

Meet the Net Zero Wales Team

Led by the Director of Sustainability, the team is working alongside ten suppliers and internal groups, such as the Sustainability Coordination Group and Sustainability Steering Group, to deliver the Net Zero Project and support the University in its ambitions to achieve Net Zero in Wales by 2030. You can contact this team on sustainability@open.ac.uk



Dr Victoria Hands
Director of Sustainability

Dr Victoria Hands is a sustainability expert who empowers individuals and organisations to discover and adopt regenerative practices so they can transform their actions for sustainability. She promotes, trains and coaches on implementation of long-term, preventative, inclusive, collaborative and integrated approaches. She led sustainability initiatives in universities for fourteen years influencing teaching, research and operations, having spent seven years delivering collaborative partnership projects.



Ryan Goldhawk
Sustainability Administrator

Ryan is currently studying for a Masters in Environmental Management through the OU and has a keen passion for the field. Her role is to support the Sustainability Team, and the wider University, with administration of sustainability-related projects, programmes and ambitions.



Gabriella Daroczi
Sustainability Marketing & Communications
(From April 22)

Gabriella is a Chartered Marketer with a certificate in Business Sustainability Management from the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership. She has supported The Open University with marketing and communications on sustainability related projects, such as the launch of the microcredential courses, building the sustainability web page and managing communications around COP26.



Kara Bennett
Programme Manager
(June - Oct 22)

Kara has a background in environmental management, predominantly within heavy industry and more recently as sustainability officer for South Wales Fire and Rescue Service. She has co-produced a children's book called "What's a girl to do?" advocating for STEM subjects in schools and hoping for greater representation within heavy industry, also being a mentor for Catalyse Change supporting young women entering the sustainability space. She is a keen advocate for intentionality and a slower pace of life, believing that sustainability is best approached from a holistic and considered perspective and has a deep appreciation for the natural world.



Lydia Whatley
Programme Administrator
(June - Oct 22)

Lydia joined the Net Zero programme as a PRINCE2 practitioner and has previous experience in the insurance industry as the project manager for an agile team of technical developers. Lydia holds a BA in English Literature, Communication and Philosophy; a keen interest in language and accessibility informs her project management style. Following in the footsteps of her father, Lydia is a life-long surfer with a personal passion for protecting and sustaining our planet's oceans and its ecosystems. She joins the team as Programme Administrator and is overjoyed to be engaging with sustainability in a professional capacity.



Phoebe Machin
Engagement Manager
(June - Oct 22)

Phoebe joined this team with an academic background in sustainability, holding a masters in Environmental Governance. Having also come from a marketing and communications role, Phoebe understands the importance of engagement in a project such as this and strives to help everyone become aware of their role in achieving sustainable goals. She has a passion for creating a sustainable future for young generations and working on projects that make impactful and positive changes to the world.



Louise Mumford

Training Manager

(June - Sept 22)

Having been involved in education and training for the past 23 years Louise joined the Net Zero Team as a Training Manager. Louise is a fervent advocate of lifelong learning and its ability to empower lives. Louise supports with the design, delivery and implementation of Carbon Literacy Training.



Farah Lodhi

Carbon Literacy Trainer

(June - Oct 22)

Farah has a background in water resources management and climate change (SOAS London) and has worked with Fauna and Flora International in collaboration with British American Tobacco and Mataram University Indonesia, spearheading water projects for cocoa farmers and women in agriculture. Farah works in collaboration with leading student sustainability organisation SOS-UK to design and deliver a bespoke HE sector Carbon Literacy Training.



Katie Phillips

Carbon Literacy Trainer

(Sept - Oct 22)

Katie holds an MSc Society, Environment, and Global Change and a (BA) Geography degree from Swansea University. She was awarded the Terry Fenge Prize by the Swansea University Geography department for demonstrating commitment to social and environmental justice. Katie works in collaboration with leading student sustainability organisation SOS-UK to support translation of Carbon Literacy Training in Welsh language.



Dr Emma Fieldhouse
Director Future We Want
(From April 22)

Emma is a career environmentalist, a trained teacher and an inspirational leader and having worked in public, private, voluntary and HE sectors over the last 20 years is the Director of small but mighty business, Future We Want. Her specialisms along with sustainability are awareness-raising, facilitation, behaviour change, engagement, bespoke training and learning, sustainable construction and strategy development. Emma supports OU in Wales through the delivery and training on her Carbon Footprint Games.



Suzanna Jones
Carbon Literacy Trainer
(From October 22)

Suzanna works as a Sustainability Learning Officer for charity Change Agents UK, delivering sustainability training to FE and HE students. She also works as the lead Sustainability Officer at South and City College overseeing the college's Sustainability Strategy and Sustainability Roadmap. She is a First-Class sustainability Graduate from the University of Warwick and is currently completing further study of MSc Sustainability and Environmental Management (IEMA accredited) at Coventry University. Suzanna's key role with the OU is delivering the Carbon Literacy Training and supporting staff and students with their pledges.



Charlotte Jackson
Carbon Literacy Trainer
(From October 22)

Charlotte has a background in Education as a qualified secondary science teacher and experienced FE lecturer. Currently an IEMA accredited Sustainability Education Officer with Change Agents UK, delivering workshops on sustainability and the skills that come along with it. Charlotte is completing a Masters in Endangered Species and Conservation as protecting the environment is a keen interest of hers. Charlotte's key role with the OU is delivering the Carbon Literacy Training and supporting staff and students with their pledges.