USE PLASTIC?

...WE MANDATED RAIL TRAVEL FOR TRIPS TO THE EU?

If we managed to make all these radical changes, we could easily beat our target and get as low as **zero emissions!** What are we waiting for?

# WHAT IF...

## YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE?

You can find the full report including calculations and assumptions on our website. There are lots more resources to discover, too:

<https://sustainability.admin.ox.ac.uk>

## YOU CAN'T WAIT TO GET INVOLVED?

The easiest way is to join your local Green Impact team:

[www.greenimpact.org.uk/oxford](http://www.greenimpact.org.uk/oxford)

## YOU NEED HELP OR WANT TO DISCUSS IDEAS?

Contact us:

[sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk)

