

# GUILDHE CLIMATE CRISIS REPORT

## CASE STUDY: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### University of Winchester

#### Plastic Free University Status

The University of Winchester were officially awarded Plastic Free University status from national charity Surfers Against Sewage (SAS). This award of 'Plastic Free Communities' Status highlights the work and commitment as an institution we have made to tackling single-use plastics (SUP). It by no means signals we are plastic-free, and we do not claim to be, but we are clear that we view SUP as a problem and have made a commitment to do what we can feasibly to remove them from our operations.

#### Fleet vehicles

By the end of 2021/22, 48% of fleet vehicles had been switched to electric vehicles as part of our journey towards our target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2025.

#### Hedgehog Friendly Campus Gold Award

The University of Winchester has been recognised for its hedgehog-friendly campus with a prestigious Gold Hedgehog Friendly Award from the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS). The award comes after three years' hard work which began in 2019 and has seen students and staff create hedgehog-friendly habitats, set up feeding stations and help to survey hedgehog activity on campus.

The many initiatives undertaken as part of creating a hedgehog-friendly environment included a collaboration between the University and neighbouring Royal Hampshire County Hospital (RHCH) to make Burma Road – which bisects the University's main campus and the RHCH site – the first in Winchester to install road signs requesting drivers to slow down in case of hedgehogs crossing. The University of Winchester is one of 13 UK universities to achieve Gold status in 2022. The accreditation follows the team's successful Bronze accreditation in the 2019/20 academic year and a Silver accreditation in 2021.

**[Read the full GuildHE Report: Tackling the Climate Crisis: A View From Smaller and Specialist Universities and Colleges](#)**