



NORTH EAST  
SCOTLAND  
COLLEGE

**BRINGING  
LEARNING  
TO LIFE**



**Strategic  
Plan**

2025-2030



**Sub-strategy:**  
**Our Secure Future**



# Our Ambition

**North East Scotland College is committed to ensuring financial, environmental and social sustainability is at the heart of decision making. NESCol will broaden its regional influence and impact to drive positive change in the North East and nationally. Embedding good practice and fostering a proactive and forward-thinking culture will support the institution to meet measurable and responsible sustainability aims which are delivered collectively by staff, students and College partners and align with UN sustainable development goals.**

Linked to Strategic Objectives - 1.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 4.4, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4.  
(see table in main strategic plan document).



# Key Objectives

1. **To ensure financial sustainability** for the College through efficient operations and by embracing commercial opportunities, prioritising NESCol's long-term economic resilience.
2. **To implement responsible and innovative environmental initiatives** across NESCol campuses and the curriculum to support the College's net zero ambitions.
3. **To embed a culture of innovative, safe and sustainable behaviour** across the College community, leading by example in the region.
4. **To promote and preserve regional skills**, recognising the importance of traditional industries and the evolution of key sectors to the North East's cultural sustainability.



# What does success look like?

By 2030 we will have:




ESTABLISHED A SUSTAINED AT LEAST BREAK EVEN  
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE THAT ALLOWS NESCOL TO THRIVE



MAINTAINED  
AT LEAST 20  
DAYS WORKING  
CASH BALANCE

INCREASED THE PROPORTION OF NON-CORE REVENUE  
FROM 27% TO 35% OF TOTAL INCOME BY FOCUSING ON  
COMMERCIALISATION AND DIVERSIFICATION



FROM NESCOL'S  
WHOLLY-OWNED  
SUBSIDIARY ASET, GROW  
INCOME TO £5M AND  
INCREASE THE RETURN



10% DECREASE IN NESCOL'S OVERALL CARBON FOOTPRINT  
30% REDUCTION IN THE CARBON IMPACT OF STAFF TRAVEL

# How will we achieve this?

## Ensure financial sustainability

- **Reducing reliance on central funding** – We will implement a comprehensive suite of initiatives, including systematically identifying commercial opportunities for the College and implement aligned actions that support targeted revenue generation and strengthen our non-core income streams.

## Implement responsible and innovative environmental initiatives

- **Focusing on environmental goals** – We will set out clear, realistic, and achievable carbon reduction targets and identify associated actions.



## Embed a culture of innovative, safe and sustainable behaviour

- **Building on UN Sustainable Development Goals** – We will ensure all 17 goals are strategically addressed over the five-year sub-strategy cycle and are used as the foundation for NESCol's operations.
- **Strengthening the wellbeing and security of the college community** – We will embed key guidance and legislation frameworks into our policies, practices, and culture.
- **Preparing for worst-case scenarios** – We will develop our business continuity planning through the development of integrated, scenario-based processes that ensure operational resilience in the face of disruption.

## Promote and preserve regional skills

- **Championing the North East's heritage** – We will promote NESCol as a hub for the preservation of traditional regional skills, reinforcing the College's role and their importance to the area's future prosperity.

