

Magdalen College is committed to reducing its impact on the environment and enabling its members to create a sustainable world through their actions and influence. By sustainable, we mean “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. Sustainability covers our impact on climate, biodiversity and ecosystems, resources, waste, human wellbeing, and sustainable economies¹.

This policy applies to all areas of College activity including local operations within College, procurement, management of land holdings, investments, and our global influence on sustainability through academic research and scholarship. We will strive to embed sustainable decisions, actions, and scholarship in all of our activities.

Our **goals** are to meet the following criteria summed across all College activities by 2030:

- 1) Net zero carbon
- 2) Net gain in biodiversity compared to a baseline of 2021

The goals will be reviewed and updated as required to fit with policies adopted together with the Conference of Colleges, University, and local and UK government.

Areas for activity over the next 10 years

Carbon and climate. We will audit the College’s carbon budget across its full spectrum of activities and identify behavioural, technical, infrastructural, and financial changes that can be made to progress towards zero net carbon.

Biodiversity. We will assess the biodiversity held on College land and the impacts of College activities on biodiversity globally. We will then develop strategies to celebrate our biodiversity and enhance it both locally and through the global impacts of our activities.

Food. We will compile and share information on the environmental and health consequences of our food choices, and work towards minimizing the impact of our food in terms of land-use, water, carbon (including production and transport costs) and food waste.

Resources and waste. We will work towards reducing resource use and waste; for example, eliminating single-use non-biodegradable plastic and reducing paper and water use.

People. We will work to enhance the sustainability both of the College community and of other people affected by our actions by promoting sustainable economies and education.

Scholarship. We will promote environmental sustainability through our academic activities, training our students to thrive and lead in a sustainable world, and building opportunities for College members to develop innovative ideas and solutions to environmental problems.

Governance

Governing Body launched a Sustainability Forum in September 2020 that will meet once per term, and additionally as required, to provide advice and propose actions to College committees responsible for particular areas of activity. The forum will provide a point of contact with

¹ As embodied by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

initiatives across the Colleges, University and beyond. It will monitor progress towards the sustainability goals and report to College once per year. The forum is made up of undergraduates, graduate students, Fellows, and staff to represent all members of College.