

# ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Academic year 2019/20



## INTRODUCTION

We believe that managing environmental issues is a responsibility we all share. We have a long-standing commitment to sustainability and have made great progress in reducing our impacts over the last 5 years. The Royal College of Music operates an Environmental Management System, certified to ISO 14001:2015. Through careful management and a focus on taking action, we have made consistent improvements in our environmental performance.

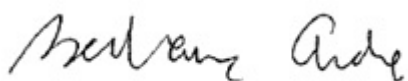
We set a target to reduce our carbon emissions by 34% by 2020 against a 2004/05 baseline year. Overall, we achieved a 60% reduction, and are in the final stages of agreeing a new long-term carbon target that will build on this strong foundation. We have seen similar long-term reductions in water use, waste and energy use over the last 5 years.

Our campus has changed a lot in the last few years, and I'm conscious that when students and staff return in earnest to the College, they will come back to a radically transformed Campus. In 2020, we completed an ambitious £40m More Music development, creating new performance spaces, a museum, cafes and social areas in the courtyard behind the grade II listed Blomfield Building. We also expanded our campus on Jay Mews, adding 40 extra rehearsal rooms and studios, as well as the RCM's original Victorian concert hall that has been home to the English National Ballet since 1976.

Sustainability was high on our agenda, and we achieved a BREEAM 'very good' rating for the new Courtyard Building. We incorporated a comprehensive suite of energy and water efficient technologies in the building and worked very closely with our construction partner Gilbert Ash to manage environmental issues closely during the build. This included extensive use of recycled building materials in the construction, including re-using demolition waste from the per-existing buildings in the East Courtyard.

We expect to welcome more visitors to our now-extended campus than ever before, and will need to redouble our efforts on environmental issues to ensure we continue to reduce our impacts. As a result, over the coming year we will publish a new sustainability strategy, a new carbon reduction strategy, and establish new baselines for environmental performance data.

I look forward to reporting on our progress and welcoming you to our campus very soon.



Aida Berhamovic

Director of Estates

June 2021

## ABOUT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

The Royal College of Music is one of the world's great conservatoires, training gifted musicians from all over the world for international careers as performers, conductors and composers.

Founded in 1882 by the then Prince of Wales (later Edward VII), the RCM has trained some of the most important figures in British and international music life, including composers such as Holst, Vaughan Williams, Turnage and Britten; conductors such as Leopold Stokowski, Sir Colin Davis and Sir Roger Norrington; singers such as Dame Joan Sutherland, Sir Thomas Allen and Alfie Boe; instrumentalists such as Sir James Galway, John Lill and Natalie Clein.

With 840 students from more than 60 countries studying at undergraduate, masters or doctoral level, the RCM is a vibrant community of talented and open-minded musicians. RCM professors are musicians with worldwide reputations, accustomed to working with the most talented students of each generation to unlock their artistic potential.

The College also welcomes world renowned artists and visiting professors from around the world, including the likes of Lang Lang, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and Bernard Haitink. The RCM's many performing groups (including five orchestras, two jazz bands and the RCM International Opera School) are celebrated for the vitality and excellence of their performances and are regularly invited to perform at significant venues both in the UK and overseas.

The RCM has world-class facilities at its campus in South Kensington, the home of science, arts and creativity, directly opposite the Royal Albert Hall. Our iconic building, our concert hall, the Britten Theatre, studios, library and RCM Collections all provide inspiration for RCM students. In addition to our main campus, the RCM has additional performance and administrative space on Jay Mews, and the RCM operates in joint sites in China, Europe and in the US.

Our students also benefit from a purpose-built halls of residents at Prince Consort Village, with sound-proofed rooms and practice spaces.

## ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

Overall responsibility for environmental management sits with our Director of Estates, Aida Berhamovic.

There are two committees with direct responsibility for managing environmental issues:

- The Environmental Management Committee. The committee provides strategic oversight and comprises senior managers from across the RCM
- The Environment Steering Group. The committee oversees the implementation of projects and day to day management of environmental issues and comprises key managers within the Estates, IT, and Projects teams.

Environmental issues are also considered at our highest governance level – the Council, and within key sub-committees, including Estates Committee and Audit Committees.

### The environmental management team

Our environmental team comprises:

Executive lead	Aida Berhamovic, Director of Estates
Environmental manager	James Leighton, Health, Safety and Environment Manager
Energy and carbon	Jason Perry, Deputy Head of Estates
Waste and resource use	Sarah Hanratty, Estates Projects & Operations Manager
Construction and refurbishment	Sarah Hanratty, Estates Projects & Operations Manager James Collins, Estates Projects Coordinator
Events and performance	Flo Ambrose, Performance, Programming and Faculty manager Sam Glenister-Batey, Head of Events and Venue Hire
Teaching and Research	Ingrid Pearson, Deputy Head of Graduate School Terry Clark, Research Fellow in Performance Science
Student representative	Joel Wilson, SU president
Finance	Rachel Harris, Director of Finance
Technology	Thom Gilbert, Digital Learning Manager Birju Patel, ICT Support Manager

## OUR KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

We've identified the most important environmental impacts and issues using a risk-based approach.

The priority issues for the College are:

- Energy use
- Carbon emissions
- Water use
- Waste
- Resource use
- Single use materials
- Hazardous materials

These occur across the entire lifecycle of our operations, with the main areas being:

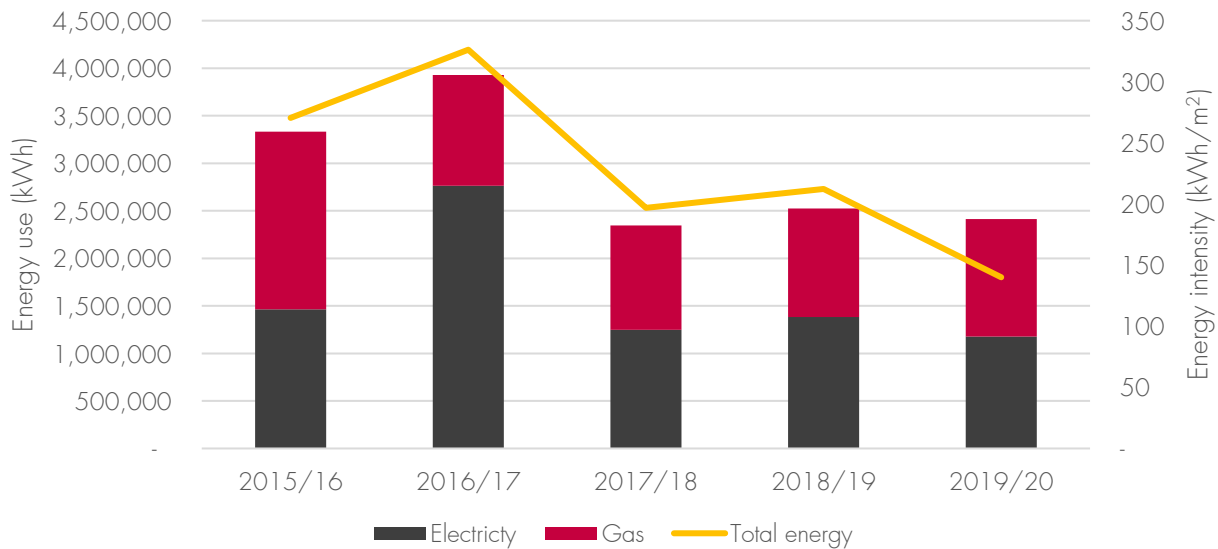
- Business travel, including travel for audition
- Student accommodation
- Campus facilities
- Student union
- Catering
- Construction and refurbishment
- Events and performances
- Teaching and research
- Procurement and supply chain impacts
- Investments
- Staff and student commuting

## Energy use

We manage energy use through our carbon management plan. Our approach has focussed on taking practical steps to reduce and avoid energy use where possible, and use efficient fittings and equipment.

The Deputy Head of Estates is responsible for energy management, and our overall approach is governed by our carbon management plan.

We have reduced our total energy use by 28% from 2015/16, and the energy intensity of our operations by around 50%.



	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Electricity (kWh)	1,463,975	2,763,394	1,247,390	1,383,515	1,177,605
Gas (kWh)	1,867,164	1,163,837	1,097,193	1,142,423	1,235,463
Total (kWh)	3,331,139	3,927,231	2,344,583	2,525,938	2,413,068
Energy intensity (kWh / m²)	271	326	197	212	140

## Carbon emissions

We have a comprehensive Carbon Management Plan which is overseen by the Deputy Head of Estates. The plan incorporates a range of energy and carbon reduction projects, including:

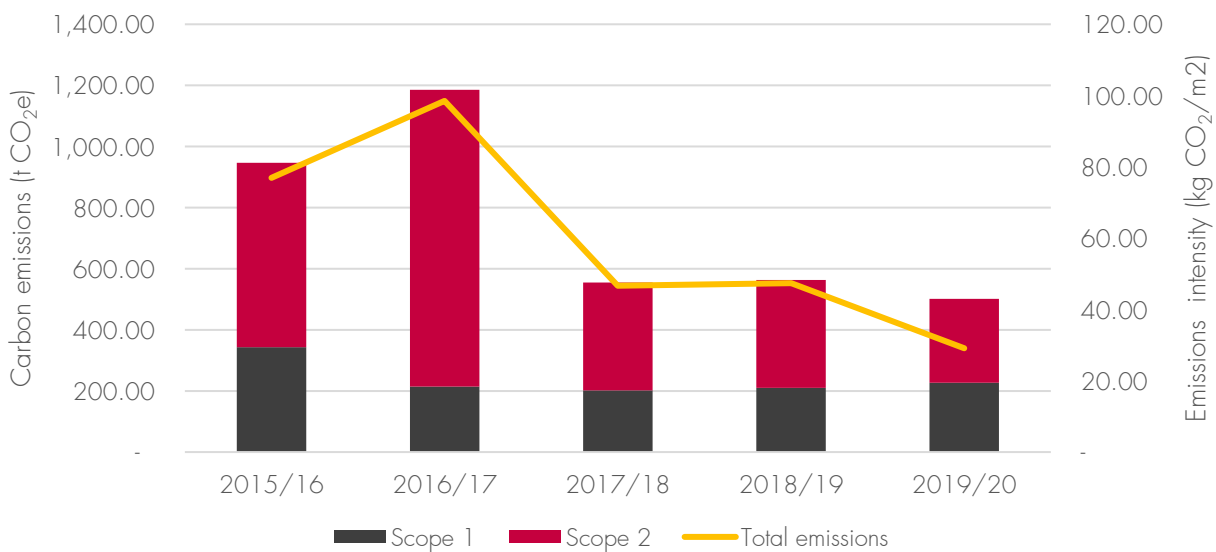
- reinsulating all pipework in the boiler house;
- installation of inverter controllers for heating pumps;
- double glazing installed in offices;
- LED lighting upgrades;
- installation of waterless urinals;
- installation of PIR lighting controllers in toilets

Having completed a detailed heat decarbonisation review in 2020, we will update our carbon management plan in 2021 and set out more ambitious long-term Science-based targets.

Having set a target to reduce our scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions by 34% by 2019/20 from a 2004/05 baseline, we achieved a reduction of 60%.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Scope 1 (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	343.55	214.34	201.84	210.03	227.16
Scope 2 (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	603.23	971.50	353.10	353.63	274.55
Total (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	946.78	1,185.84	554.94	563.66	501.71

Carbon intensity (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e / m <sup>2</sup> )	76.89	98.51	46.62	47.35	29.12
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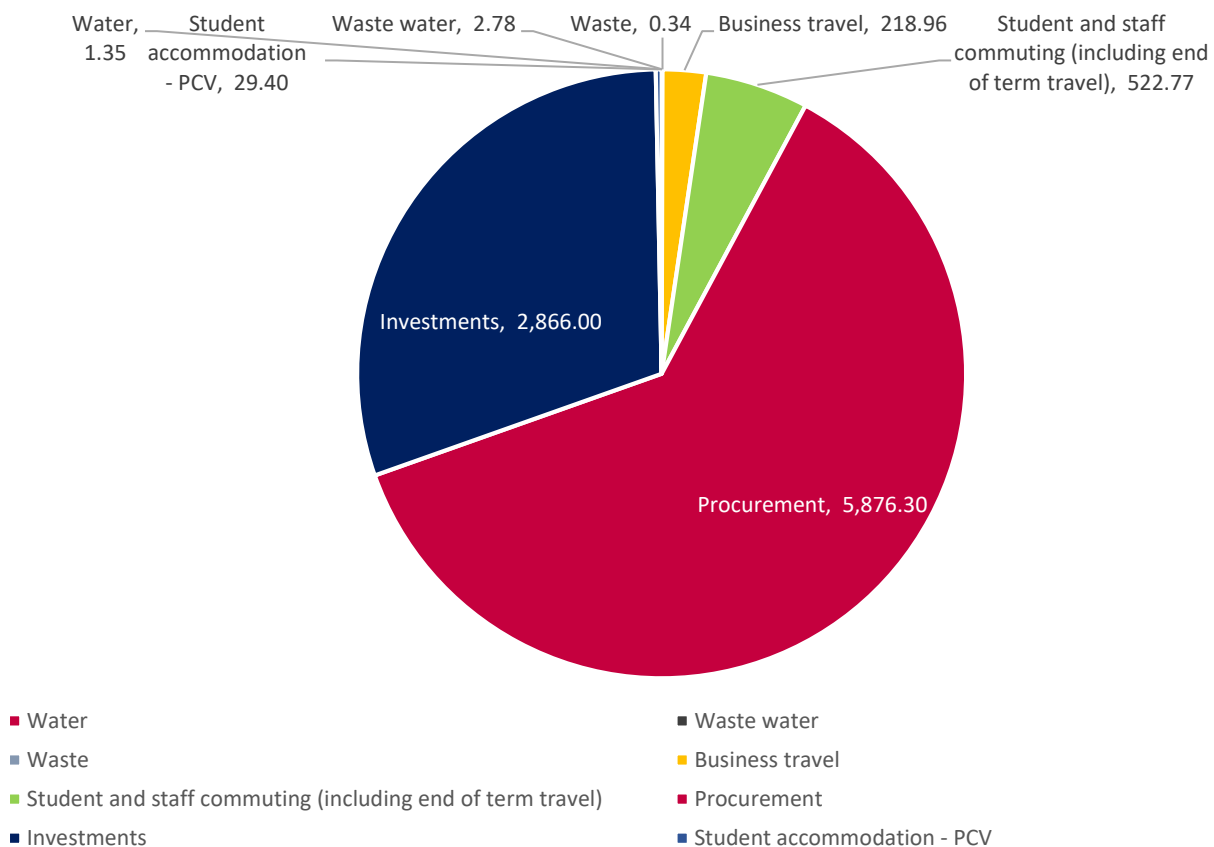


We have reduced our emissions intensity over the same period by 62%, from 77 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per m<sup>2</sup> to 29 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per m<sup>2</sup>. In 2020 we expanded our carbon reporting to include sources from scope 3 of the Greenhouse Gas protocol.

95% of our emissions occur in Scope 3, with around 60% arising from procured goods and services. During 2020, significant construction work was being undertaken, which represented around 30% of our emissions for the year. Emissions associated with investments represented a similar proportion.

Scope	Source	Carbon emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	Gas use	227.16
Scope 2	Purchased electricity	274.55
Scope 3	Total scope 3	9,517.90
	Water	1.35
	Waste water	2.78
	Waste	0.34
	Business travel	218.96
	Student and staff commuting (including end of term travel)	522.77
	Procurement	5,876.30
	Investments	2,866.00
	Student accommodation - PCV	29.40
	<i>Total</i>	<i>5,876.30</i>
	<i>Business services</i>	<i>1,859.18</i>
	<i>Manufactured products</i>	<i>166.58</i>
	<i>Food and catering</i>	<i>47.65</i>
	<i>Construction</i>	<i>2,995.86</i>
	<i>IT services</i>	<i>770.18</i>
	<i>Other procurement</i>	<i>36.85</i>

### 2019/20 Scope 3 emissions breakdown



Note: We have reported on all of our material emission sources. We have used the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (revised edition), energy and activity data, and location based emission factors from the UK Government's GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2020.

Scope 3 emissions from air travel were calculated from data provided by travel agents and airlines on distance flown, and those for water, waste water and waste were calculated using DEFRA conversion factors for 2020. Student and staff commuting was calculated based on home address postcodes and assumptions associated with travel to the College. Investment emissions were provided directly by our appointed investment managers, and emissions associated with the student accommodation was calculated based on the proportion of the equity held in the operating company by the RCM. Procurement emissions were estimated using spend data and emissions factors provided by HEPA.



## Water use

The RCM has very limited water use on site, restricted to toilets and some catering facilities. Since 2015/16, we have reduced our water use by 53% and our water use per m<sup>2</sup> by 67%.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Water use (m <sup>3</sup> )	8,412	9,216	7,681	6,291	3,926
Water intensity (m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>2</sup> )	0.68	0.77	0.65	0.53	0.23

## Waste

The College's main waste streams are from offices and catering functions. We have some limited hazardous waste from electronics and light fittings, and very small volumes of solvents used in musical instrument conservation and restoration.

In 2020 we introduced a new waste contract that gave us significantly more accurate waste data. For the previous two years, waste weights were calculated by weighing a sample of outgoing waste collections. Prior to this point, waste was estimated based on the number of collections made by the waste carrier and the total potential capacity of the bins.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Waste arising (tonnes)	69	72	31	26	16
Waste per m <sup>2</sup> (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	5.60	5.98	2.62	2.17	0.92

## Business travel

Whilst business in 2020 was limited after March 2020 due to restrictions in place for COVID, business travel has increased from 2018/19 onwards, due to greater international recruitment and more overseas initiatives at joint campuses worldwide.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Taxi					1763
Personal car - expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Air	10,957	13,399	9,359	8,928	6,213
Short-Haul Air	104,953	95,330	122,920	215,699	105,390
Long-Haul Air	568,057	423,129	449,801	458,363	572,321
International Air	202,456	66,647	67,969	186,619	131,493
Eurostar	1,968	18,696	1,730	-	3,325
Domestic Rail	-	-	12,213	29,333	15,857
Total distance	888,391	617,201	663,992	898,942	836,362