

2004/5

# Environment and Energy Report

January 2006

## Contents:

Structure	2
Green Flag Award	3
Energy Report	4
Conference	5
Website	6

## New waste partnership reaps instant success

In September 2005 the University entered into a partnership with Onyx UK Ltd. Onyx are one of the leading waste



management companies and have been targeted to deliver a number of waste minimization and recycling initiatives. During year one of this contract we have set ourselves a recycling target of 15%. Since the start of this partnership we have seen

increases in our recycling rates against the same quarter last year, up from 7.1% to 10.1%. Over the coming months this is set to increase further as we do more to promote and expand the recycling facilities that we provide.

## Carbon dioxide emissions down 31%

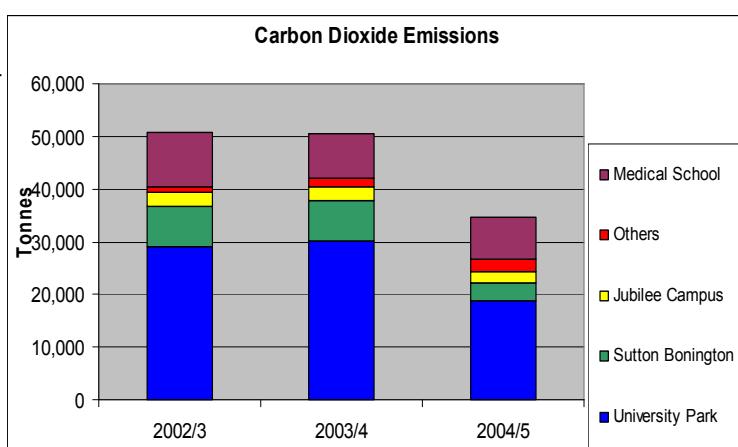
Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is released into the atmosphere when fossil fuels are burned, and is considered the most important of the 'greenhouse' gases – gases that are thought to be responsible for a man-made warming of the atmosphere. The UK government has a target of reducing national CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 12.5% from 1990 levels by 2010.

Our emissions were reduced considerably in 2004/5 due to the proportion of 'green' electricity purchased

jumping from less than 1% in 2003/4 to 83% in 2004/5.

This green electricity was sourced as follows: Wind

12.5%, Hydro 2.9%, Biomass 15.2%, Landfill gas 6.5%, Sewage gas 11.0% and Municipal & Industrial Waste 51.9%.



## Environment structure at the University



*"Environmental Policy is driven forward by the University Environment Committee."*

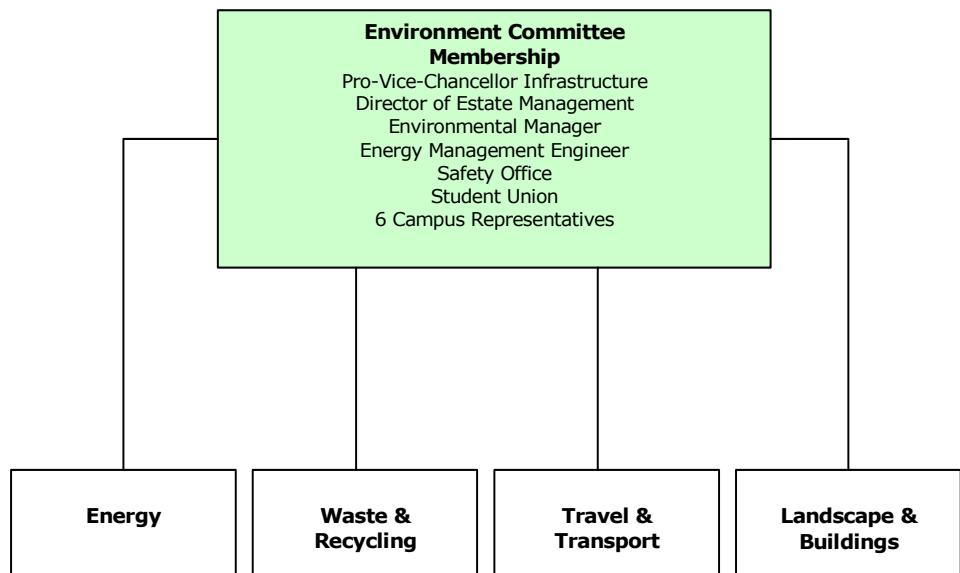
Here at Nottingham we are committed to improving our environmental performance. The development and implementation of Environmental Policy is driven forward by the University Environment

Committee, which meets twice a year.

This committee is chaired by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Infrastructure and is supported by four sub groups.

These sub-groups meet four times a year and cover :-

Energy & Water,  
Waste & Recycling,  
Travel & Transport and  
Landscape & Buildings.



## University appoints Environmental Manager



Gavin Scott

Gavin Scott joined the University in January 2005 in the brand new role of Environmental Manager.

Gavin is based in the Estate Office and has experience of the HE Sector, having been formerly employed at Anglia Polytechnic University (now Anglia Ruskin University).

Gavin's role brings

together duties that were previously spread across a number of people's roles, and will allow more time to be spent on raising environmental awareness.

"I am keen to build upon the good work that has been achieved and in particular I shall be looking to focus on waste and recycling over the next year" says Gavin.

"The other big part of my job is in raising environmental awareness. The University is a big organisation, and whilst we can do a certain amount from the centre we need to get all staff and students motivated to do their bit by saving energy and recycling wherever possible."

## Bloomin' marvellous!

The University's Grounds continue to win National Awards. The Grounds Section led by grounds manager Ian Cooke are committed to ensuring that the University's grounds are maintained and managed to a high standard, and this is confirmed by the numerous awards Ian and his team have won.

In May of this year the University won its third Green Flag Award, and we are still the only University to have been awarded a Green Flag. For a number of years the University has

supported the City of Nottingham's entry into East Midlands in Bloom and Britain in Bloom. As in previous years, University Park was chosen to be one of the showpieces for the City's entries to East Midlands in Bloom and Britain in Bloom. At this year's Britain in Bloom award ceremony, the University was singled out for the Public Park Award. This is a special award from the judges, "presented to the park designed for horticultural excellence, giving delight to the visitor through appropriate planting, high

standards of maintenance, conserving wildlife, cleanliness and features of interest".



Ian Cooke accepts the award on behalf of the University.

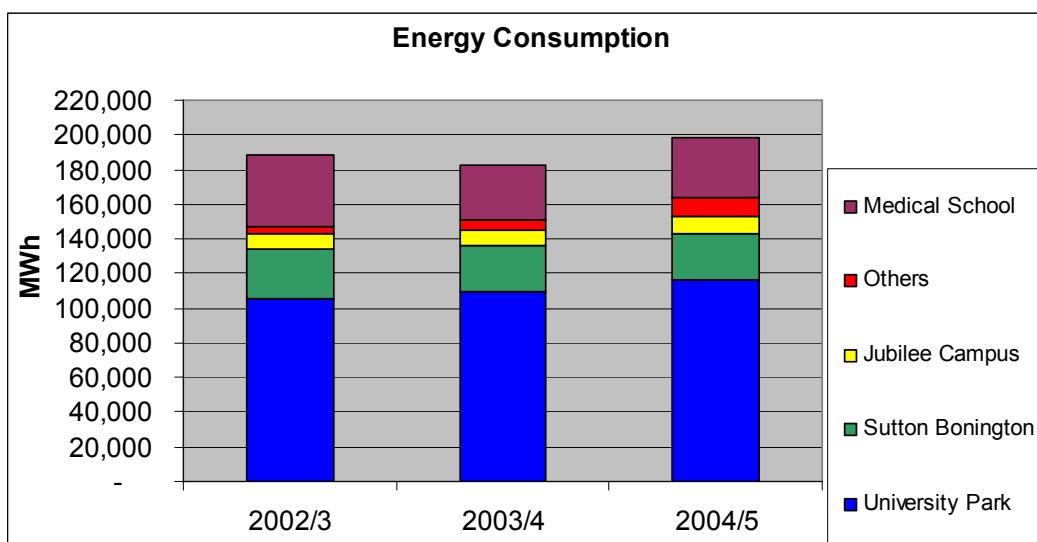
## Energy costs rising fast

The University's energy costs soared 24% last year, to £6.2 million including taxes. Although consumption rose, the

increase was mainly due to a 58% rise in the price of electricity when contracts were renewed in October 2004. Water

costs were also up steeply, with an 18% rise in April 2004.

**Costs rose 24%, and the predictions are for further increases of around 50% next year.**



## 2004/5 Energy Report

*"both electricity and gas consumption were up by 8%."*

The full energy and water report for 2004/5 has been produced and can be accessed from the website (see p.6 for details).

The report shows both electricity and gas consumption up by 8%, and water usage up by 11%. These are the first significant rises for several

years, and have occurred largely due to the continued growth of the University.

The acquisition of King's Meadow Campus and the building of the New Business School meant that the University's total floor area increased by 7%. Student numbers were also up, by 4% this

year.

A programme of revisiting building control settings to reduce avoidable waste has been started. It is felt that reductions in gas consumption of around 10% should be achievable whilst still maintaining comfortable conditions for students and staff.

## Revised environmental policy

In 2005 the University adopted a revised Environmental Policy. This policy presents the University's aims and principles and is the basis of environmental work at the University:

**"The University of Nottingham acknowledges that its corporate activities have an impact on the environment both locally and globally. We are committed to minimizing this impact wherever practicable and recognize that all staff, students and visitors have a responsibility to play their part in achieving this goal."**

To this end the University is committed to:

- Developing effective waste management and recycling practices.

- Promoting and encouraging the use of sustainable forms of travel and transport by staff and students.
- Minimizing harmful emissions released into the atmosphere and helping to conserve valuable resources for future generations through improvements in energy efficiency.
- Maintaining the grounds of the University in an environmentally sensitive way, having regard to the protection of natural habitats and local wildlife where practicable.
- Increasing the awareness of environmental responsibilities amongst staff, students and visitors to the University.
- Taking into account environmental factors in re-development and new build projects.
- Meeting the requirements of relevant legislation and striving for the continual improvement of environmental performance.

## University to host environmental conference

The University is to host the National Conference of the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges.

This Association is the main organisation for disseminating best

practice in the environmental field to Universities and Colleges.

The Conference will take place in April 2006 at the Jubilee Campus, which has itself attracted considerable interest over

its environmental credentials.

The website for the association can be found at  
<http://www.eauc.org.uk/>



## Wise up to waste

This coming year we will be carrying out a comprehensive waste review.

Over the course of the year we will be concentrating on reducing

the amount of waste that we generate. This stage is sometimes overlooked in the rush to recycle, but is the most important of the three elements of a waste policy.. 'reduce, re-use, recycle'.

In conjunction with this we will be maximising the amount that we recycle, with an initial target of 15%

*"reduce, re-use,  
then recycle"*

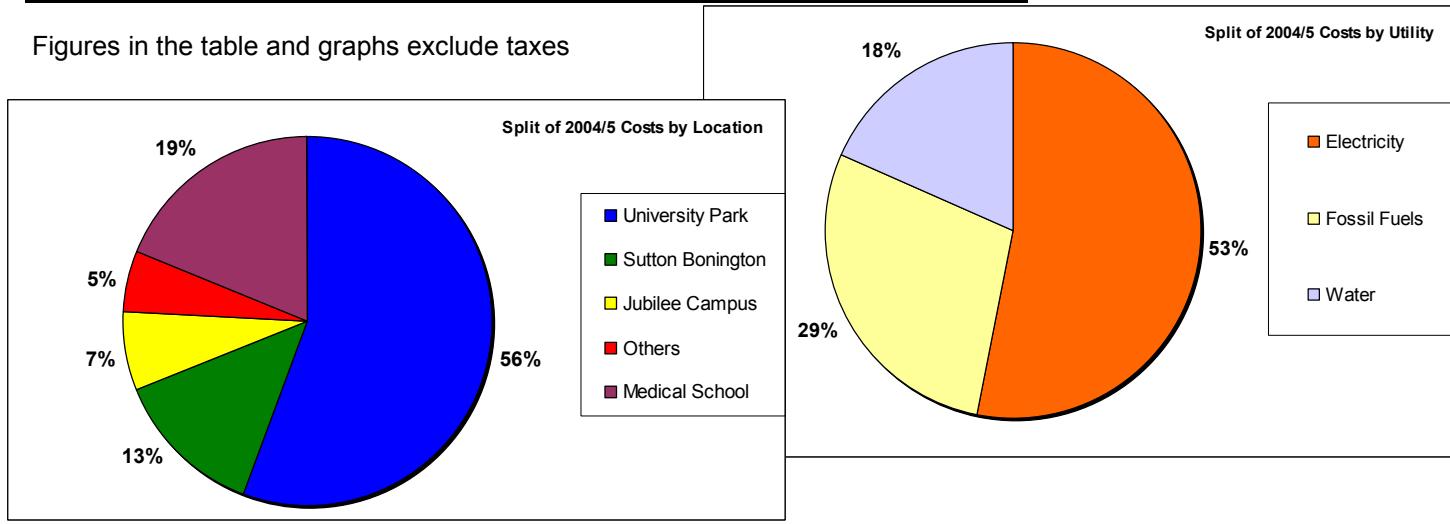
## Breakdown of 2004/5 utility costs

<b>Energy and Water Costs</b>		<b>Electricity</b>	<b>Fossil Fuels</b>	<b>Water</b>	<b>Total</b>
University Park		£ 1,727,374	£ 685,857	£ 630,741	£ 3,043,972
Sutton Bonington		£ 406,862	£ 168,360	£ 150,165	£ 725,387
Jubilee Campus		£ 205,062	£ 55,188	£ 119,337	£ 379,587
Others		£ 158,094	£ 87,803	£ 46,965	£ 292,862
Medical School		£ 401,000	£ 567,000	£ 58,500	£ 1,026,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 2,898,392</b>	<b>£ 1,564,208</b>	<b>£ 1,005,708</b>	<b>£ 5,468,308</b>

Figures in the table and graphs exclude taxes

### Did you know?

We spent an average of £630 on energy and water every hour of every day in 2004/5.





### **Did you know?**

We use more than 2.3 million litres of water each day

Email us at:

[Gavin.Scott@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Gavin.Scott@nottingham.ac.uk)

(environment)

[Tim.Rudge@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Tim.Rudge@nottingham.ac.uk)

(energy and water)

Or write to us at:

The Environment Manager,  
Estate Office  
University Park  
Nottingham  
NG7 2RD

## **Environment on the web**

Do you want to find out more about the University and the Environment?

If so take a look at  
[www.nottingham.ac.uk/estate/environment/index.htm](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/estate/environment/index.htm).

These pages are designed to be a single resource to find out information on Environmental Issues here at The University of Nottingham.

Keep your eyes on these as they will be regularly updated.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer window with the title bar 'The University of Nottingham - Environment Pages - Microsoft Internet Explorer'. The address bar contains the URL 'http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/estate/environment/index.htm'. The page itself has a green header bar with the 'The University of Nottingham' logo and a 'ENVIRONMENT PAGES' link. Below the header, there's a left sidebar with 'Environment' and 'Latest News' sections, and a right sidebar with a 'Links' section containing dropdown menus for 'Policy and Information', 'Waste and Recycling', 'Energy and Water', 'Nature and Grounds', 'Travel', 'Useful Links', 'Teaching and Research', 'SU Pages', and 'Estate Office'. A note at the bottom of the right sidebar says 'TIP: Choose rechargeable items over disposable ones'. The main content area features four small images: a path through a park, a modern building with a cylindrical tower, a modern building with a curved glass facade, and a traditional stone building with a clock tower. Below these images is a paragraph about the university's environmental impact and a note encouraging users to help minimize it.

## **Environmental Network – volunteers wanted!**

We recognise that one of the most important resources that we can use to minimise our impacts upon the Environment are our staff. As such we have created an informal network of people from across the University with interests in environmental issues who can assist in a number of ways including:

Raising awareness of environmental issues with colleagues

Identifying opportunities for improvement

Promoting and implementing environmental initiatives

Disseminating information on environmental issues

Acting as Departmental / section champions on environmental matters

If you would like to find out

more about becoming a member of the Environmental Network then please [email](#) the Environmental Manager.

## **Student environment prize**

Each year the University Environment Committee awards a prize to the undergraduate student whose project work makes a valuable contribution to

improving the University Environment. Previous projects have looked at a number of areas including: CHP, Wind Power, and biodiversity. To find out

more about this prize take a look at the website.