

Estates



University of
Reading

WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS

University of Reading Management Plan – January 2023

WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS
UNIVERSITY OF READING
GROUNDS MANAGEMENT PLAN

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FOREWORD



The University of Reading's Whiteknights campus is an important green space close to the town centre. It retains many of its historic features, whilst also providing high quality facilities to support the University's core business of teaching, research and enterprise. With its open spaces, rare trees and large lake, Whiteknights is an exceptional place to study, work and relax, and provides a natural habitat for many varieties of birds, animals, insects and plants.

In addition to the students and staff, the University campus is used by a very wide range of visitors, hosting as it does public lectures, conferences, sporting events, music performances, a film theatre and two museums.

This Management Plan has been produced by the University's Estates Department and brings together the various strategies, policies and operating procedures that relate to the campus; the aim being to tie these documents into a coherent plan.

The Management Plan includes sections which:

- Describe the campus, its history, its strategic context for the University and the vision for future development and management
- Describe the existing policies and procedures for management of the campus
- Describe the principle issues currently affecting the campus and include an Implementation Plan describing the University's plans to address these issues
- Provide supporting information for the Management Plan.



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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The University's origins lie in the Schools of Art and Science established in Reading in 1860 and 1870 respectively. These became part of an extension college opened in 1892 by Christ Church, Oxford. The University received its Royal Charter in 1926, the only one to do so between the two world wars.

In 1947 the University purchased the main Whiteknights campus, the former country estate of the Marquis of Blandford. Since then the University has grown progressively into a vibrant community.

The University of Reading is among the top 30 UK universities in world rankings (ranked 28th out of 89 UK universities featured in the QS World University Rankings 2023) and is home to 23,000 students from over 160 countries.

We enjoy a world-class reputation for teaching, research and enterprise. Important achievements include being the first university to win the Queen's Award for Export Achievement (1989) and four times receiving the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education (1998, 2006, 2009 and 2012).



1.2 ABOUT THE WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS

The University's core estate comprises of three main campuses; Whiteknights, London Road and Greenlands. This Management Plan focuses on the largest of these, Whiteknights. This peaceful former country estate covers 134 hectares. With its open spaces, rare tree collection and large lake, Whiteknights is an exceptional place to study, work and relax. It provides a natural habitat for many varieties of birds, animals, insects and plants.

The campus takes its name from a previous owner's great grandson, John De Erleigh IV, the so called 'White Knight'. In 1606 the estate was purchased by the nephew of Sir Francis Englefield. The Englefield family in turn sold the estate to George Spencer, the Marquis of Blandford, in 1798.



Between 1798 and 1819, the estate was the scene of vast extravagance and wild entertainments, all at the Marquis' expense. Splendid gardens were laid out, complete with the rarest of plants. In 1819, the Marquis, by then the Duke of Marlborough, became bankrupt and moved to his family home at Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire. The estate was sold off and the house was demolished in 1840, supposedly by a mob of the Duke's angry creditors.

In 1867 the land was broken up into six leasehold units and a number of the new houses were designed and built by Alfred Waterhouse, including his own residence at Foxhill House and the smaller Whiteknights House for his father. Both these houses and others still survive.

The Whiteknights campus includes a large area of mature woodland known as the Wilderness on the eastern boundary of the site. Adjoining the Wilderness is the Harris Garden, a former botanic garden, which has been remodelled to provide an amenity space for wider University and visitor use.

A site plan of the Whiteknights campus is shown on page 9.

1.3 THE VISION

The vision for the Whiteknights campus is

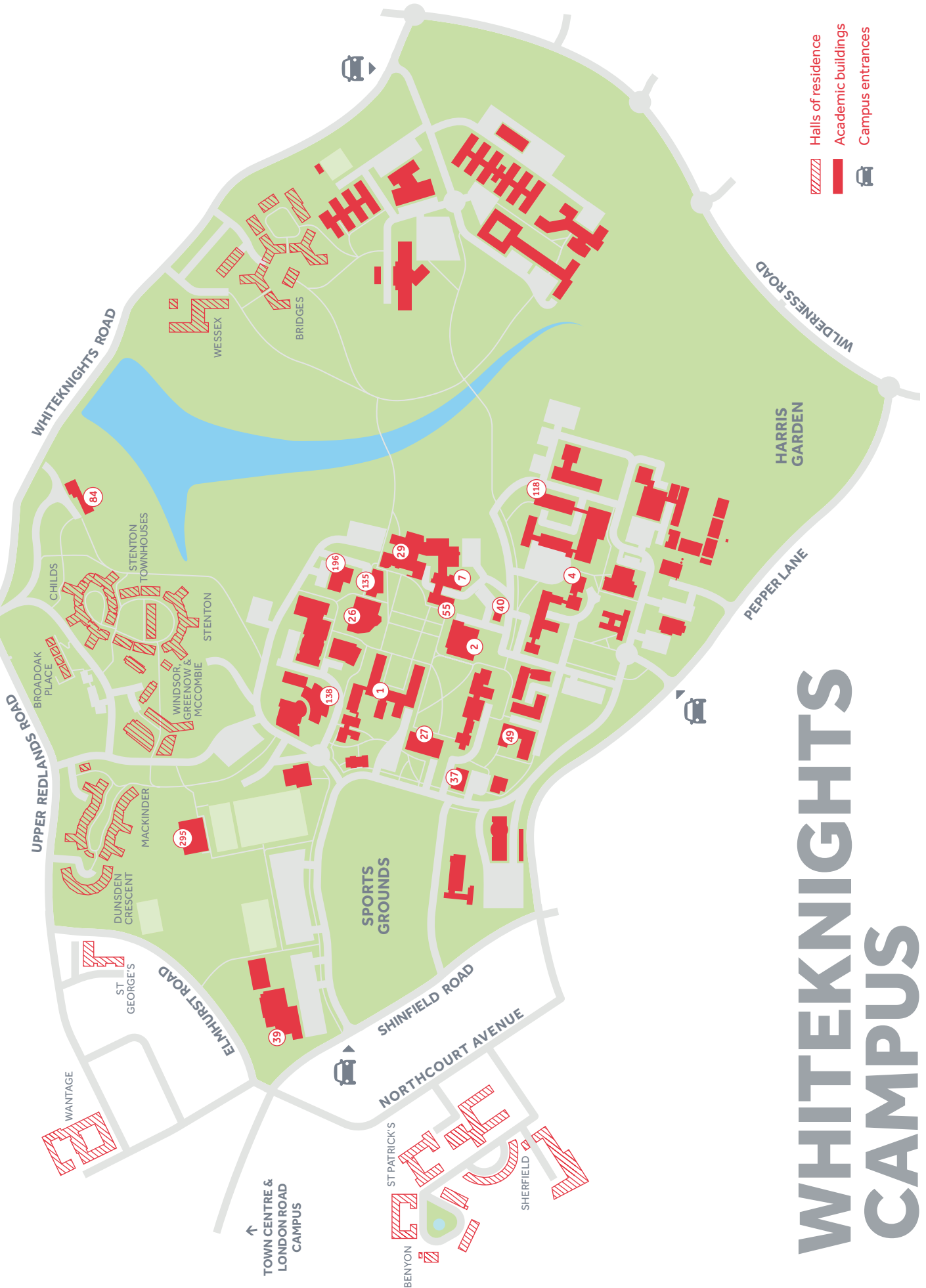
'to provide a green oasis for students, staff and the wider community whilst providing high quality facilities to support the University's core business of teaching, research and enterprise'

The University recognises that Whiteknights campus is a unique selling point and is an important factor in attracting people to work, study and visit. As a result, the parkland setting is a key feature in the University's marketing strategy for both student recruitment and commercial events.

The Grounds Maintenance Team's objectives are to:

- provide an environment which helps to enhance the University's academic, business and social activities
- maintain the distinct character of the individual campuses
- retain and enhance the University's parkland habitats
- retain, enhance and renew the tree stock
- promote a variety of uses for the grounds e.g. academic, habitat, sport and recreation
- create a low-risk environment for all students, staff and visitors.

These principles have been used to guide planning, development and management of the site.



WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS



SECTION 2: A WELCOMING PLACE

2.1 OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS

Whiteknights campus is an important green space in Reading, both for members of the University and the wider community. The campus is widely used by the local community, tenants and many external organisations. As well as mature parkland, the campus has a range of sports facilities, two public museums and a number of catering outlets open to the general public along with the expected academic, residential, administrative and other specialist buildings expected of a world-class university.



Members of the public are welcomed at Whiteknights with visitors generally having all-year-round access. A public right of way runs through the heart of the park, linking the Shinfield Road and Earley Gate entrances. Permissive access to other parts of the campus is granted, subject to a simple code of conduct displayed on the University website.

In addition to a broad range of academic events, the Whiteknights campus also hosts a large number of public and invitational events throughout the year, including sports competitions, exhibitions, film presentations and public lectures.



Entrance signage

2.2 ANNOUNCING THE CAMPUS

The campus is signposted from the main transport routes around Reading; this includes signage from the nearby motorway junctions and the local A-roads. Signage is also provided at the main railway station.

At each of the vehicle entrances prominent signage is provided to both locate and advertise the University. Once on site, information boards for visitors are provided, adjacent to each main vehicle entrance, together with a site map for way-finding. These boards provide basic information about use of the site together with contacts details for help and emergencies.

Signage around the park is being progressively replaced with new standardised signage, carrying the University 'brand'. The type face of the new signage has been developed in conjunction with the University's own Typography Department and is designed to be easily legible from a distance.

2.3 PHYSICAL ACCESS

Whiteknights campus has three main vehicular entrances; Shinfield Road, Earley Gate and Pepper Lane (See Campus plan Page 9.)

Shinfield Road Entrance: The main public entrance to the Whiteknights campus is off the Shinfield Road. A pay and display car park is provided for visitors adjacent to this entrance.

Earley Gate Entrance: The Earley Gate entrance has two original listed lodge houses either side of the access road. Behind the North Lodge is a remnant of the old estate landscaping, which contains numerous veteran trees, whilst behind the South Lodge is an edge of the 'Wilderness'; an area of semi natural woodland forming the eastern boundary of the campus.

Pepper Lane Entrance: The third vehicle entrance, Pepper Lane, is on the southern boundary of the campus.

All three of the main entrances have been simplified over recent years to ensure that the areas have good security and that the sight lines are clear.

Pedestrian and cyclist access is normally via the vehicle entrances, although a number of other pedestrian/cyclist access points are located around the perimeter of the campus.

2.4 ACCESS FOR ALL

The University promotes travel to our campuses by sustainable modes with bus stops provided outside Whiteknights House and the Chancellor's Building. Bus frequency from the town centre to Whiteknights campus has now increased to every 5 minutes during the day with night services also available. Reading buses have rerouted services onto the campus, and the merging of 3 different routes to provide a single high frequency service. Further route alterations have seen improved accessibility by bus to other sides of the large campus. These changes have been driven by the increasing numbers of university staff and students using them.



Accessibility: Most of our teaching buildings are accessible for wheelchair users, although some older buildings have limited access. Induction loop facilities are available in a large number of our lecture halls. We are continually improving access to buildings and operate a central room booking system so that lectures are timetabled in accessible rooms. All University buildings are accessible by car and most have accessible parking spaces nearby. Students with mobility issues may apply for a permit to park on campus, for which there is a small annual charge. Permits for Blue Badge holders are free.

SECTION 3: SAFETY, SECURITY & HEALTH

3.1 PERSONAL SAFETY AND SECURITY

The University employs a dedicated team of security staff, which provide cover 24 hours per day throughout the year on a shift system.

The in-house Security Team carries out four patrols at Whiteknights campus over a 24-hour period. These patrols are supplemented by ad-hoc patrols from Thames Valley Police. These are intelligence led, and staff are briefed using an Electronic Briefing System. Incidents are logged on the University's Incident Reporting Information System (IRIS) and reports run daily. These incidents typically range from unlocked buildings to minor maintenance issues.

As a result of the continuous security presence the Whiteknights campus is a low crime area. The highly visible foot and mobile patrols provide a sense of well being and safety to all site users.



The University also operates an extensive network of CCTV cameras that monitor key locations around campus from a central control room. The majority of these cameras are recording 24 hours a day. The Maintenance and Security Teams work closely to maintain and improve the CCTV system coverage.

Grounds Maintenance work closely with the Security Team to improve campus safety and will remove overhanging vegetation where it impacts on footpaths, sight lines or CCTV coverage.



3.2 SAFE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

3.2.1 Safe facilities

Although designated Building Support Officers report many faults, any site user is able to report a problem to the Maintenance Department's Help Desk. In addition the Maintenance Team run a programme of cyclical site inspections aimed at identifying and prioritising repairs. Identified problems are assessed using a sophisticated risk-based prioritisation system.

3.2.2 Safe equipment

Specialist equipment is generally owned by designated schools and departments within the University, who are responsible for any necessary safety inspections.

Grounds and building equipment is subject to regular safety inspections, almost all of which is scheduled using planned preventative maintenance software running on a bespoke facilities management database.



3.2.3 Water safety

The Whiteknights Lake is designated as a reservoir under the Reservoirs Act (1975) and, as such is subject to regular safety and water level inspections, together with a periodic structural inspection. An Emergency Plan has been developed, together with emergency procedures to control and mitigate any spillage into the lake. Safety signage is located around the perimeter of the lake and open lake edges are clearly marked with wooden bollards. Due to concerns regarding lake side safety herbage and undergrowth is been allowed to grow to restrict access to the water.

3.2.4 Footpath improvements

The Whiteknights campus has an extensive network of footpaths, many of which have been widened for shared use between cyclists and pedestrians. The Sustainability Team uses information from the University travel plan survey to target resources for footpath improvements. During the summer of 2022 the Grounds Team managed the installation of a new footpath within the Harris Garden, along with resurfacing the existing paths to create a circular accessible route around the garden.

During periods of cold weather the road and footpath networks are treated with rock salt.



3.3 HEALTH AND SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS

3.3.1 Health and safety on the Whiteknights campus

The University of Reading is committed to providing a healthy and safe environment for all who visit the Whiteknights campus. The University has a well publicised health and safety policy, which applies to all staff and students. Implementation of the policy is managed at a local level, with each area of activity developing its own health and safety management arrangements.

For example, the grounds and buildings maintenance teams have developed their own health and safety procedures, as well as safe systems of work and risk assessments etc. These local arrangements are subject to periodic third party audit and review.

Both the grounds and building maintenance teams are registered under the Safe Contractor Scheme. This provides senior University managers with assurance that suitable and sufficient management arrangements are in place.

3.3.2 Staff training and welfare

Estates have developed a 'capability framework' which defines the minimum training and competencies required for each role. Each team has developed specific training matrices to ensure that staff are trained to consistent standards.

All staff have basic health and safety training and receive additional training for the specialist activities they undertake. New staff go through an extensive induction process, which includes specialist training, where necessary, for their role and to address any competency gaps.

Staff are issued with appropriate PPE when they start their employment, and are able to replace any items of lost or damaged equipment promptly through the in-house store.

3.3.3 Accident and incident reporting

The University operates a structured accident reporting system. Any person on the Whiteknights campus, or any other University site, is able to report an incident or near-miss. These are collated centrally by Health and Safety Services. Incidents are investigated locally with the incident findings fed back to the relevant teams or more widely if there are lessons to be learned which could improve risk management.



SECTION 4: CLEAN AND WELL MAINTAINED

4.1 LITTER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

4.1.1 Waste and resource

Our aim is to increase resource efficiency by doing more and better with less; to move away from the inefficient linear model of 'take, make, use, throw' towards a circular economy; to prevent waste being generated in the first place; to fulfil our legal obligations and align with the Waste Hierarchy; and to promote new opportunities and initiatives across the University.

Our future commitment to waste and resource are as follows:

- Continue to reduce the amount of operational waste produced annually per person (staff and student FTE) and move the University's waste up the Waste Hierarchy
- Continue to increase annual repair, remanufacture and re-use of items.
- Develop the three-year Delivery Plan to enact the Waste and Resource Management Strategy and monitor progress against its objectives and targets.
- Create a more formalised mechanism to increase the amount of IT equipment that is redistributed and re-used, rather than sending equipment to be recycled after its first use.





4.1.2 Graffiti removal

Fortunately there are few graffiti incidents on campus. However, when incidents do occur they are normally reported to the Help Desk by Security, Grounds or Maintenance staff. Removal of the graffiti is given a high priority so as to deter further incidents.

4.1.3 Dog fouling

Dog owners are asked to keep their dogs on a lead and remove any faeces. This requirement is set out in the Code of Conduct, which forms part of visitors' permissive access to the site.



4.2 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

4.2.1 The Grounds Maintenance Team

Grounds maintenance on the Whiteknights campus is undertaken by a team of directly employed staff. The Team has responsibility for all University campuses and is divided into three operational groups.

4.2.2 General grounds maintenance

The attractive grounds are a key factor in many students' decision to study at Reading. It is, therefore, important that the Whiteknights campus is maintained to consistently high standards.

These standards are defined in a series of Service Level Agreements (SLAs), which have been agreed with the key user groups. Meetings are held on a regular basis with each user group to discuss the standard of service. The SLAs include a series of Key Performance Indicators for grounds maintenance, which are also reviewed at the meetings.



The Grounds Team have an on-going programme of landscape review and where appropriate the team are replacing tired plantings with species rich grass land or other plantings which encourage biodiversity.



4.2.3 Lake maintenance

Whiteknights Lake system is just over five hectares in size and is found at the heart of the park. Three interconnecting bodies of water provide opportunities for birds, insects and aquatic life. Maintenance works concentrate on path safety and ensuring the dams and outfalls are kept clear for the biannual inspections from the consulting engineer.

4.2.4 Tree management

Whiteknights campus is home to a wide range of tree species within a parkland setting. Trees range in size from recently planted transplants to veteran Oak trees estimated to be around 350 years old. The campus has approximately 20 hectares of woodland and copses along with hundreds of specimen trees with some being national and county champions for their size. Grounds Maintenance aim to manage the tree stock in a proactive way with tree works and planting under their control carried out to the highest standards.

The University has a tree safety procedure which outlines how the University will manage its extensive tree stock. All trees are subject to cyclical survey and risk assessment, the results of which are loaded onto Arbortrack, the Grounds Maintenance Team's arboricultural database. The risk assessment considers both the condition and location of the tree; with trees in poor condition next to high traffic areas assigned the highest priority for remedial action.

4.2.5 Sports Grounds Maintenance

The Grounds Maintenance Team manage for the Sportspark a number of grass and artificial pitches and have an SLA in place for service provision and agreed usage. Currently the team provide in season pitches for Rugby Union and Rugby league, Football, American football, Lacrosse and a training area. In addition the team provide temporary pitches for Ultimate Frisbee, Rounders, Volley ball and Quidditch. The team ensure the pitches are in a fit condition for play on match days and follow up with remedial works post-match.

Whiteknights campus has a number of artificial pitches: including Three 5-a-side third generation football pitches, a synthetic pitch used mainly for hockey and football and an artificial cricket wicket. Five outdoor tennis and netball courts, all flood lit, are available with a further three tennis courts which are enclosed within a lit dome for all year play. Again the team carry out maintenance works with specialist equipment to ensure the surfaces remain at their best and arrange specialist contractors for periodic planned maintenance.

The facilities are used by students and staff as well as local schools and sports clubs.



4.3 BUILDING MAINTENANCE

4.3.1 Background information

The buildings on the Whiteknights campus are largely owned, occupied and maintained by the University. Many of the buildings are subject to intensive use throughout the year, being accessed by students, staff and members of the public.

4.3.2 Maintenance arrangements

The University has developed a Building Maintenance Policy which aims to ensure that:

- buildings are 'fit for purpose'
- buildings are safe and compliant with current legislation
- the asset value of the building is protected
- risk of unforeseen failure is minimised
- robust long term maintenance planning processes are established
- projects are co-ordinated to minimise disruption.

Building maintenance at the University is divided into three programmes of work; reactive maintenance, preventative maintenance and planned maintenance. The Maintenance Team typically handle around 25,000 repairs each year; comprising around 12,000 reactive maintenance repairs, 12,500 preventative repairs and 500 planned maintenance projects.

The University has a comprehensive programme of Building Condition Survey which identifies areas of building fabric and services which are damaged or have reached the end of life and require repair/replacement. This information then informs the future programme of planned maintenance works and strategic capital investment.

Above The Library

Over the last few years the University has made significant investment into a number of key capital projects, such as the new Health and Life Sciences building, which have provided new buildings for academic functions. The buildings vacated by the departments which have now moved into the new Health and Life Sciences building are now being repaired and refurbished and will, as a result, contribute to further increase the proportion of the estate which is deemed to be in good or excellent condition (at present over 76% of the building stock within the portfolio falls within this category).

In order to set clear expectations on both sides the Maintenance Services Department has developed Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with all of its key customers. These SLAs describe in detail the level of service being provided and set out how our customers will support the department in carrying out its work. The SLAs include a number of Key Performance Indicators. Regular meetings are held with key customers to review performance and discuss service standards. Building faults are dealt with promptly to avoid secondary damage to premises. Most reactive defects are reported directly to the Help Desk, where the problem is prioritised before being passed to the relevant maintenance team for action.

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4.3.3 New buildings

The University is committed to becoming net zero carbon by 2030 and developing sustainable buildings. Within available budgets new buildings are designed and built to the highest possible environmental standards (see Section 5.1). The University's commitment to sustainable construction is illustrated by the new Health & Life Sciences Building and Library projects which both obtained 'Very Good' BREEAM ratings on completion.



Solar panels on Student Services building



4.3.4 Infrastructure and other facilities

Infrastructure repairs are included within the main maintenance planning process and are managed and planned by the Estates Project Team.

4.4 EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

4.4.1 Staff equipment maintenance

A programme of inspections is in place to ensure that work equipment is safe to use and a cyclical replacement programme has been developed to ensure that key plant is replaced at suitable intervals. Maintenance staff are trained to carry out safety checks on all equipment immediately before use.

Vehicles are managed by a specialist fleet management company to ensure that they are serviced, tested and inspected at the correct intervals. Specialist vehicles such as tractors are leased, with the lease fee including the cost of servicing by specialist contractors.

4.4.2 Public equipment maintenance

The University has extensive sports facilities on campus, which are open to students, staff and the public. These facilities are subject to regular safety inspections by sports centre staff.

The all-weather pitches undergo routine maintenance by the Sports Ground Maintenance Team. Periodic regeneration of the surface by removal and cleaning of the sand base, is carried out by specialist contractors.

The University's Health & Safety Services Team, undertake a rolling programme of safety audits across the University and this audit programme includes a review of workplace inspection records. The findings from each safety audit are incorporated into a report which includes a 'SMART' action plan to address any issues identified.

4.4.3 Incident control equipment

The University has well developed major incident procedures. The Grounds Maintenance, Building Maintenance and Security Teams contribute to these emergency planning processes and also hold a stock of equipment for use in the event of an incident. This includes a supply of mobile metal fencing, plastic barriers, plastic bollards, incident tape, portable signs etc.



SECTION 5: SUSTAINABILITY

5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

5.1.1–5.1.3 Sustainable travel

New principles to guide sustainable business travel and commuting have been agreed by the University as it looks to significantly reduce its carbon emissions from travel. Key to this is working together to reduce emissions caused by university travel, which accounted for around a third of our annual emissions pre-pandemic. The aim of updating our policies and guidance is to reduce business travel emissions by at least 30% compared to pre-pandemic levels by 2026, and by 50% by 2030. Meeting these reductions is key to successfully achieving our net zero ambition.



The new travel principles outline how business travel decisions should be made and recorded. This includes:

- A digital-first approach to reduce the number of journeys needing to be undertaken by colleagues.
- Prioritising travel based on need and potential benefits to be gained.
- Better recording of the reasons for travel in booking and approvals processes.
- Safeguards to ensure staff health and wellbeing remain a fundamental consideration, and that changes to processes do not prevent all colleagues having equal opportunities to travel.

An updated Travel Plan is also in development to encourage more sustainable travel to and from our campuses.

The sustainable travel principles underpinning the new Travel Plan are being shared to encourage green habits among colleagues and students ahead of additional options and incentives being introduced.



The principles outline ways lower-carbon alternatives to single occupancy vehicle travel to campuses will be encouraged, including:

- Improving pedestrian, cycle, and bus services.
- Maintaining and expanding existing cycle schemes.
- Lobbying local authorities to improve bus services to campuses and routes for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Improving charging facilities and options for electric vehicles.
- Investigating subsidised public transport options.
- Designating priority parking spaces for car sharers.
- Reducing the need to travel between campuses for meetings by making digital options available where possible.

5.1.4 Fair trade

The University of Reading will be re-evaluated for 'Fairtrade' status in Spring 2023. This is part of the University's long-term commitment towards this scheme and to support fair trade for farmers in the developing world. The University's Sustainability Vision is committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth and SDG 12 – Responsible Production and Consumption, which align with the Fairtrade principles.

The University continues to sell Fairtrade goods in our on-campus outlets, hold events to support Fairtrade and incorporate Fairtrade into our teaching and learning. The University, working closely with Reading University Student Union RUSU, academics, and local community partners, will be evaluated on several key criteria to achieve the Fairtrade accreditation criteria related to leadership, strategy, campaigning, procurement, retail, catering, research, and innovations.

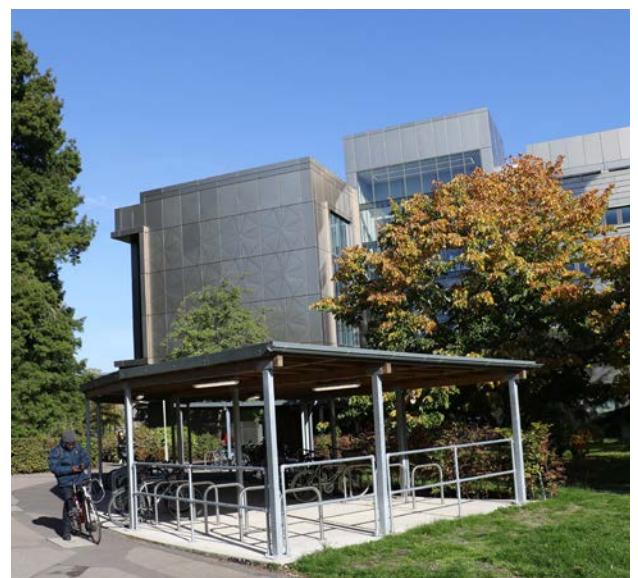
5.1.5 Energy and carbon

The University is committed to becoming a Net Zero Carbon university by 2030, demonstrating our continued leadership in reducing our environmental impacts. Achieving this goal can set the University apart as one of the leading institutions globally in delivering on climate change mitigation.

The University already has an excellent track record, having cut our emissions by 51% since 2009. Reaching Net Zero over the next 8 years will require a whole new level of effort, planning and investment which we will achieve by building on our solid energy management foundations.

Here we summarise some of our achievements and targets.

- We set an interim target of 57.5% reduction against baseline by July 2024 and by July 2022 emissions were 61.8% below baseline in absolute terms, and 50.9% below our 2008/09 baseline when adjusting for an assumed increase in travel to no more than 70% of previous levels (which is the University's agreed aim by 2026). These figures are based on geographical carbon accounting.
- 2.7% of our renewable electricity is self-generated, from our own onsite solar panels. We continue to procure 100% certified renewable electricity for our remaining electricity demand. When using market-based carbon accounting, our overall emission reductions stand at 74.3% below baseline.
- We have now saved circa £43.5 m and 173.9 tonnes of carbon cumulatively since 2009 because of our carbon management programme, compared to a business as-usual scenario.
- Overall, Primary Energy use was 1% less than the previous year, when converting all sources of energy back to their primary energy equivalents to enable meaningful comparisons.
- Analysis of our Display Energy Certificates (DECs) indicated that 89% of our assessed buildings perform better than average from an energy perspective, up from 86% the previous year (but possibly benefitting from COVID shutdowns).



5.2 MINIMISATION OF HERBICIDE USE

The Grounds Team control weeds with a combination of mulching, hand weeding and herbicides. Herbicides are necessary to control weeds in hard landscape areas, pernicious weeds such as Japanese Knot Weed, re-growth from cut stumps and excessive broad leaved weeds within sports turf. The team are continuing to review its selection of herbicides and how they are applied and look for viable alternatives.



5.3 ELIMINATION OF PEAT USE

The use of peat as mulch, or for the improvement of soil structure, cannot be supported as there are alternative waste or renewable materials available for this purpose. The Grounds Maintenance Team does not purchase peat for such purposes.

5.4 GREEN WASTE RECYCLING AND MINIMISATION

The Grounds Team process green waste in a number of ways to reduce handling and transport as far as is practical.

Where possible green waste is processed on site for example fallen leaves are shredded on lawn areas with mowers, woody waste is chipped on site or larger timber stacked into habitat piles. Where green waste needs to be removed from site it is taken to a central composting area where it is shredded, put into wind rows and turned a few weeks later. When the material is fully composted it is finally screened into a usable product. In recent years, the team has spread the material within the park and sown it with a seed mix to provide seed rich plants for birds to feed on over the winter. The compost is also used for replanting and perennial meadow sowing.



5.5 ARBORICULTURE AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT

5.5.1 Overview of the tree stock

The trees at Whiteknights are an essential element of the campus; single specimens, groups, avenues, copses, shelter belts and woodland areas are all found within the park. We estimate there are over 20,000 trees on the park ranging from recently planted whips to venerable Oak veterans 2m across.

The most common occurring species (over 3% of total species present) are Common Oak, Holly, Yew, Common Lime, Sycamore and Horse Chestnut.

The University has inherited an important tree collection from its previous owners, these include numerous champion trees along with a number of rare and unusual specimens. The park also has a number of veteran oaks which have been recorded by Natural England and the Wokingham Veteran Tree Association.

5.5.2 Arboriculture management

The University is committed to professional tree management at Whiteknights and has a number of approved contractors that carry out all of the required tree works.

The Head of Grounds Maintenance is a professional member of the Arboricultural Association. He carries out the majority of the arboricultural surveys on behalf of the Grounds Team.

5.5.3 Arboricultural records

In 2005 Grounds Maintenance invested in ArboTrack, a tree management database, and embarked upon a structured programme of tree surveys. Each major tree, or tree group,

now has an individual entry on the database, recording such information as species, dimensions, condition and works required, together with a hazard rating. The system has been used to help prioritise remedial work to the tree stock.

This has resulted in some hard but necessary management decisions to ensure on-going site safety but using a campaign of e-mail and on site signage there has been little negative feedback.

The general approach is to retain trees as long as it is practical and to avoid any unnecessary remedial works where possible. Where potential hazards or defects are identified, which represent a significant risk, a hierarchy of control measures is used dependent on the trees location, species and condition.

Where trees could represent a hazard to site users, a variety of methods are used to mitigate the need for felling. This includes the use of fencing, the adaptation of surrounding herbage, cable bracing, crown or limb reduction.

Where it is not possible to retain a tree, then consideration is given to retaining the tree as standing dead wood. This reduces the hazard to a low level but retains the unique habitat that large amounts of dead wood provide. Unless dead wood within the



crown of trees represents a hazard it is generally retained. Even in areas of high occupancy the dead wood is 'tested' rather than removed, especially in species such as *Quercus* and *Castanea*, which tend to retain their dead wood. Felled dead wood is retained on site, where viable, often in log piles. Stumps are cut high to encourage stag beetles.

5.5.4 The Wilderness

The Wilderness was a former landscape garden which has developed into a semi-natural woodland. In previous years a low intervention policy was adopted which resulted in a reduction of previously recorded species. The team developed a woodland management plan which has been running for over 10 years and was last reviewed in 2021. The principle aim now is to manage hazard and risk.





5.5.5 Whiteknights Local Wild Life Site

Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) are special places which have been identified for their wildlife value in a county context. Local Wildlife Sites are selected due to the presence of important characteristics, threatened habitats or the presence of species included in local or national Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP). In Berkshire there are around 750 Local Wildlife Sites representing 10% of the county land area. Whiteknights LWS is designated for its mosaic of habitats (including some BAP priority habitats) that support a number of protected, notable and UK BAP species, including the Stag Beetle and Common Toad. Various red and amber listed birds (Eaton *et al.* 2009) have been recorded within the site.

The Whiteknights LWS is important in creating an interconnected landscape of wildlife buffers and corridors which allow the free movement of fauna across the site.

5.5.6 Energy and natural resource conservation, pollution

During the University's daily operations the environment will inevitably feel the effects of the activity on site; including teaching & research, maintenance, travel, new construction etc. All of this can have a negative impact on the biodiversity of the area. The University aims to adopt a responsible approach to these activities through policies and procedures which are displayed on the University website.





SECTION 6: HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION

6.1 SITE HERITAGE

Whiteknights campus has a rich heritage and many features of the site's varied past remain today. The campus currently contains nine listed buildings, ranging from a number of large Victorian houses to a post-war nuclear bunker. The University recognises the importance of these features and has invested significantly in recent years to preserve them.

6.2 CONSERVATION OF BUILDINGS

Some of the more important historic buildings on the Whiteknights campus include:

Foxhill House: A listed Gothic revival style building that currently houses the University's School of Law.

The house was originally built in 1868 by the famous architect Alfred Waterhouse and was used as his own residence until the early 1870s. The University acquired the house in 1958 and it was used initially as student accommodation. Between 2003–2005 the house was extensively restored and sympathetically extended to suit its new role as the home of the School of Law.



Foxhill House



Old Whiteknights House: Another Alfred Waterhouse designed house, built originally for his father. The building was extensively restored in 2002 to accommodate post-graduate students and a number of administrative functions.

The Citadel: After the war the eastern boundary of the park became home to the 'Region 6' War Room, responsible for civil defence in south-central England. The facilities included the construction of a nuclear bunker in the 1950s, which still stands in a little visited corner of the campus. The building was listed in 2008.

Park House: Park House is another listed Victorian house, which stands on the site of the old 18th century mansion. The building houses the University's Senior Common Room, together with a number of support departments.

URS Building: Built in 1972, designed by architects Howell, Killick, Partridge & Amis, this building is a unique example of 20th century modern architecture.

Other historic features: Whiteknights campus has a number of other interesting features that give the campus its unique character.

An Ice House is located adjacent to the Whiteknights Lake. This structure, resembling a large brick-built igloo, is approximately four meters in diameter and was used as a rudimentary freezer in Victorian times by stacking ice blocks on shelves and packing around these with straw and sawdust. The Ice House was overlaid with topsoil to help maintain a constant temperature.

A walled garden is hidden at the edge of the Wilderness on the southern edge of the campus. This little known garden is currently used by the School of Biological Sciences for teaching and research purposes.

Also in the Wilderness is The Grotto, a Victorian folly, constructed at the head of the Whiteknights Lake.



6.3 CONSERVATION OF NATURAL FEATURES, WILD FAUNA, FLORA

Whiteknights campus has changed from what was once a prestigious private estate to the thriving University it is today, having passed through many layers of ownership on the way. The University has had a significant impact on the landscape since its arrival in 1947. However, with any new development due consideration is given to how the scheme will impact on the park.

In the initial stages of any redevelopment programme staff, students and the public are consulted extensively. Where construction work is identified as having an impact the Grounds Team and other stakeholders are consulted to identify ways of minimising this.



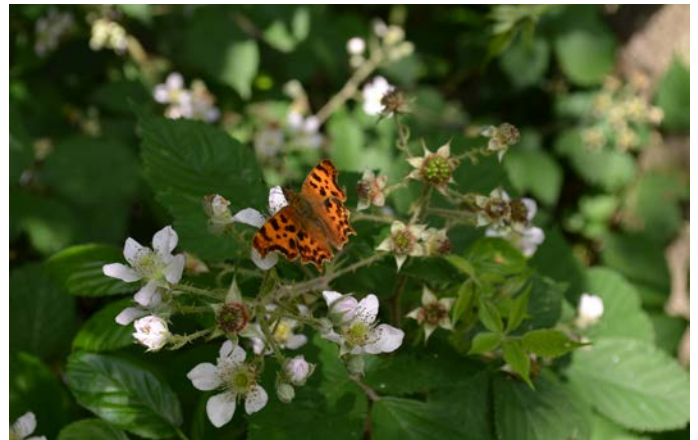


Whiteknights Lake

6.4 CONSERVATION OF LANDSCAPE FEATURES

6.4.1 Whiteknights Lake

Whiteknights Lake was created as part of the landscaping carried out by the Marquis of Blandford in the 18th century but its origins date long before this. It was created by blocking a natural water course and allowing the water to pool on the clay beds that existed there. Grounds Maintenance have adopted a minimal intervention strategy after concerns regarding water safety and recommendations from the Biodiversity Working Group. It is hoped that the unmanaged herbage will give numerous opportunities for nesting birds and insects.



SECTION 7: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

7.1 KNOWLEDGE OF COMMUNITY

The University of Reading's Whiteknights campus serves three main communities: students, staff and visitors. There are a number of bodies representing these groups and the University's knowledge of these communities is predicated upon the feedback it receives from surveys, meetings, public forums and anecdotal comment.

Students often cite the beautiful green campus as one of the main reasons why they chose to come to the University. .

'A few words of thanks for the new path being constructed around the Harris Garden. My younger daughter, who loves visiting the Harris Garden with us, is in a wheelchair and, as a result, much of the garden is off-limits except in the driest weather. We tried out the new pathway today and it certainly makes a big difference. We look forward to completion of the remaining work.'

Dr Stephen Burt Visiting Fellow



7.2 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

7.2.1 Community Forum

These events are held twice a year and are an opportunity for local residents and councillors to visit the Whiteknights campus and raise any concerns with the University. The Community Forum is chaired by the Vice Chancellor and attended by various colleagues, including senior members of the University.

At the Community Forum in September 2022, specific space was provided to discuss sustainability and feedback included more opportunities for the local community to access green spaces on campus and more opportunities for local sustainability groups to collaborate with the University. The University has already responded to this feedback by introducing a Community Festival on campus for 2023 which will include a series of walks around Whiteknights campus.

There is a dedicated local community webpage which highlights and encourages visitors to explore green spaces on campus.

There is a Community Inbox managed by the Community Relations Team where the local community are actively encouraged to raise concerns and make suggestions.

7.2.2 Pre-planning application consultation

The University has a strategic development plan for the Whiteknights campus. In order to seek feedback, the University consults with staff, students, local residents and other interested parties on development plans.



7.2.3 Involvement with local neighbourhood groups

The University consults widely with local residents and other agencies. University and Students Union representatives attend the local Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) meetings, East Reading Neighbourhood Forum and a series of local residents groups which serve the areas immediately adjacent to the campus.

7.2.4 Friends groups

There are two 'Friends' groups which have open membership for staff, students and members of the public. These are:

Friends of the University: In 1926, the year in which the University obtained its Royal Charter, it was agreed that an association, to be called 'The Friends of the University of Reading', should be formed on an entirely voluntary basis, with the aim of bringing friends and supporters into contact with the University, enabling them to promote its interests and welfare.

The Association came formally into existence on 15 March 1927. Since that day, companies, organisations and individuals, including former students and staff, have become members. Their subscriptions, donations, bequests and support, have helped the University to fund amenities and activities.

The membership currently stands at over 500 and new members are always welcome. The association's affairs are managed by a committee comprising representatives from the University and elsewhere.

Friends of Harris Garden: The Harris Garden is located on the southern boundary of the Whiteknights campus and is an important amenity for university staff, students and visitors.

The Friends of the Harris Garden is an organisation which was formed in 1987 to support the development of the garden, in partnership with the University. The role of the Friends is to promote activities in and connected with the Harris Garden and to further the development of its amenities.

Harris Garden Volunteers: The Harris garden Volunteers currently meet twice a week and provide valuable assistance in the maintenance of the Harris garden. Volunteers come with a wide range of experience skills and back grounds and without their valuable input we would not be able to retain the more complex borders found within the Garden .





7.3 APPROPRIATE PROVISION FOR THE COMMUNITY

7.3.1 Facilities open to the public

As well as fostering a strong sense of community on campus, the University enjoys close links with local residents and businesses, and aims to make a positive difference to people's well-being.

The Whiteknights campus is a short walk or ride from the centre of Reading and members of the public are welcome to enjoy this peaceful green space, with its woodland walks, mature trees, lake and conservation areas.

7.3.2 Guided walks

The University has joined Reading Borough Council's Community Walks Scheme, Walking for Health. Trained volunteer walk leaders conduct a guided walk through the campus every Monday, throughout the year, 10 – 11am. This activity promotes walking as a way to improve the health and fitness of participants, as well providing an opportunity to meet new people. This activity is now so popular that two groups set off each week. There are a number of self-guided walks that have been created to encourage visitors to explore campus, including an audio walk of the Harris Garden and a self-guided tour of Whiteknights campus biodiversity.

7.3.3 Public Lectures

Each year a series of public lectures take place in the University's main lecture theatre facility, the Palmer Building. The speakers are members of the University's academic staff who are experts in their field. The lectures are free and open to anyone to attend.

7.3.4 Museums

There are two museums on the Whiteknights campus. Both are open to members of the public and run events specifically for parties of school children during term time and families during the holiday periods.

The **Ure Museum** of Archaeology houses one of the largest collections of Greek ceramics in Britain. The **Cole Museum of Zoology** is home to over 3500 zoological specimens. Amongst its highlights are complete skeletons of a male Indian elephant, a killer whale, a five metre reticulated python, and a pair of giant spider crabs. In 2020 the Cole museum was relocated to its new Home in the Health and Life Sciences Building.

7.3.5 Music performances

Staff, students and other visitors are welcome to attend a series of concerts throughout the year. Members of the public are also welcome to join the many music ensembles at the University by joining The Reading University Music Society.



7.3.6 Hosting local cultural activities

Film Theatre: The Palmer Building provides the venue for Reading Film Theatre, an independent cinema which shows a variety of art-house, foreign and commercial films during term time and which is open to staff, students and members of the public.

Whiteknights Studio Trail: Once a year the campus provides the starting point for the Whiteknights Studio Trail, a walking tour of various artist's studios near to the campus.

7.3.7 Open days and welcome events

The University organises several open days for prospective students throughout the year. Campus tours are also held most Wednesdays for prospective students who are not able to attend the main open days.



Open Days



Reading Half Marathon

7.3.8 Catering, conferences and room hire

The Whiteknights campus has a wide range of cafes and food outlets and offers venues for conferences, weddings and social functions. Services range from delivered hospitality as part of a working lunch, through to formal dinners and weddings. The University offers a wide range of venues for hire and also has facilities for over-night accommodation.

7.3.9 Sports facilities

The campus is home to a range of modern sports facilities, which are open all year round to staff, students and members of the public. The facilities include an extensive fitness studio, dance/ yoga and martial arts studios, a multi-purpose sports hall, squash courts, floodlit synthetic turf five-a-side-soccer pitches, grass football and rugby pitches, The Tennis Park features indoor and outdoor floodlit tennis courts.

Each year the route of the Reading Half Marathon utilises roads on the Whiteknights campus, bringing over 15,000 runners and many more spectators onto site.

7.3.10 Equal opportunity and diversity

The University is committed to ensuring that all staff, students and visitors are treated with respect at all times and are given equality of opportunity in all activities. The University Diversity and Inclusion Team provide co-ordination and support for the D&I efforts of staff and students across Reading. The University is proud to receive recognition in the form of Charter marks in recognition for our work in supporting staff and students in underrepresented groups.

SECTION 8: MARKETING

8.1 CAMPUS USE AND AVAILABILITY

The Whiteknights campus is intensively used throughout the year. The last detailed survey of journeys onto the campus revealed that over a typical five-day period there were over 123,000 travel movements onto the Whiteknights campus. Almost 70,000 of these were pedestrians or people travelling by public transport. Another 10,000 journeys were by bicycle.

During term-time students and staff make up the majority of visitors. Whilst during the vacation periods the campus is used for a wide range of activities, including summer schools and conferences.





8.2 MARKETING AND PROMOTION

The University's marketing and promotion activity is primarily aimed at its core business; teaching, research and enterprise. However, it places great importance on maintaining a positive relationship with the wider community.

8.3 PROMOTION AS A COMMUNITY RESOURCE

8.3.1 Website

The University has a comprehensive website, which provides information on our activities, services and functions. The address for the home page is: www.reading.ac.uk

8.3.2 Guides and brochures

The University produces a number of guides, including a general introductory guide to the Whiteknights campus, which explains some of the history of the park and some of the more interesting features. The University also produces a half-yearly comprehensive Events Guide listing to all the events and activities available to members of the public, many of which are completely open and free of charge.

8.3.3 On-site signage

The University has started to produce signage for the Harris Garden and the campus, explaining new management techniques and promoting the biodiversity to be found on site.

Chilean plum yew
Prumnopitys andina

Chile

LEAST CONCERN **VULNERABLE** ENDANGERED CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

Scan to visit dendrology.org article

"My favourite specimen in the garden is *Prumnopitys andina*, the Chilean plum yew. It sits to the right of the gate to the walled garden and most casual visitors mistake it for another yew tree. This tree dates back to the pre-University age of Whiteknights and is a living link to the history of campus. Our tree at Reading is listed in an article on dendrology.org and is one of the larger specimens alive in the UK. It's a beautiful, healthy specimen from a plant family (Podocarpaceae) little grown in the UK and sits there, unassuming and easily overlooked, as a useful teaching aid, a decorative tree and a sign of the great botanical and horticultural history of our campus."

Alistair Culham,
Associate Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

? **Did you know...**
The sweet tasting fleshy cones are used by people in the plum yew's native Chile for making marmalade.

Scan here for the Harris Garden website

The Harris Garden University of Reading

SECTION 9: MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND PLANNING

9.1 MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

9.1.1 Reporting structure and management

The Whiteknights campus is managed, on a day-to-day basis, by the departments within Estates. The departments include the grounds maintenance, building maintenance, project management and security teams, amongst others.

Estates reports directly to a range of University committees, the most important of which in property terms is the Estates Committee.



9.2 ESTATE PLANNING AND PROJECTS

9.2.1 Strategic estate planning

The University has developed a Corporate Plan which sets out its strategic aims and objectives over the planning period. This document is reviewed regularly to ensure that it remains focused on the University's current priorities.

The University's Estate Strategy is derived from the Corporate Plan and describes how the estate will be developed to support the Corporate Plan. The Estate Strategy includes a detailed Implementation Plan, which outlines the projects that are required to implement the strategy.

9.2.2 Maintenance planning

The long-term maintenance programme is primarily derived from the Estate Strategy, together with the findings from the rolling condition survey programme. It also takes account of proposed new building development, plans for building closures and proposed changes of use.

The Maintenance Services Team aims to maintain a rolling five-year planned maintenance programme, which is rigorously prioritised based upon agreed criteria. Repairs having statutory compliance, business continuity or health & safety implications are given the highest priority when developing the programme.

9.2.3 Financial arrangement

Grounds maintenance at Whiteknights is primarily funded from University central budgets, which are often supplemented by smaller grants from volunteer groups, such as the Friends of the Harris Garden. In total around £480,000 per annum is available for grounds maintenance at Whiteknights.

The Grounds Team work on a semi-commercial basis and recharge their costs. Maintenance expenditure is regularly benchmarked, against both commercial contractors and against other peer-group Universities. Grounds maintenance costs per hectare are typically in the lower quartile of institutes in the HE sector.

9.2.4 Project control

Capital and large-scale revenue projects are normally controlled by a dedicated Project Committee. There is an established governance system covering the feasibility, design and construction phases to monitor project planning, programme, risks and costs.

9.2.5 Project communication

Stakeholder groups are consulted widely during the project development process. Internal University stakeholders are normally represented on the project team, whilst other staff are informed of proposed developments through the web portal, email, newsletters etc.

The Communication Office makes use of other forms of communication, such as mail groups, twitter, student magazines etc., to keep students informed. Students also have access to a dedicated student newspaper, *Spark*.

Local residents are kept informed of University initiatives through press releases, and through involvement with the Community Open Events. Neighbours also have an opportunity to contribute directly to the University's planning processes through the planning consultation exercises associated with major projects.



SECTION 10: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

10.1 OVERVIEW

This section aims to describe the main issues influencing maintenance of the Whiteknights campus in 2021 and comprises two main sections.

Part 1 A description of the current key issues and a copy of the 2023 Implementation Plan to address the issues identified

Part 2 A copy of the 2022 Implementation Plan, indicating the progress made over the last 12 months

As with any organisation which derives part of its income from public funds the University is seeking to obtain value for money and, where possible, reduce expenditure. In the current financial climate both capital and revenue funding is limited.

PART 1: CURRENT ISSUES

A welcoming place

Signage improvements: The University has a rolling programme of signage improvements ensuring the campus is well sign-posted. Recommendations for improvements will be made in accordance with need and available budget.

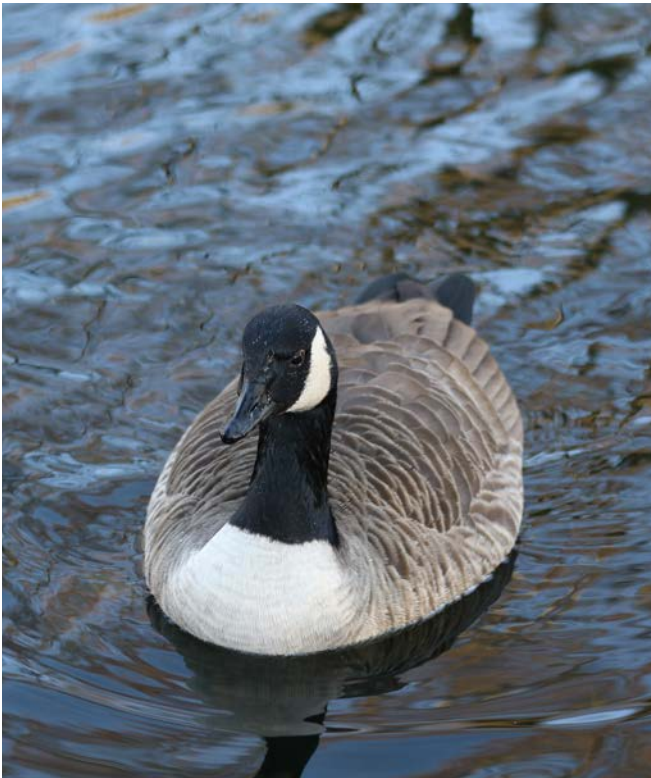
Healthy, safe and secure

Tree work: The team will concentrate on works recommended following detailed inspection by a consultant and other works highlighted during routine survey.

Footpath improvements: A number of areas on the lake side path have been identified for improvement to the existing sight lines. The programme of prioritised path resurfacing will continue if budget is available. The programme of footpath widening to allow shared access will also continue.

Clean and well maintained

Landscape programme: Areas for tree planting and landscaping will be identified with the objectives of simplification and increasing biodiversity opportunities.



Sustainability & Biodiversity

- **Green waste processing:** At times, the team have not been able to use all of the green waste compost produced because of the labour involved in moving it. In recent years we have looked for bigger projects that can be mechanised to make use of this valuable product. The team will use the processed compost in large landscaping schemes to produce wild bird seed plantings, a direct sown perennial meadow in the Harris Garden and mulching material.
- **Wilderness:** We will continue with the implementation of the woodland management plan in the 2022/23 season.
- **General Biodiversity Opportunities:** The team have been encouraged to take a different view on elements of how the park is managed and we will be continuing a number of new initiatives started in 2021 including rewilding areas and mosaic mowing patterns with the objective of increasing biodiversity.

Conservation and heritage

- **Whiteknights lake:** The team will continue to ensure that the dams and outfalls are kept clear of herbage to allow essential inspection and any necessary repair works.

Community involvement

- **Harris Garden:** The Grounds Team will continue to develop the strong working relationship with volunteers in the Harris Garden, whose support is vital to the continued success of this facility.

Management arrangements and planning

- **Habitat management plan:** The plan was reviewed in 2021 following input from the Biodiversity Working Group the team will monitor the changes in management and ensure they remain relevant. Should changes be require the habitat plan will be updated and published to the web.
- **Review of Health & Safety arrangements:** The team are all involved in looking for improvements in our health and safety systems and review of existing measures especially after any reported incident. The systems in place are reviewed annually by the team's Safe Contractor accreditation application.

2023 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

| No. | Objective | Implementation Strategy | Time scale | By | Critical Success Measures | Status | |
|---|---|--|------------|-------|--|-------------|---|
| A welcoming place | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Signage improvements | Review areas and make recommendations for improvements, implement Harris Garden signage project | 4Q23 | DMS | Recommendations for improvements made and implemented. Harris Garden signage installed | On-going | ● |
| Healthy, safe & secure | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Tree works | Implement programme of tree works with hazard reduction and tree retention being the driving priority, highlighted from on-going survey and consultants report | 4Q23 | HoGM | Programme delivered within environmental time constraints | On-going | ● |
| 3 | Footpath improvements | Identify and prioritise herbage control and trees works adjacent to footpaths in order to improve sight lines, lighting and personal safety | 3Q23 | HoGM | Areas in need of improvement identified and work completed by 3Q23 | On-going | ● |
| Clean & well maintained | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Landscaping programme | Develop proposals for landscape and tree planting requirements within 2023/24 academic year | 1Q24 | HoGM | Programme compiled and implemented by 1Q24 | Not started | ● |
| Sustainability & biodiversity | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Pollinator lawns | Continue with no mow areas review, expand or adapt plan as required | 4Q22 | DHoGM | Necessary review completed by 4Q23 | Not started | ● |
| 6 | Wilderness | Implement elements of management plan | 1Q24 | HoGM | Works complete by 1Q24 | Not Started | ● |
| Conservation & heritage | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Whiteknights Lake | Implement clearance of dams to allow inspection by Engineer | 3Q23 | HoGM | No recommendations for herbage control from inspecting engineer | On-going | ● |
| Community involvement & marketing | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Continue to support volunteers within the Harris Garden | Ensure volunteers have sufficient resource, safety equipment and support to work effectively | 4Q23 | DHoGM | Volunteer numbers remain sufficient to maintain the garden at current standard | On-going | ● |
| Management arrangements & planning | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Habitat Management Plan | Ensure plans remain up to date and relevant implementing any recommended changes from University Biodiversity Plan | 4Q23 | HoGM | Plans reviewed any changes implemented and published to the web | Not started | ● |
| 10 | Review H&S arrangements | Ensure operational and site risk assessments up to date and relevant | 4Q23 | HoGM | Documentation reviewed and safe contractor accreditation achieved | Not started | ● |

KEY
 Complete ● On-going ● Not started ●

2022 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

| No. | Objective | Implementation Strategy | Time scale | By | Critical Success Measures | Status | |
|---|---|---|------------|--------|--|----------|---|
| A welcoming place | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Signage improvements | Review areas and make recommendations for improvements according to available resources | 4Q22 | MSD | Recommendations for improvements made and implemented (subject to available funding) | On-going | ● |
| Healthy, safe & secure | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Tree works | Implement programme of tree works with hazard reduction being the driving priority highlighted from on-going survey and consultants report | 4Q22 | HoGM | Programme delivered within environmental time constraints | On-going | ● |
| 3 | Footpath improvements | Identify and prioritise herbage control and trees works adjacent to footpaths in order to improve sight lines, lighting and personal safety | 3Q22 | HoGM | Areas in need of improvement identified and work completed by 3Q22 | On-going | ● |
| Clean & well maintained | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Landscaping programme | Develop proposals for landscape and tree planting requirements within 2022/23 academic year in line with available budgets | 1Q23 | HoGM | Programme compiled and implemented by 1Q23 | Complete | ● |
| Sustainability & biodiversity | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Pollinator lawns | Continue with no mow areas review, expand or adapt plan as required | 4Q22 | DHoGM | Necessary review completed by 4Q22 | Complete | ● |
| 6 | Wilderness | Implement elements of management plan | 1Q24 | HoGM | Works complete by 1Q23 | Complete | ● |
| Conservation & heritage | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Whiteknights Lake edge improvements | Implement clearance of dams to allow inspection by Engineer | 3Q22 | HoGM | Works completed before engineers visit | Complete | ● |
| Community involvement & marketing | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Continue to support volunteers within the Harris Garden | Ensure volunteers have sufficient resource, safety equipment and support to work effectively | 4Q22 | DHofGM | Volunteer numbers remain sufficient to maintain the garden at current standard | Complete | ● |
| Management arrangements & planning | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Review habitat management plans | Ensure plans remain up to date and relevant | 4Q22 | HoGM | Plan reviewed and sufficient funding and support for its implementation | Complete | ● |
| 10 | Review H&S arrangements | Ensure plan is appropriate and achievable with available budget | 4Q22 | HoGM | Plan reviewed and safe contractor accreditation achieved | On-going | ● |



WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS UNIVERSITY OF READING MANAGEMENT PLAN

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