ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC London

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2021/22

Introduction

The Royal College of Music believes 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 have set an ambitious target to be carbon net zero by 2035. 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. In 2020, we completed the ambitious £40m More Music development, creating new performance spaces, a museum, cafe and social areas in the courtyard behind the grade II listed Blomfield Building. We also expanded our campus on Jay Mews, adding 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 reusing demolition waste from the pre-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
October 2022

About the Royal College of Music

Founded in 1882, the Royal College of Music (RCM) is a world leading music conservatoire with a prestigious history and contemporary outlook. More than 900 undergraduate and postgraduate students come from over 50 countries and are taught in a dynamic environment, leaving the RCM to become the outstanding performers, conductors and composers of the future.

In 2022, the RCM was ranked as the global top institution for performing arts in the prestigious QS World University Rankings by Subject. In a recent Higher Education Statistics Agency survey (2021), of the RCM alumni who graduated in 2019, 86% of survey respondents had moved into employment or further study 15 months after graduating.

RCM professors are leaders in their fields, and under such expert guidance, RCM students regularly achieve remarkable success around the globe.

Among over 9,500 alumni are composers and performers such as Louise Alder, Sir Thomas Allen, Sophie Bevan, Benjamin Britten, Clemency Burton-Hill, Rebecca Clarke, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Dame Sarah Connolly, Gerald Finley, Gustav Holst, Lord Lloyd Webber, Anna Meredith MBE, Sir Hubert Parry, Mark-Anthony Turnage, and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Regular visitors to the RCM include Sir Thomas Allen, Vladimir Ashkenazy, the late Bernard Haitink, Alina Ibragimova and Lang Lang. Our recent honorary doctorates include Sir Antonio Pappano, Jonas Kaufmann, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Sir Roger Norrington, Sir Bryn Terfel, Steve Reich and Maxim Vengerov (Polonsky Visiting Professor of Violin).

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 from across the RCM.

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

Environmental Management Team

Executive Lead	Aida Berhamovic, Director of Estates
Environmental Manager	James Collins, Projects and Environmental Coordinator
Consultant	Darren Chadwick, Managing Partner (Brite Green Ltd.)
Energy and Carbon	Simon Lea, Estates & Technical Services Manager
Waste and Resource Use	Sarah Hanratty, Projects and Operations Manager
Construction and Refurbishment	Sarah Hanratty, Projects and Operations Manager
	James Collins, Projects and Environmental Coordinator
Events and Performance	Flo Ambrose, Performance, Programming and Faculty Manager
	Rachel de Woolfson, Head of Events and Venue Hire
Teaching and Research	Diana Salazar, Director of Programmes
	Ingrid Pearson, Senior Academic Tutor (Area Leader MMus in Performance and BSc Programme Leader)
	Terry Clark, Research Fellow in Performance Science
Student Union	Tymon Zgorzelski, SU President
Finance	Rachel Harris, Director of Finance
Digital	Richard Bland, Head of Digital and Production
	Birju Patel, Technology Manager
Human Resources	Olivia Towers, HR Manager

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

These impacts occur across the entire lifecycle of our operations and arise mainly from the following activities:

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

Environmental Performance

Environmental Management System

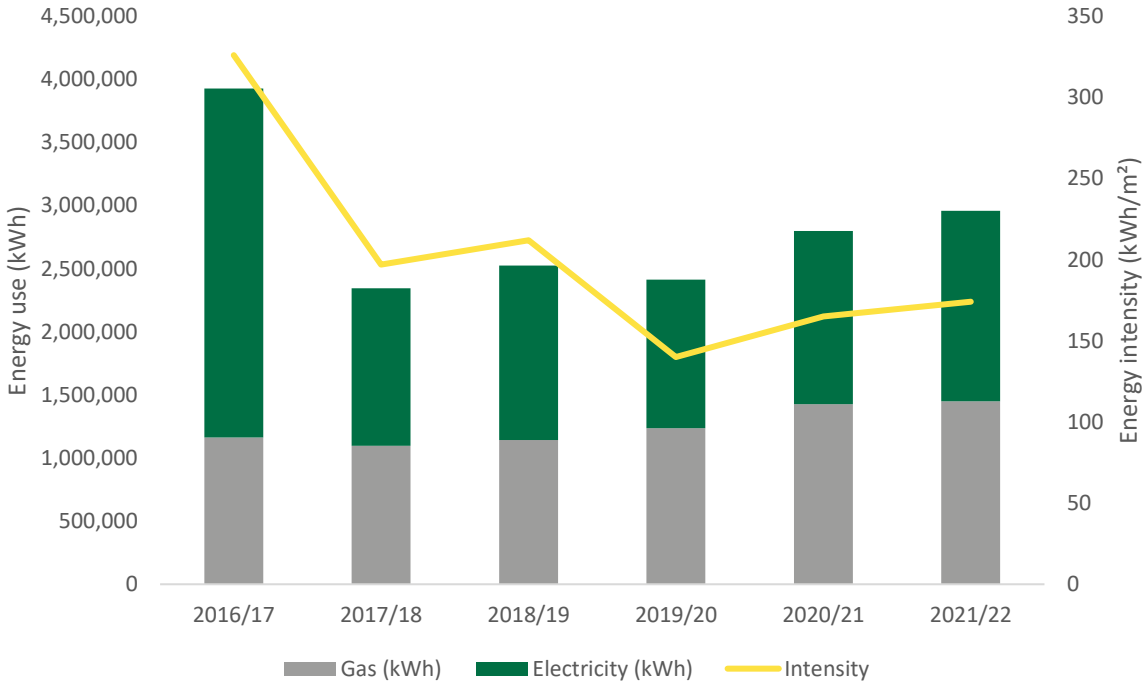
The College last audited by the British Assessment Bureau on the 04 April 2022. We are delighted to announce that our Environmental Management System passed the audit and continues to be certified to ISO14001:2015, the international gold standard of environmental management.

Energy

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 Estates & Technical Services Manager is responsible for energy management, and our overall approach is governed by our carbon management plan.

We have reduced our total energy usage by 25% from 2016/17, and the energy intensity of our operations by 47%.

Energy use (kWh and kWh/m²)



	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Electricity (kWh)	2,763,394	1,247,390	1,383,515	1,177,605	1,370,390	1,509,977
Gas (kWh)	1,163,837	1,097,193	1,142,423	1,235,463	1,427,706	1,449,744
Total (kWh)	3,927,231	2,344,583	2,525,938	2,413,068	2,798,096	2,959,721
Energy Intensity (kWh/m²)	326	197	212	140	165	174

2021/22 saw a slight uplift in energy usage due to increased activity on site following the Coronavirus pandemic. The expansion of the Estate has also been a driver with more digitally enabled spaces, venue space, a café bar and commercial kitchen now housed within the Prince Consort Road site.

Carbon Emissions

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

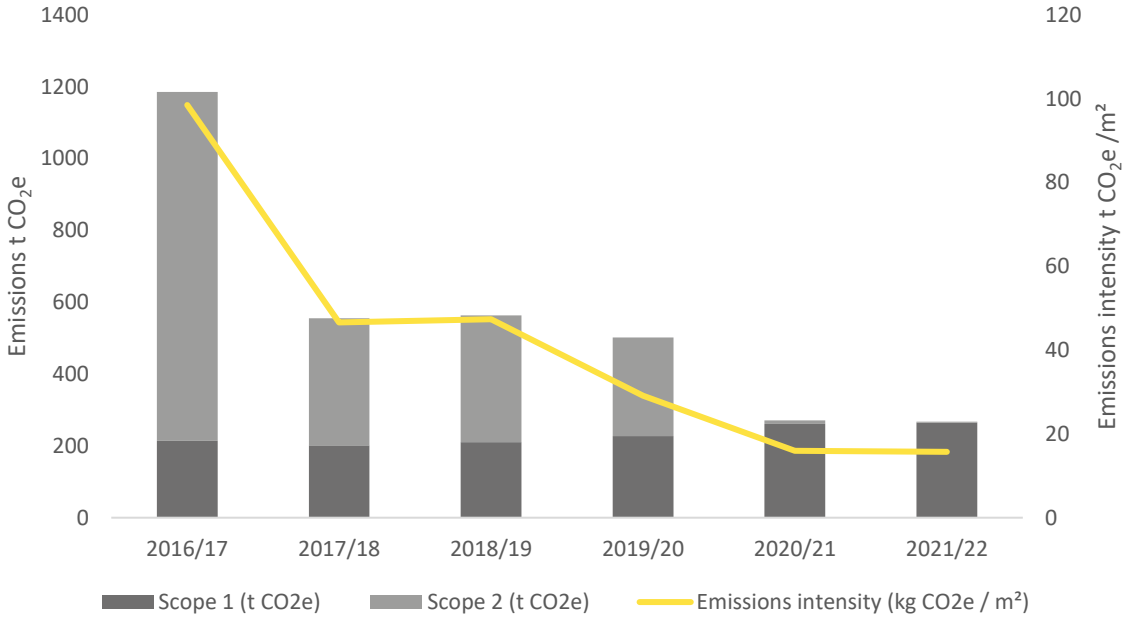
- reinsulating all pipework in the boiler house;
- installation of invertor controllers for heating pumps;
- double glazing installed in offices;
- LED lighting upgrades;
- installation of electric 'point of use' hot water
- installation of PIR lighting controllers in toilets and corridors

Having completed a detailed heat decarbonisation review we have set out our Carbon Management Plan with an ambitious target to achieve net zero for scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2035.

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%.

We are continuing to work with our energy suppliers to ensure that our electricity comes from renewable sources. We are pleased to announce that the electricity provided to much of our campus is now from carbon net zero sources. We will continue to work with our energy suppliers to reduce carbon intensity of electricity supplied to other parts of the site with the ultimate goal of achieving net zero emissions.

Market-based emissions (t CO_2e and t CO_2e/m^2)



	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Scope 1 (t CO_2e)	214.34	201.84	210.03	227.16	261.01	264.64
Scope 2 (t CO_2e)	971.50	353.10	353.63	274.55	9.96	2.60
Total (t CO_2e)	1,185.84	554.94	563.66	501.71	270.97	267.23
Carbon intensity (kg CO_2e / m^2)	98.51	46.62	47.35	29.12	15.94	15.72

Since 2016/17 we have reduced our scope 1 and 2 emissions by 78%, from 1185.84 kg CO_2e per m2 to 267.23 kg CO_2e per m^2. These reductions are calculated using market-based emissions which include our zero-carbon electricity tariffs.

Scope 3 Emissions

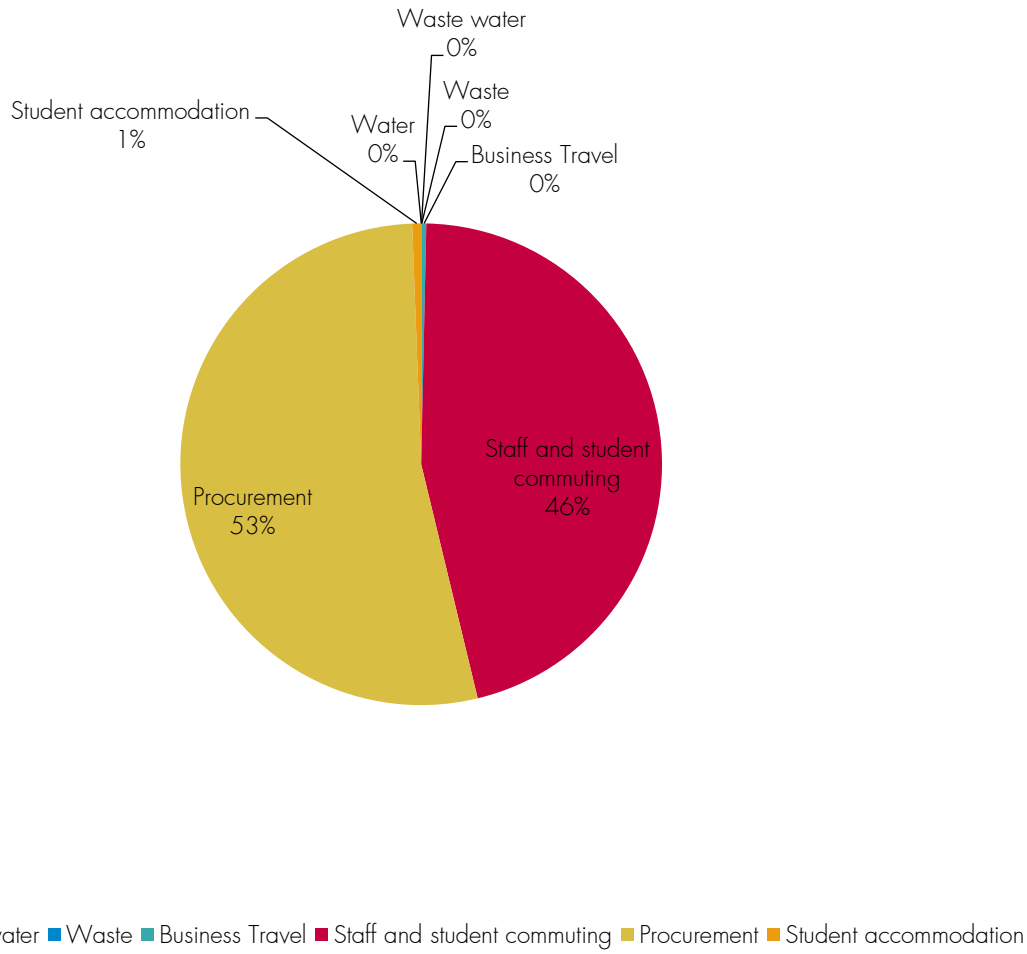
In 2020, we expanded our carbon reporting to include sources from scope 3 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

In 2021/22 our scope 3 emissions were 5,151 tonnes, up from 2,912 tonnes in 2020/21. A major driver for this increase is from expanded catering operations due to a full return to on-campus teaching and better data for student travel at the start and end of term.

Overall, more than 95% of our emissions occur in scope 3. Procurement represents around 50% of our emissions.

Scope	Source		Carbon Emissions (t CO_2e) 2021/22
Scope 1	Gas use		261.01
Scope 2	Purchased electricity		9.96
Scope 3	Total scope 3		**4,876.51**
	Water		**0.60**
	Waste water		**1.10**
	Waste		**0.72**
	Business Travel		**14.29**
	Staff and student commuting		**2,251.14**
	Procurement	**Procurement total**	**2,608.65**
		Business services	**919.92**
		Manufactured products	**78.78**
		Food and catering	**936.16**
		Construction	**21.99**
		IT Services	**605.04**
		Other procurement	**42.31**
	Student accommodation		**29.40**

Scope 3 emissions breakdown (%)



*Commuting figures are based on estimates from a travel survey conducted in June 2022.

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 2021/22. Student and staff commuting was calculated based on responses to a travel survey. Student accommodation was calculated based on the proportion of the equity held in the operating company by the RCM in 2021 – data for 2022 was not available at time of publishing.

Procurement emissions were estimated using spend data and emissions factors provided by HEPA.

Change in scope 3 emissions year-on-year

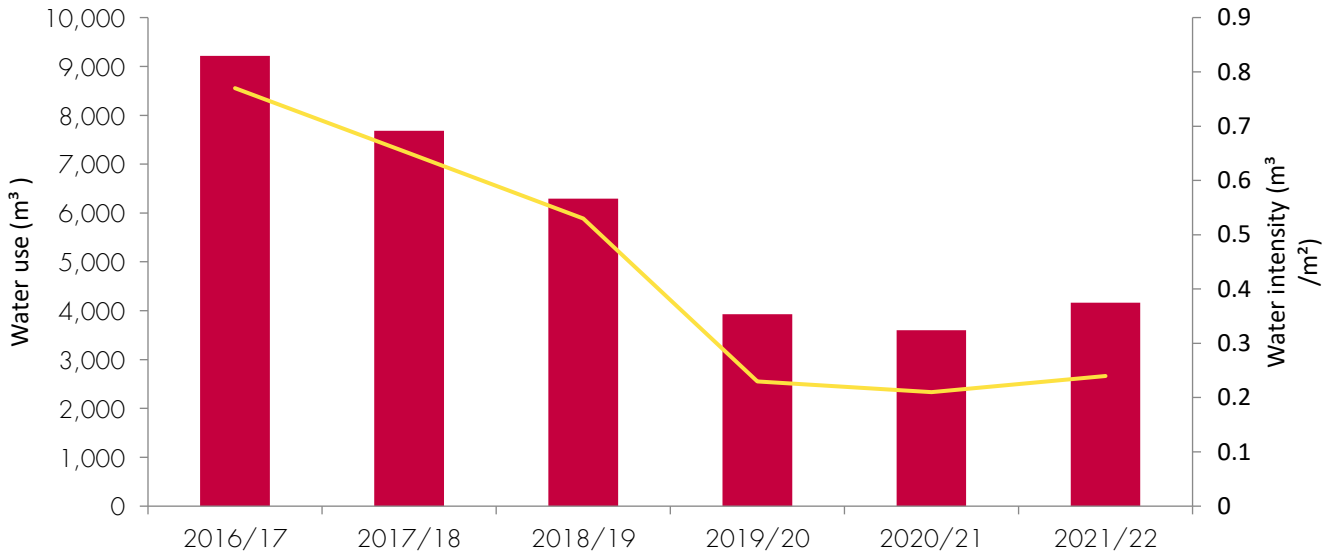
The vast majority of emissions continue to occur in our supply chain and we will continue to uphold high environmental standards in our supplier selection and work with existing suppliers to encourage them to reduce their environmental impacts. Overall, scope 3 emissions increased 67% against the previous year which were greatly reduced due to the effect of the Coronavirus pandemic on operational activity.

Source	Carbon Emissions (t CO_2e) 2020/21	Carbon Emissions (t CO_2e) 2021/22	% change in emissions
Water	0.54	0.60	+12%
Waste water	0.98	1.10	+12%
Waste	0.26	0.72	+183%
Business Travel	9.48	14.29	+51%
Staff and student commuting	522.77	2,251.14	+331%
Procurement	2,377.77	2,608.35	+10%
Student accommodation	29.4	29.4	-
Total Scope 3 emissions	2,941.20	4,876.51	+67%

Water

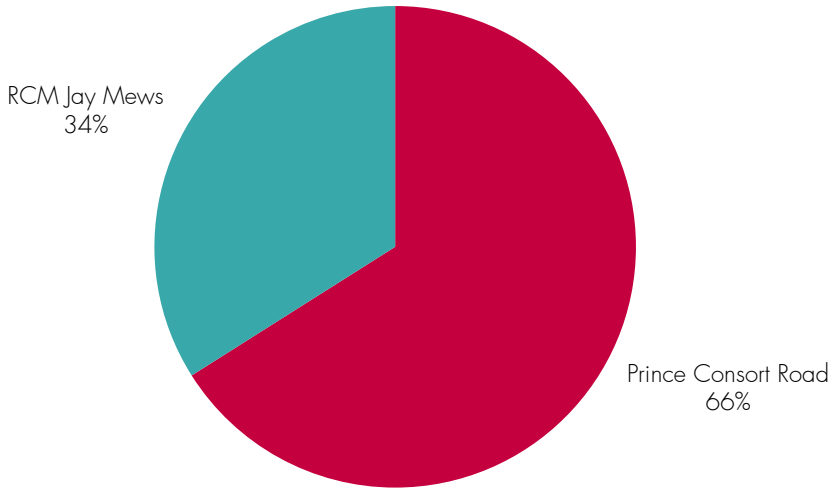
The RCM has very limited water use on site, restricted to toilets and some catering facilities. Since 2016/17, we have reduced our water use by 56% and our water use per m² by 69%. About two thirds of the RCM's water is consumed at Prince Consort Road and about one third at RCM Jay Mews.

Water use (m³)



	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Water use (m³)	9,216	7,681	6,291	3,926	3,603	4,046
Water intensity (m³/m²)	0.77	0.65	0.53	0.23	0.21	0.24

Water use by site (%)



'RCM Jay Mews' includes 41-43 Jay Mews and 39 Jay Mews.

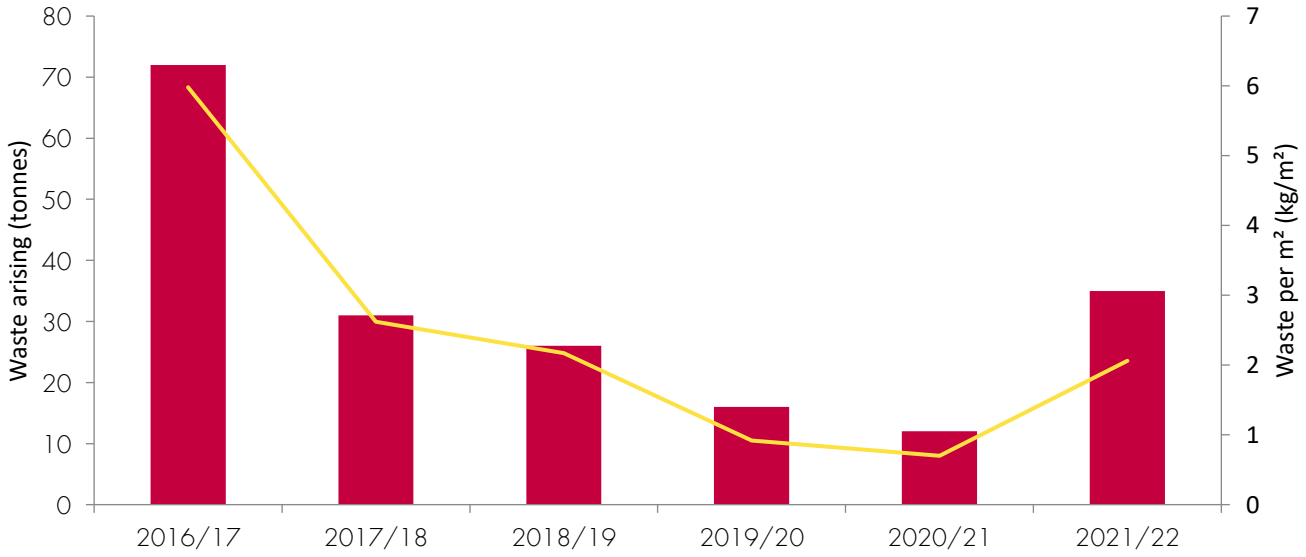
Waste

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 three 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.

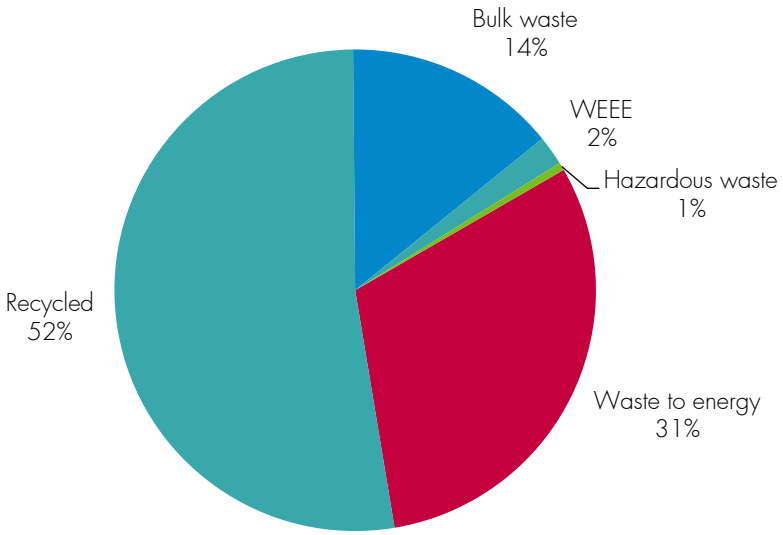
Waste consumption has increased as activities have resumed on our expanded site following the Coronavirus pandemic. The percentage of waste recycled has increased from 34% in 2020/21 to 52% in 2021/2022, likely driven by an overall increase in everyday consumer waste and waste from office-based activities.

Waste arising (tonnes)



	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Waste arising (tonnes)	72	31	26	16	12	35
Waste per m² (kg/m²)	5.98	2.62	2.17	0.92	0.70	2.06

Waste streams (%)

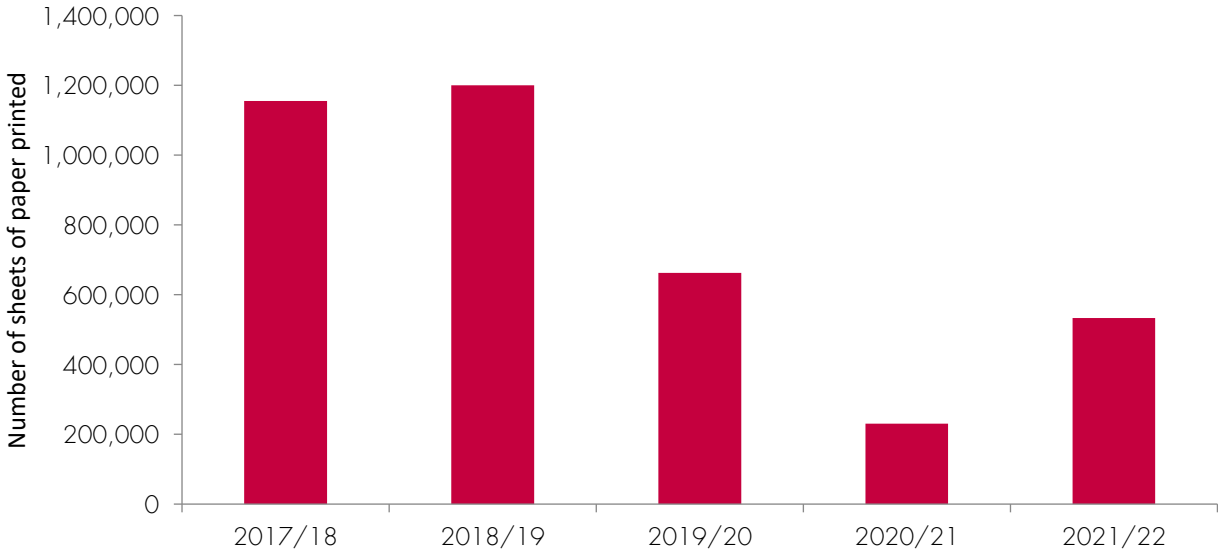


We will continue to evaluate the best ways to increase recycling rates by improving recycling infrastructure and staff and student awareness.

Paper

Paper usage in printing has increased in the past year driven by increased activity on site following the coronavirus pandemic. Printing is still significantly reduced from pre-pandemic levels. The digitisation of the finance system, implementation of paperless class registers and move to online meetings have all reduced printing requirements.

Sheets of paper consumed via printing (total number of sheets)



	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Sheets printed	1,155,353	1,199,971	662,353	230,558	532,963

Business Travel

The below table shows kilometres travelled by different modes of transport.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Taxi	-	-	-	1763	131	869
Personal Car (Expenses)	-	-	-	-	-	
Domestic Air	13,399	9,359	8,928	6,213	-	442
Short-Haul Air	95,330	122,920	215,699	105,390	-	31,216
Long-Haul Air	423,129	449,801	458,363	572,321	22,156	
International Air	66,647	67,969	186,619	131,493	-	26,104
International Rail	18,696	1,730	-	3,325	-	14,895
Domestic Rail	-	12,213	29,333	15,857	2,006	8,726
Total	617,201	663,992	898,942	836,362	24,293	82,252

Looking ahead

The College will continue to deliver a committed environmental management programme in 2022/23. We will launch our Sustainability Strategy which will set out the RCM's approach to addressing sustainability issues through our operations with a renewed emphasis on the College's ability to make a positive impact to people and planet through our core work: music teaching, research and performance.

We will continue to deliver our carbon management plan, undertaking technical feasibility work to detail our pathway to net zero and replace gas-fired plant with low carbon heating and hot water solutions. A budget is in place to undertake these feasibility studies as well as some initial decarbonisation projects relating to increasing Point of Use hot water provision and metering and targeting technology.

The College will continue to offer students and staff opportunities to engage with sustainability themes. We will also continue with the implementation of our Education for Sustainable Development strategy.

The ISO14001 Environmental Management System recertification audit is scheduled for the 30-31 January 2023 and once again the auditor will be the British Assessment Bureau. In October 2022, we will undertake an internal audit of the ISO14001 system as required by the ISO14001 standard.