



HE carbon reduction strategy

Andrew Smith
Head of Estates and Sustainable Development

Climate Solidarity Conference
25 November 2009

The journey so far...

- Sustainable development in higher education – July 2005
- Strategic review - 2007
 - Great deal has been done – diversity of approaches
 - Momentum for change needs to continue and increase
- Revised SD strategy and action plan - 2008



hefce

**Within the next 10 years
the higher education sector in this country**

**will be recognised as a major contributor
to society's efforts to achieve sustainability**

**through the skills and
knowledge that its graduates
learn and put into practice,**

**its research and exchange
of knowledge through
business, community
and public policy engagement,**

**and through its own strategies
and operations.**

hefce

Carbon reduction

- Key Performance Target

To develop during 2009-10 in consultation with stakeholders a realistic strategy and target for carbon reductions which are sufficient to ensure satisfactory progress towards the government targets of reducing carbon emissions by 80 per cent against 1990 levels by 2050 and at least 34 per cent by 2020.

- 2008 & 2009 grant letters from the Secretary of State

- All institutions must have plans to reduce carbon emissions

- Performance in reducing carbon emissions will be a factor in future capital allocations to institutions

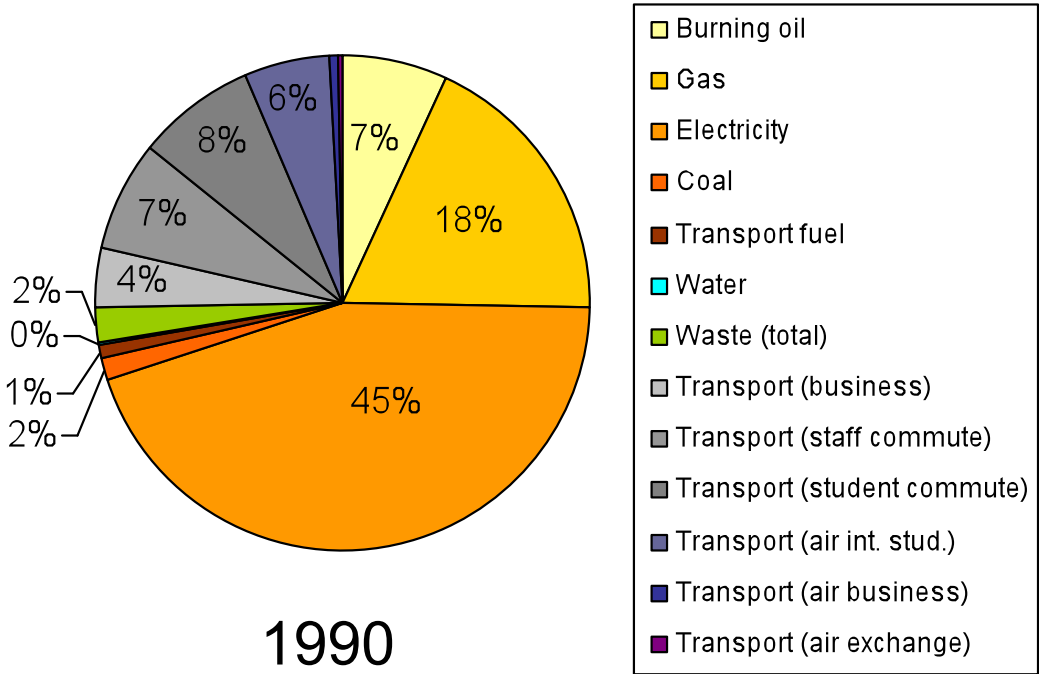
The logo for the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), featuring the word "hefce" in a blue, lowercase, serif font.

Funding for carbon reduction

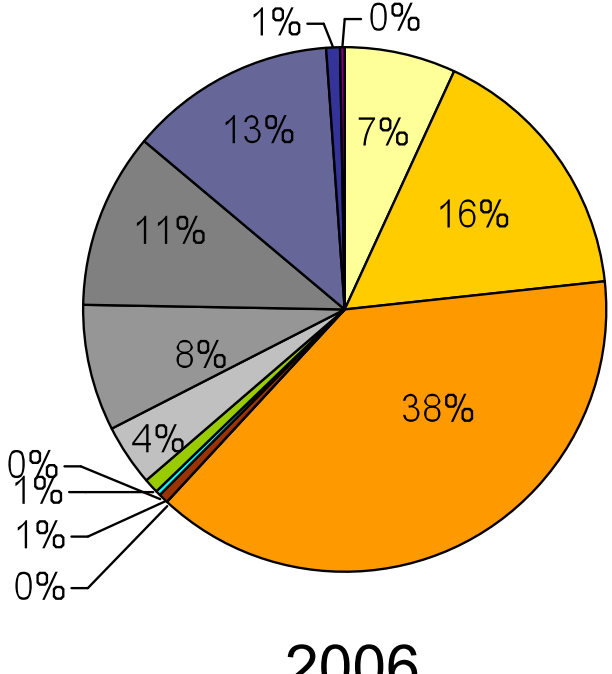
- Justify and protect investment?
- Linking capital funding to carbon performance
 - capital investment framework
 - carbon management plans
 - individual institutions to decide their own response
 - demonstrate reduction in carbon emissions
- Good practice guidance

hefce

Carbon baseline



1990
2.445 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (MtCO₂)



2006
3.288 MtCO₂
A rise of 34% since 1990



Targets

The consultation proposed that the sector:

- commits to achieving a reduction in scope 1 & 2 emissions of 80% by 2050 and at least 34% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline
- aspires to achieve a carbon reduction target from scope 1 & 2 emissions of 50% by 2020 and 100% by 2050, against 1990 levels
- commits to making reductions in scope 3 emissions and to improving measurement of scope 3 emissions with the intention of setting targets for these emissions in the future.



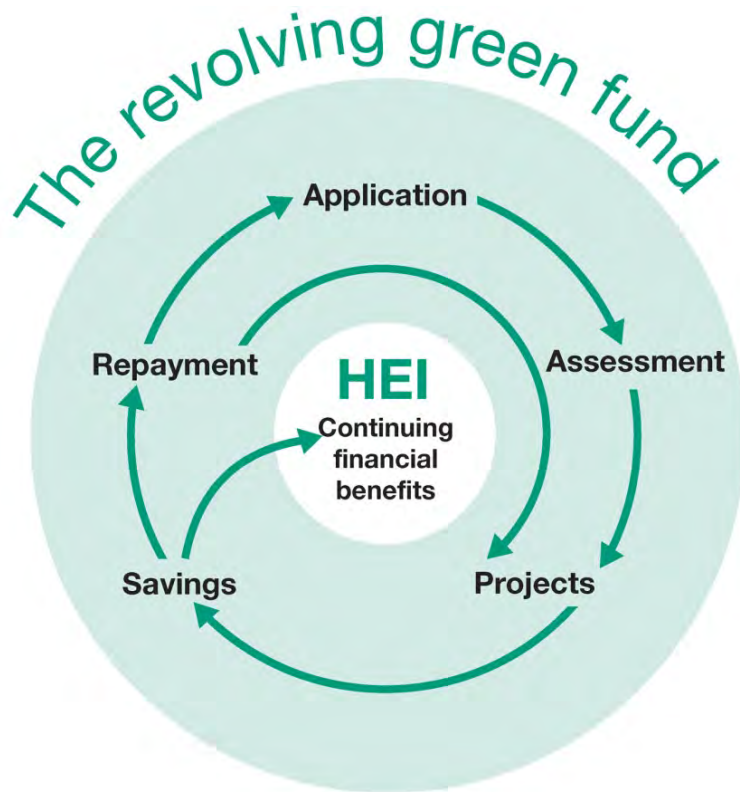
How?



- Challenging for sector and society
- Requires commitment, creativity and innovation
- HEFCE's role
- Partnership working



Revolving Green Fund



- Partnership between HEFCE and Salix Finance
- £30 million over 3 years
- Recoverable grants
- Proven technologies and innovative projects
- 58 institutions received share of £29 million to date

Transformational fund



- Harper Adams University College
 - Anaerobic digestion using farm and food waste
- University of East Anglia
 - Biomass gasification CHP
- University of Lancaster
 - 2 wind turbines

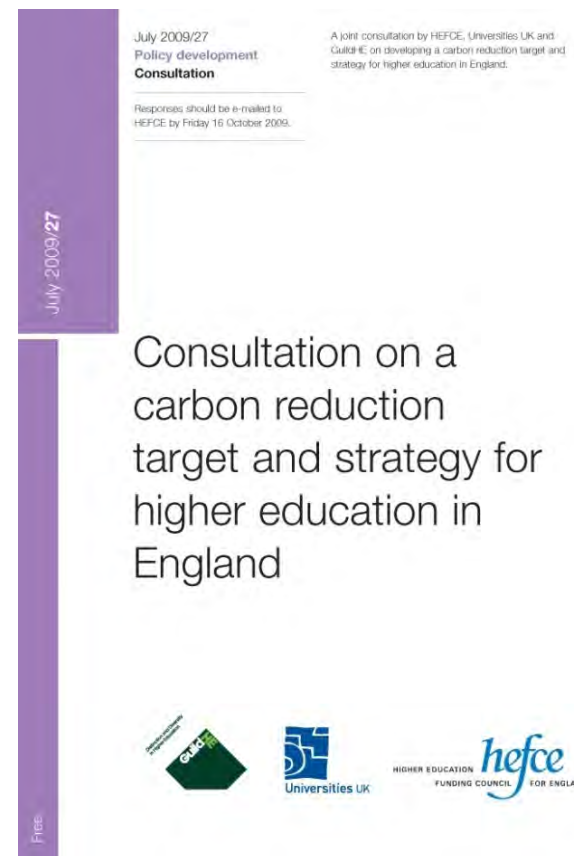
Finalising the strategy

- Sector level target for carbon reductions
- Institutions to set own targets
- Commitment from institutions
- Support from HEFCE, UUK and GuildHE for institutions to achieve carbon reductions
- Funding incentives, in particular capital funding
- Monitoring, reporting and evaluation.



Consultation questions

- Sector level target
- Key elements of a carbon reduction strategy
- Monitoring and reporting
- Comments on the good practice guidance
- Link between capital funding and carbon performance



July 2009/27

Policy development
Consultation


A joint consultation by HEFCE, Universities UK and
Guldbåge on developing a carbon reduction target and
strategy for higher education in England.




Responses should be e-mailed to
HEFCE by Friday 16 October 2009.

July 2009/27

Free

Consultation on a
carbon reduction
target and strategy for
higher education in
England



hefce

Emerging issues

- Sector should aspire to exceed UK targets
- Absolute reductions / sector growth
- Reducing emissions while undertaking energy intensive research
- Will require new ways of working – space management, shared services
- Capacity building and training/awareness
- Adaptation as well as mitigation

Timetable

- Close date - 16 October 2009
- Launch of UUK/GuildHE statement - December 2009
- Publication of carbon strategy – end 2009/early 2010
- Consultation on CIF2 - spring 2010



HEFCE's own operations

- Corporate Social Responsibility Policy
 - Carbon Trust Standard
 - ISO14001
- Annual CSR report
- Key objectives
 - Business ethics
 - Environmental impacts
 - Procurement
 - People
 - Community
 - Working with the sector



hefce



www.hefce.ac.uk/lgm/sustain/

Andrew Smith

a.smith@hefce.ac.uk

0117 9317001