

The Flavel Sustainability Statement

As a community-focused charity, we are committed to reducing our environmental impact and contributing positively to the transition towards a low-carbon future. We have been taking practical steps to reduce our energy consumption and improve the sustainability of our operations.

Recently, we installed solar panels, reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and increasing the proportion of clean, renewable energy used on-site. The system is expected to generate approximately 24,000 kWh of electricity annually, which would reduce The Flavel's carbon emissions by around 5-6 tonnes of CO₂ each year, representing a significant step in lowering the building's operational footprint. This investment supports the wider energy transition and extends beyond our own operations by encouraging greater uptake of renewable technologies within the Dartmouth community.

We have also upgraded our Building Management System (BMS) which has significantly improved our ability to control heating, lighting, and overall energy use across the building. In the first six months following installation, we have achieved an approximate 20% reduction in gas consumption and a 12% reduction in electricity use.

Our approach prioritises monitoring and transparency. Enhanced data visibility from the BMS enables more effective oversight, accurate reporting, and informed decision-making, allowing us to track progress and identify further opportunities for improving efficiency and sustainability.

Together, these actions support our broader commitment to responsible resource use and long-term emissions reduction.

The Flavel Sustainability Framework

Sustainability Approach

The framework focuses on reducing energy consumption and improving transparency in energy and carbon reporting, prioritising key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and using a SECR-style monitoring approach to measure progress.

The SECR-style (Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting) monitoring approach is a simple way for organisations to track and report their energy use and carbon emissions each year. It involves measuring how much electricity, gas, and other fuels are used, then converting this data into carbon emissions using standard government conversion factors. The approach also requires organisations to report on energy efficiency actions they have taken, such as upgrading lighting or improving building systems. Overall, SECR helps organisations understand their environmental impact, identify opportunities to reduce emissions, and communicate their progress in a clear and consistent way.

Sustainable Development Goal Alignment

This report aligns The Flavel's sustainability approach with the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), a globally recognised framework to guide action on social and environmental concerns. As a charity, the use of the SDGs allows us to demonstrate our impact using language that connects to the broader global agenda surrounding sustainability, while allowing our reporting to remain accessible.

SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

SDG 7 aims to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all by 2030. It focuses on expanding access to electricity, increasing the share of renewable energy sources such as solar and wind, and improving energy efficiency worldwide. Achieving SDG 7 is essential for reducing poverty, supporting economic growth, and addressing climate change, as clean and accessible energy underpins many aspects of sustainable development and improves quality of life globally.

Flavel Objective	Reduce dependence on fossil fuels through increased use of renewable energy
Actions	Installation of solar panels
Impact	Solar panels expected to generate ~24,000kWh annually Estimated 5 – 6 tonnes CO ₂ emissions avoided each year
Contribution	Supports the transition to renewable energy locally by demonstrating clean energy solutions within the Dartmouth community
Future Actions	TBC

SDG 11 – Sustainable Communities

SDG 11 focuses on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable by 2030. It aims to improve access to adequate and affordable housing, enhance public transport systems, reduce environmental impacts such as air pollution, and protect cultural and natural heritage. SDG 11 also emphasises strengthening urban planning and resilience to disasters, ensuring that growing cities remain liveable and sustainable for all residents.

Objective	Contribute to sustainability within the local community
Actions	Encouraging awareness of clean energy technologies
Impact	Visible example of renewable energy adoption in Dartmouth
Contribution	Supports community transition towards low-carbon technologies
Future Possible Actions	Collaborate and hold events with sustainability groups within Dartmouth to increase awareness within the community e.g. Partnership between Dartmouth Regatta and The Flavel to share best practice

SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

SDG 12 aims to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns by 2030. It focuses on reducing waste, improving resource efficiency, and encouraging responsible use of natural resources throughout supply chains. This goal also promotes recycling,

reducing food waste, and supporting businesses and consumers to adopt more sustainable practices. Achieving SDG 12 is key to minimizing environmental impact, conserving resources, and supporting long-term economic and environmental sustainability.

Objective	Improving recycling practices to facilitate responsible resource use and waste reduction
Actions	Implement recycling systems across the building for plastics, paper, glass Reduced single-use plastic by using paper cups or reusable glasses for events
Impact	Reduce operational waste to landfill Lower paper consumption
Contribution	Improves waste management, reducing plastic consumption and promoting more responsible resource use
Future Possible Actions	<p>1. Reusable cups in the café: The Flavel may look to introduce reusable coffee cups branded “Flavel Forever”. These can be sold at the café and events for a price that covers the cost of the cup (~£3 - £5) and a small donation to The Flavel. In return, customers using the cup are given a discount on the drinks that they purchase from the café (e.g. 25 – 50p).</p> <p>2. Paper Marketing: The Flavel has historically lacked budget to build a better digital presence therefore slowing the move away from paper. The recommendation is to seek grant funding for development of a better website and digital marketing platform, potentially using grant funding to support a Digital Marketing Apprentice. This will drive commercial growth while supporting The Flavel’s sustainability agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital marketing facilitates commercial growth through real-time measurable results, attribution modelling and ROI tracking, and increased brand awareness through social media engagement¹ - Digital marketing strategies offer a cost-effective alternative to traditional paper-based marketing, enabling charities to redirect funds saved toward core activities ² (Bennet, 2018)

¹ Desai, V. and Vidyapeeth, B., 2019. Digital marketing: A review. *International Journal of Trend in Scientific Research and Development*, 5(5), pp.196-200.

² Bennett, R., 2018. *Nonprofit marketing and fundraising: A research overview*. Routledge.

SDG 13 – Climate Action

SDG 13 calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. It focuses on strengthening resilience to climate-related hazards, integrating climate measures into policies and planning, and improving education and awareness about climate change. SDG 13 also supports efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote international cooperation to address this global challenge, helping to protect ecosystems and communities for future generations.

Objective	Reduce operational carbon emissions through energy efficiency improvements
Actions	Upgrade of the Building Management System (BMS) facilitating improved control over heating and lighting systems
Impact	20% reduction in gas consumption within the first year 12% reduction in electricity consumption within the first year
Contribution	Reduces the building’s operational carbon footprint and contributes to wider climate mitigation efforts.
Future Possible Actions	Complete the transition to 100% LED lighting

Energy and Carbon Reporting

To improve transparency, The Flavel monitors energy use and emissions using a simplified SECR-style framework. Though primarily designed for larger UK companies, adopting this approach allows us to report consistently against a credible, recognised standard. This reflects our commitment to transparency while remaining proportionate to our scale and resources.

Annual Metrics to Report

The organisation demonstrated a notable improvement in energy performance between Financial Year 24/25 and 25/26. Electricity consumption decreased from 71,681 kWh to 63,000 kWh, while gas usage fell from 85,182 kWh to 67,507 kWh, reflecting improved energy efficiency. These improvements were supported by key initiatives including a Building Management System upgrade and the transition to 80% LED lighting, highlighting a strong commitment to reducing operational emissions and enhancing sustainability.

In January 2026, late in FY 25/26, solar generation was introduced. Though it is predicted that it will generate some 24,000 kWh annually, contributing to a projected emissions reduction of approximately 5–6 tonnes of CO₂, the actual return for the last 6 weeks of the year was 580 kWh.

Metric	Financial Year 24/25	Financial Year 25/26
Electricity consumption (kWh)	71,681kWh	63,000 kWh
Gas consumption (kWh)	85,182kWh	67,507 kWh
Solar electricity generation (kWh)	n/a	580 kWh*
Estimated total operational emissions (kg CO₂e) <small>(calculated by total consumption (kWh) x Conversion Factor)</small>	~31,500 kg CO ₂ e	~25,500 kg CO ₂ e
Estimated emission reduction achieved	n/a	~6 tCO ₂ e
Energy efficiency improvements	n/a	Building Management System Upgrade, 80% LED lighting

*Solar panel data reflects final 6 weeks of the year (25/26).