

OUR VU NET-ZERO PLAN

19 November 2021

Version 4.0

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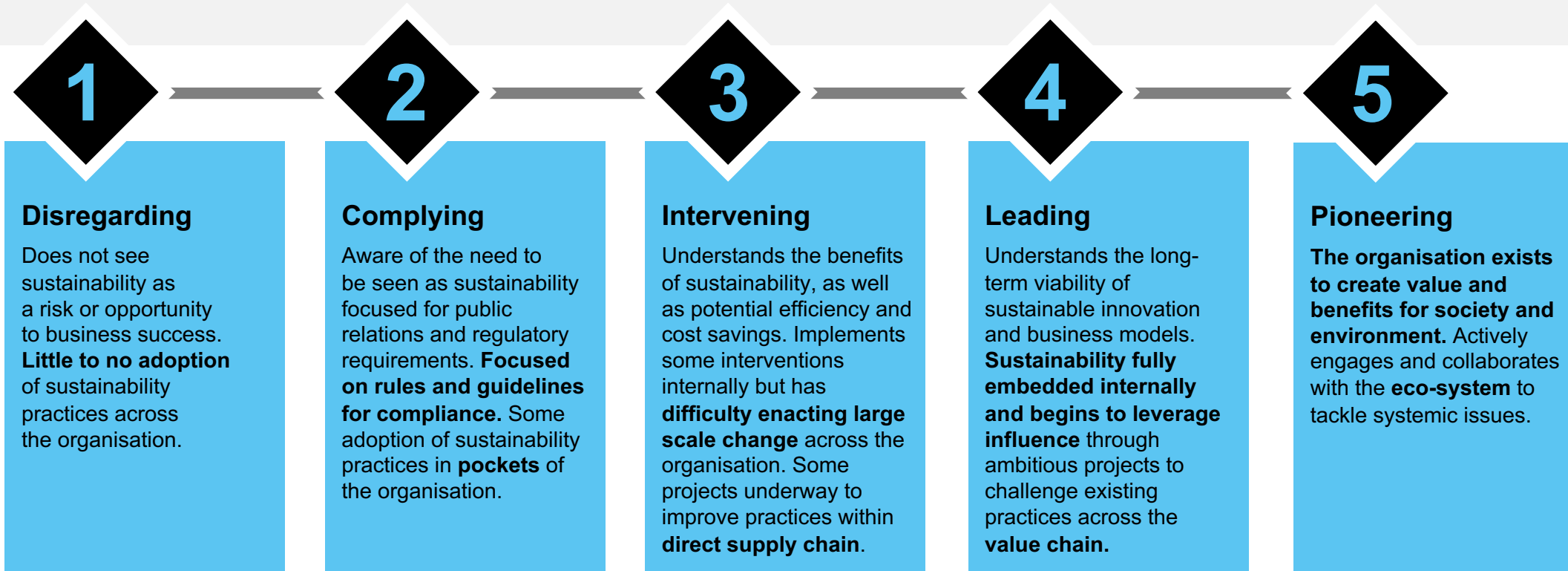
Victoria University, CRICOS No. 00124K (Melbourne), 02475D (Sydney), RTO 3113,
TEQSA No. PRV12152, Provider Category: Australian University

THE NEW WAY TO DO UNI



A mindset change is required

We have reflected on our organisation's sustainability maturity level and consider our vision at Victoria University (VU) ultimately is to be **Pioneering in Sustainability**. At this point in time, we are moving from **Intervening** and by adopting our Net-Zero Plan, we are aiming to progress towards **Leading**. We acknowledge that significant and sustained organisational change in addition to addressing emissions will be required to reach **Pioneering**.



Our Net-Zero key principles

For Victoria University, we believe that achieving Net-Zero greenhouse gas emissions in our operations is driven by 5 key principles.



Protecting Country

We have a responsibility, in all that we do—our research, our teaching, on our campuses and in our communities to improve the health and wellbeing of our local and global communities, and the planet that we share.

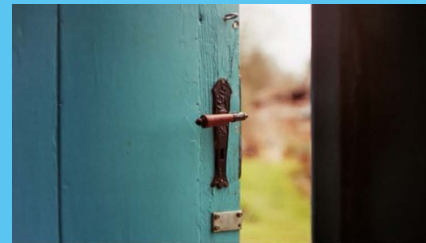
We acknowledge that First Nations peoples have long espoused the cultural, social, economic and environmental benefits embedded in the holistic relationship of Protecting Country.

We respect and embrace this perspective.



Ethical and Credible

Delivering on the expectations of the current and future staff and students by taking the ethical responsibility to treat the climate crisis as an emergency and deliver real results.



Seizing Opportunities

The transition to Net-Zero will present many opportunities for the university, with funding, partnerships, anticipating policy shifts, and emerging research and innovation.

By setting an ambitious target and achieving that Victoria University can maximise the opportunities as an early leader.



Demonstrating Leadership

We should demonstrate moral leadership to deliver what we know to be important (walk the talk).

Society looks to universities to provide guidance and leadership, and the Net Zero transition requires this.



Changing the Future

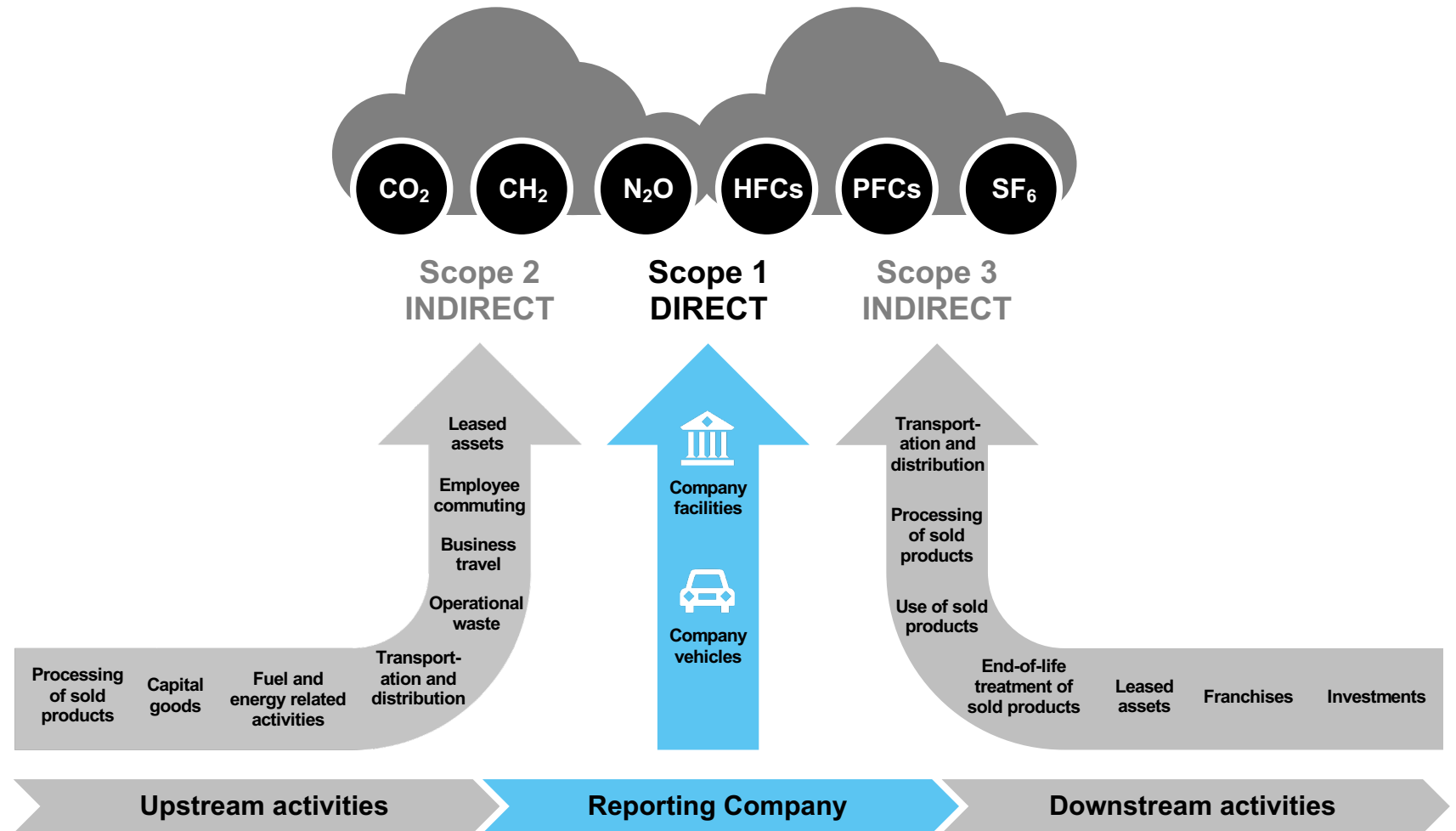
We recognise that we can influence beyond the boundary of the university and transform people's lives and future workplaces through the Plan delivery and our educational programs.

Our Boundary

For Net-Zero status the boundary of an organisation's greenhouse gas emissions must be considered, reduced and then offset.

This is split into three different 'scopes' as shown in the graphic (right).

The applicability of these scopes has been explored with the University and agreed with consideration of key drivers, available information and case studies.

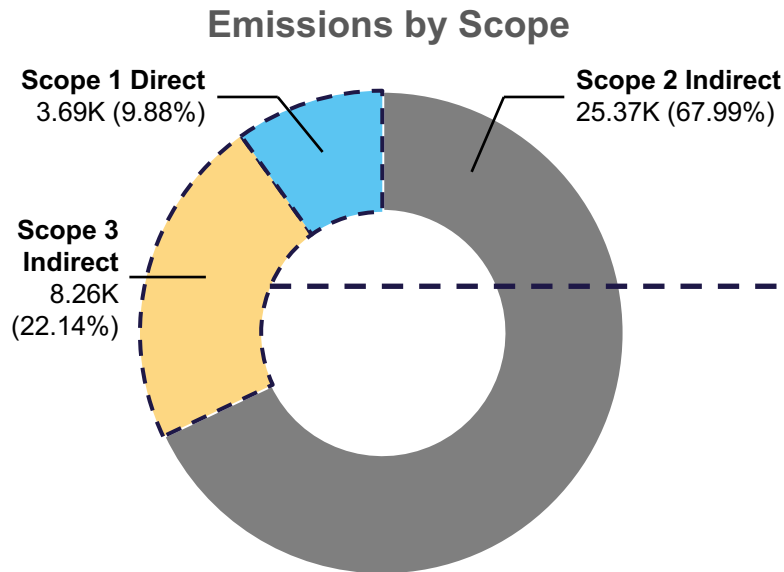


Scope 1, 2 and 3 to be reduced plus Offset

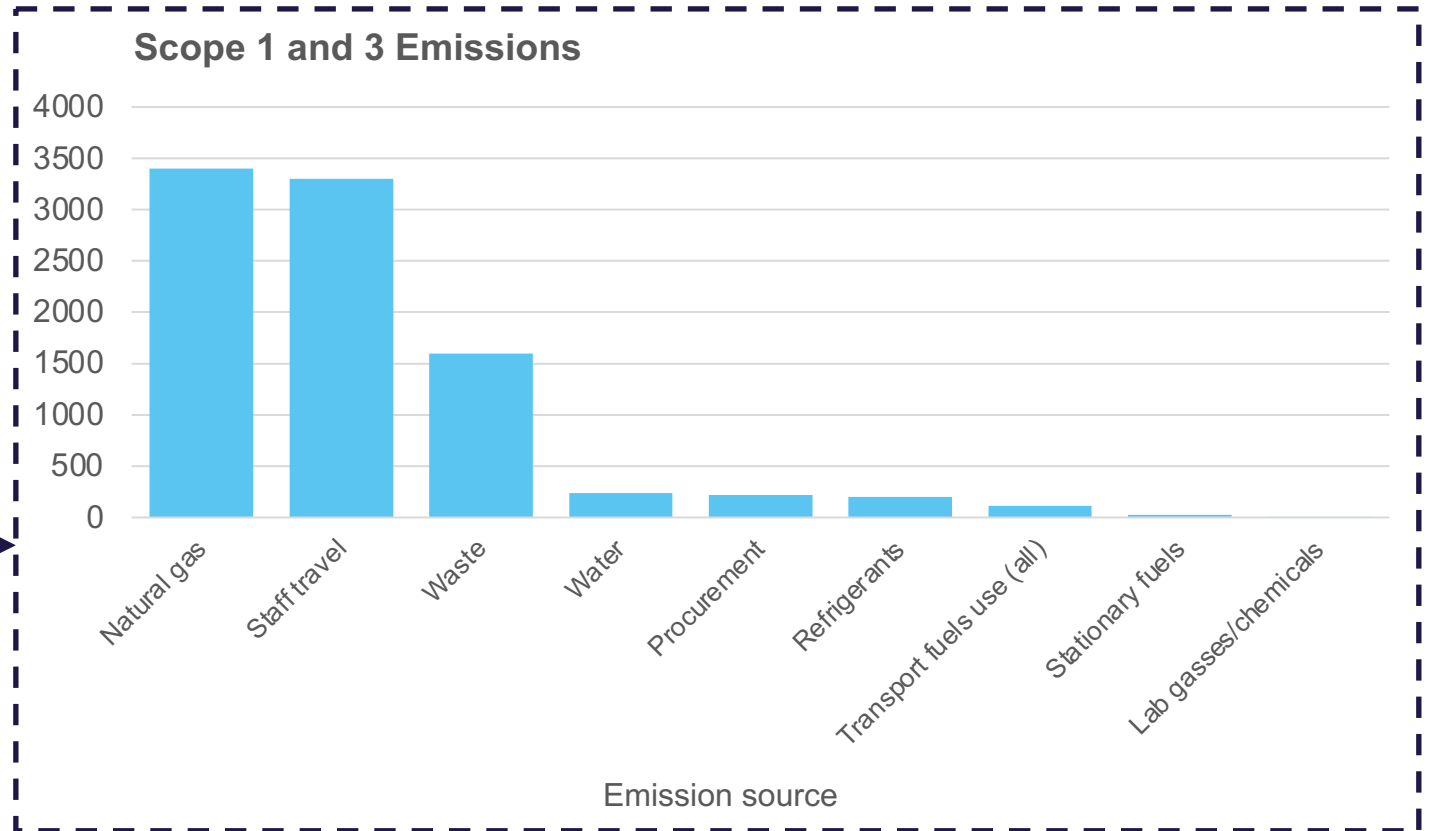
Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Our baseline green house gas emissions in 2019

We have estimated our greenhouse gas emissions for financial year 2019 (FY19) to establish a baseline. The values shown are calculated based on a variety of sources, including electricity meter data, 2019 greenhouse gas emission reporting and benchmark estimations. This year was selected to represent our emissions before COVID-19.



~37,315 TCO_{2E}/Year
Estimated Total Impact



Note, this omits Scope 2 emissions from electricity

Remaining focus on gas, travel and waste

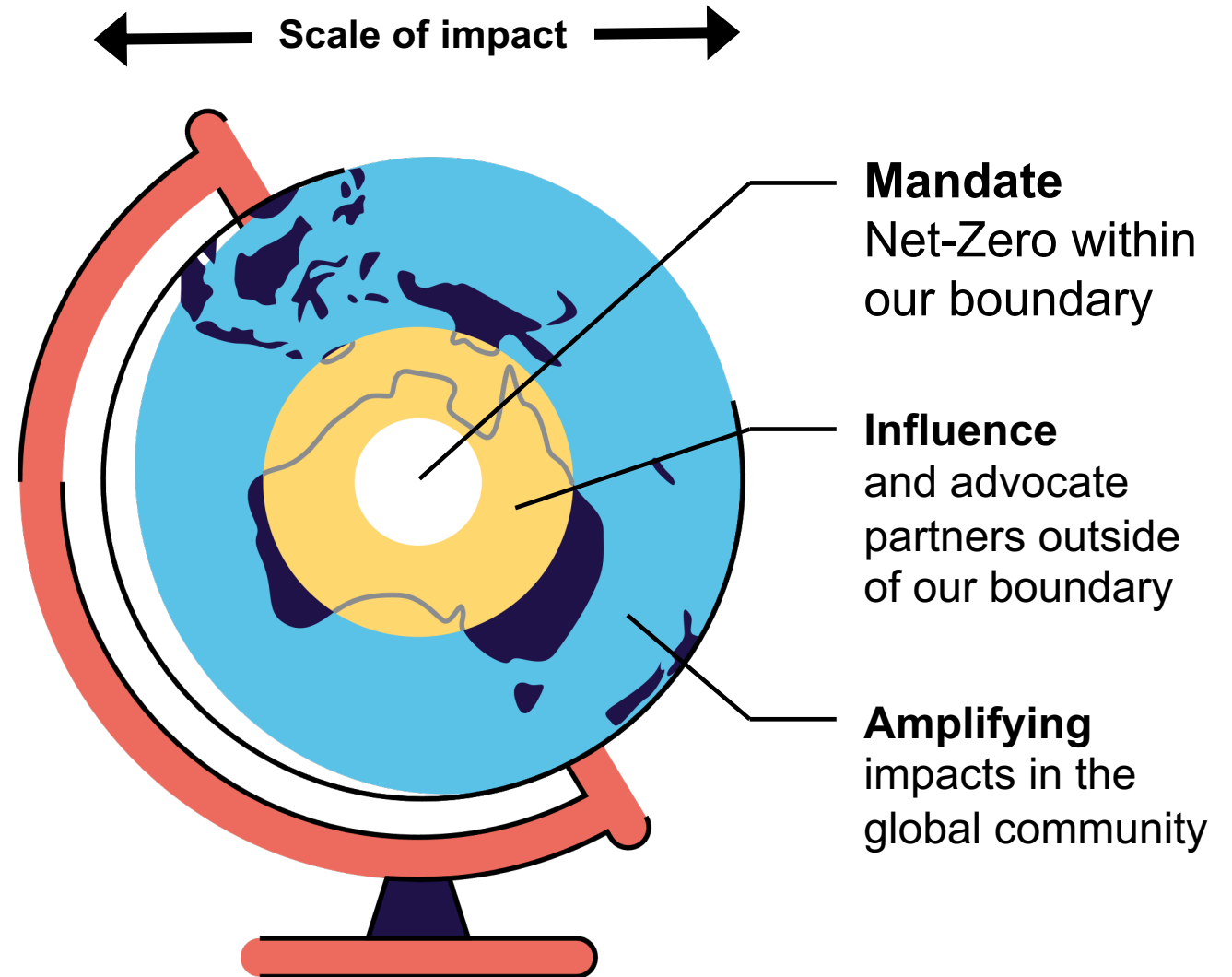
Going beyond our own boundary

Part of our Net-Zero Plan represents opportunities to expand our influence and challenge those with which we choose to partner.

This includes emissions within our reporting boundary such as our paper supplier, power purchase agreement (PPA) and cloud computing provider. We must **mandate** Net-Zero reporting requirements to these partners.

It could also be who we partner with in terms of retail outlets and leased spaces within our campuses. We will **influence** for Net-Zero with these organisations.

Ultimately, we recognise the biggest impact we can have as an organisation is to inspire and encourage our staff and students to change their lives and use their research and future workplaces to **amplify** the global community to decarbonise.



Our three part plan

We have developed a three part plan that responds to these principles with a combination of tangible, integrated and influencing measures that go beyond our boundaries, consistent with the core purpose of the University.

We have already committed to a 100% renewable electricity supply contract and will build upon this important milestone with targeted and progressive measures.

1

Tangible

- Power purchase agreement for 100% renewable electricity
- ◆ Electrification of the University
- ◆ Roll out of on-campus renewable energy
- ◆ Building performance upgrades
- ◆ Sustainable staff travel measures
- ◆ Net-Zero waste upgrades
- ◆ Offsets from credible organisations

Directly contributing to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

2

Integrated

- ◆ Live Metering and Data Collection
- ◆ Embedding Sustainability in Research and Teaching inc. Interns
- ◆ Space Utilisation Plan
- ◆ Staff and Student Sustainable Behaviours Plan
- ◆ Staff and student participation in energy and water audits

Enabling the delivery of the Net Zero Targets with integrated activity.

3

Influence and amplify

- ◆ Sustainable Student Travel Guide
- ◆ Staff Sustainable Living Hub
- ◆ Plant based diet advocacy
- ◆ Sustainable food partnerships
- ◆ Financial investments
- ◆ Digital twin for communication of Net-Zero Plan
- ◆ Sustainable Flipped Campus Plan

Supporting positive outcomes beyond the Net-Zero boundary.

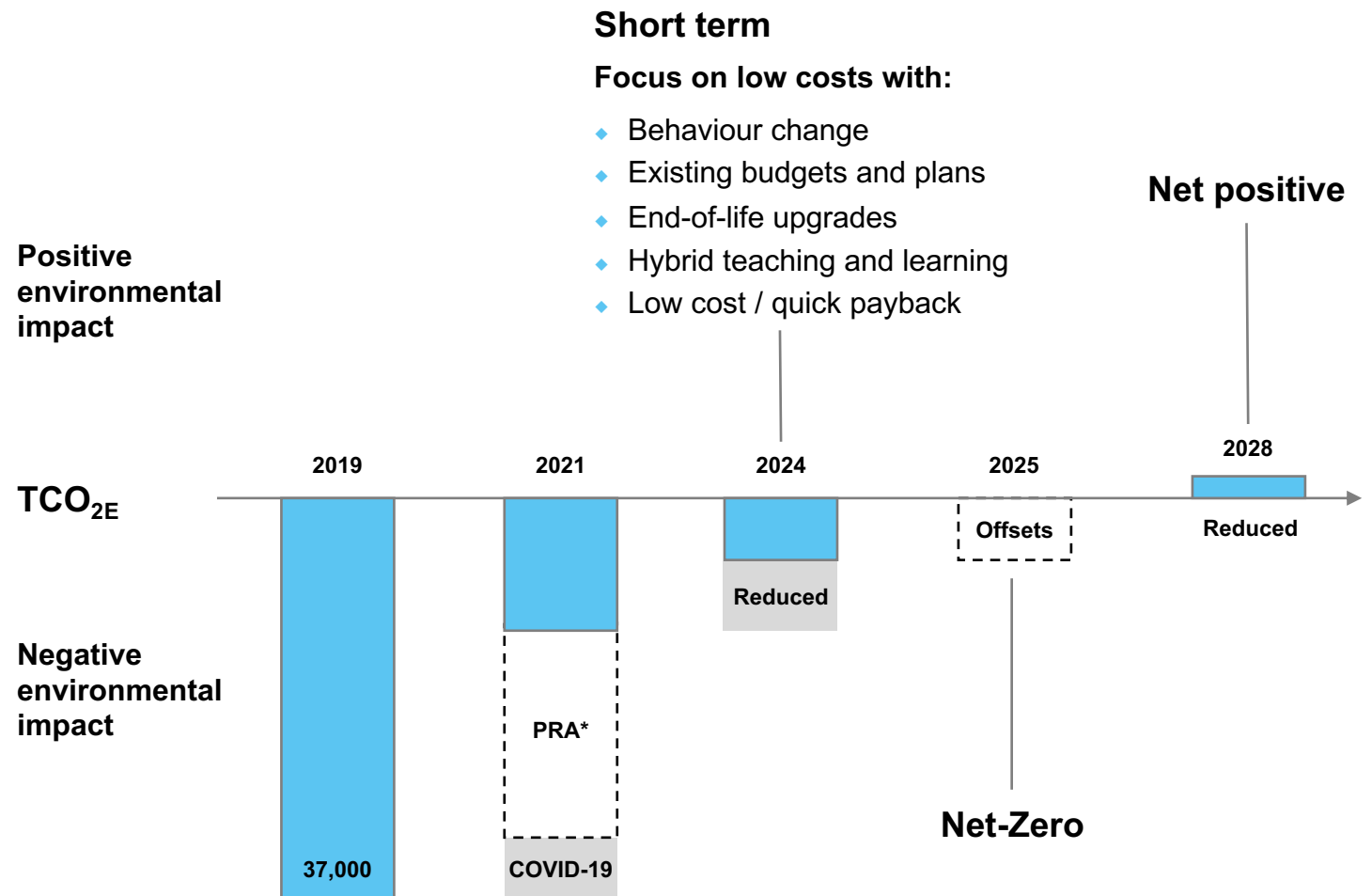
To 2025 and beyond

With a **short-term focus** on 2025, we are seeking to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions as much as is practical building upon all the work and ideas we have already established and budgeted for across our organisation and **seizing the opportunities** that the new normal of hybrid learning and teaching presents to us.

For 2025, we will then **achieve Net-Zero** status as an organisation using offsets from partnerships that share our values.

Beyond 2025, we will **continue to seek to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions** from our operations prior to offsets being attributed to our organisation.

Where technically and financially feasible we will endeavour to achieve **Net Positive** outcomes by 2028.



* Our 100% renewable power purchase agreement for electricity