

2024 Sharing Information on Progress **(SIP) Report**

College of Business and Law,
Coventry University

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About the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME)

The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) is a United Nations-supported initiative founded in 2007 that aims to raise the profile of sustainability in their classrooms through Seven Principles focused on serving society and safeguarding our planet.

PRME engages business and management schools to ensure they provide future leaders with the skills needed to balance economic and sustainability goals, while drawing attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aligning academic institutions with the work of the UN Global Compact. Driven by its mission to transform management education, PRME equips today's business students with the understanding and ability to deliver change tomorrow. As a voluntary initiative with over 800 signatories worldwide, PRME has become the largest organized relationship between the United Nations and management-related higher education institutions.



“*The PRME initiative was launched to nurture responsible leaders of the future. Never has this task been more important. Bold leadership and innovative thinking are needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).*

Antonio Guterres

Secretary-General (2017 - Present)

United Nations

”

Principles of PRME



Purpose

We advance responsible management education to foster inclusive prosperity in a world of thriving ecosystems.



Values

We place organizational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.



Teach

We transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.



Research

We study people, organizations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.



Partner

We engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.



Practice

We adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.



Share

We share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In September 2015, all 193 Member States of the United Nations adopted a plan for achieving a better future for all – laying out a path over the next 15 years to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect our planet. At the heart of Agenda 2030 are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 related targets that address the most important economic, social, environmental and governance challenges of our time. The SDGs clearly define the world we want – applying to all nations and leaving no one behind. Successful implementation of the SDGs will require all players to champion this agenda; the role of higher education is critical to this.





Purpose

We advance responsible management education to foster inclusive prosperity in a world of thriving ecosystems.

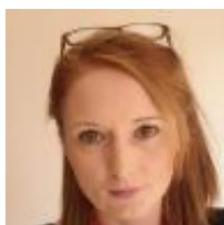
Letter of Commitment

College of Business and Law, Coventry University demonstrates its commitment to PRME's Principles through the following letter from senior leadership.



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Letter from Professor Jenna Ward, Dean of the College of Business and Law



Welcome to the 2024 Sharing Information on Progress (SIP) report. Coventry Business School is proud to have been Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRME) signatories since August 2011. Our commitment to those core principles is, perhaps, more alive today than it has ever been. In the last two years, the College of Business and Law has taken a transformational approach to embedding the sustainable

development goals (SDGs) into our undergraduate curriculum and has now embarked on a radical journey of critical reflection and reshaping our operations to ensure we are fit for delivering better futures.

Despite the turbulence in the financial markets, geopolitical terrain and the wider HE sector, the College of Business and Law remains committed to our 2030 strategy for 'Creating Better Futures: through responsible management and legal education' which enables us to build on our successes and our vision for the future. Indeed, this has contributed to significant external recognition for the University, including rising two places from 25th to 23rd in the People and Planet University League table 2023, thereby retaining our place in the first-class university category. Coventry University (CU) Group's **efforts to transition to a sustainable campus have been recognised in the 2nd edition of the QS World University Rankings: Sustainability, placing us inside the top 250 universities in the world and top 50 in the UK.** This achievement follows the [Gold Tier ranking in the Uswitch Green University Report 2023](#) and the prestigious [Bees' Needs Champions Award 2023](#) for fostering biodiversity on campus. The Group-wide commitment to tackling climate change is showcased through a number of projects, including the [Clean Futures Programme](#), which is supporting small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to develop new technology for green transportation in the UK, and the [relaunch of the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering \(AME\)](#), which is playing a critical step in the transition to electric transport manufacturing through innovative teaching and research.

As a College, we have made excellent progress on our goals for 2024 and are incredibly proud of the successes we have achieved through the newly transformed undergraduate curriculum. Over 700 students have shared an immersive and authentic learning opportunity addressing one of the Sustainable Development Goals at either a local or global scale. We are working with regional and local business, alongside the third and public sector, to open the minds of our students to the range of opportunities available to them beyond the corporate world of work.



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The focus of our student engagement activities is to promote value creation above profit creation, to nurture pro-social values within our future leaders.

Indeed, we are so committed and intellectually curious about our intentions to create more socially orientated leaders that we have commissioned Prof Haski-Leventhal of Macquarie University to help us implement her student social values survey to measure the impact of our curriculum. We are eagerly anticipating the results of the first population sample and are looking forward to sharing our findings on a global platform.

We are ambitious in our approach and are inviting challenge and partnership opportunities with our Students Union, local authorities, and our international partners. Our twenty-two trans-national education partnerships, through which we support the education of more than 3000 international students in their own countries, provides us with a real opportunity for dialogic knowledgeexchange. This year, through a series of mini and nano conferences with our TNE partners we have focused on exploring best practices for embedding sustainability and climate education into teaching and learning and offered PRME Carbon Literacy Training to both partners and our own College Leadership Team. We are committed to expanding this activity in the coming years to ensure collaborative, anti-colonial approaches to knowledge exchange, innovation and creative solutions become part of our global brand. Our preparedness to actively listen and learn will be just as much a measure of our success as our ability to influence and inform. Our values in this sense are bi-lateral and reciprocal.

We continuously foster PRME awareness in the College of Business and Law through student induction sessions, staff training, and resource sharing. At the start of the academic year and during College-wide PRME sessions, we shared the [Blueprint for SDG Integration](#). In 2023, our staff participated in the PRME Impactful Five (i5) sessions online. Subsequently, we shared the [PRME i5 Playbook](#) and hosted Professor Natascha Radclyffe-Thomas, i5 [Expert Pedagogy Group](#) (ExPeG) UK & Ireland, on our campus. Natascha returned to Coventry Campus during the annual Green Week in March 2024 to facilitate the Stage 4 i5 Europe workshop. We welcomed educators from PRME Chapter UK & Ireland and were joined online by other members of i5 Europe's Expert Pedagogy Group. The college support team circulated various staff and student PRME and sustainability opportunities through the staff newsletter, the college comms.

Our research centres are also orientated around challenge-led projects on responsible, ethical, and sustainable solutions. This approach to research is impactful but also enriches our curriculum through our research enriched learning initiatives.



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Dr Uchenna Tony-Okeke and Dr Jaliyyah Bello have won a scholarly grant from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) to develop a toolkit for integrating sustainability within pedagogy through collaborative projects. The project will also develop an adoption paper and feedback mechanism for the toolkit, for use within ACU member institutions. Furthermore, Dr Jaliyyah Bello and Professor Jenna Ward have been awarded PRME UK and Ireland (PRME UKI) Chapter Seed Funding for their project, "Responsible management education as socialisation: a longitudinal study on the impact of undergraduate curriculum on students' values, attitudes, and intentions". The project aims to evaluate the effectiveness of business schools' undergraduate curriculum in nurturing prosocial values among students.

We have much to be proud of in the College of Business and Law (CBL), however, we are equally aware of the challenges that the future requires us to respond to. As a global organisation, we must reconcile our global footprint with our desire to become Net Carbon Zero by 2030. Consequently, we have significantly reduced the number of in-person international trips we are supporting in favour of virtual field trips that are not only more environmentally friendly but are also more inclusive. We must embrace digital transformation but continually challenge and equip our students with the ability to evaluate critically, the ethics, morality, and the impact of those changes.

Our 2030 strategy has reinvigorated and empowered us to make radical and transformative changes to both our curriculum and culture. We are committed to ensuring every decision and every investment will lead to a culture of responsible and socially transformative management and legal education designed to create better futures.

Institutional Mission, Vision, and Strategy

The following outlines College of Business and Law, Coventry University's institutional mission, vision, and strategic approach to responsible management education.

College Strategy 20230

Relevant Stakeholders

Staff and students

Purpose

UK HEI

P1_Object 2_College Strategy 2030

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Values

We place organizational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.

RME Leadership Accountability

At College of Business and Law, Coventry University, accountability for responsible management education is structured as follows:

Yes, but the role is formalized elsewhere within the PRME signatory's organization (e.g., center/institute leader, faculty/staff member), but not in senior leadership team

College of Business and Law Sustainability and Social Impact Committee

The CBL Sustainability and Social Impact Committee has strategic oversight of the College's incorporation of sustainability and social responsibility throughout its academic and operational activities. The Committee is also responsible for implementing Coventry University's sustainability strategy, initiatives, and activities within the College.

The Sustainability and Social Impact Committee at Coventry University Business and Law College is dedicated to fostering a culture of environmental stewardship, ethical leadership and social responsibility. By integrating sustainability in our academic curriculum and community engagement we empower future business leaders to drive positive change. Through our efforts, we aim to shape a more equitable, sustainable world, reflecting our commitments to responsible business practices. Our Committee's Terms of Reference can be seen below.

College Sustainability and Social Impact Committee

Terms of Reference 23/24

Chair: CBL Sustainability Champion and PRME Lead, Jaliyyah Bello, ab0144@coventry.ac.uk

Secretary: Management Support Team

Purpose: The CBL Sustainability and Social Impact Committee has strategic oversight of the College's incorporation of sustainability and social responsibility throughout its academic and operational activities. The Committee is also responsible for implementing Coventry University's sustainability strategy, initiatives, and activities within the College.

The primary focus of the Sustainability and Social Impact Committee is:

- To oversee and develop a College-wide approach to Responsible Management and Legal Education.
- To ensure CBL students have the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge, and attributes to contribute to local, global, and intercultural issues, and take actions towards sustainable development challenges.
- To guide the College of Business and Law towards meeting the objectives of the [United Nations Principles for Responsible Management Education](#) (PRME).
- To contribute to the embedding of sustainability and social impact principles within the University Group, in line with [2030 Group Strategy](#).

- To curate a calendar of events for both staff and students that inspires innovative and creative action towards the sustainable development goals.
- To manage the ongoing implementation and evaluation of the Student Social Values survey.
- To ensure the College's commitments to the UN Global Compact PRME, are met on an annual basis, including the completion of the Sharing Information on Progress (SIP) report.

Objectives:

1. To contribute to staff training and development, and the raising of awareness in relation to sustainability.
2. To increase awareness and communication on sustainability to students through teaching and learning, workshops, events, and the opportunity to participate in the Sustainability Committee/subcommittee(s).
3. To promote PRME and sustainability activities to the wider Coventry University community, and collaborative partner institutions.
4. To disseminate innovation in sustainability, ethics and responsible management to local organisations, alumni, students, research partners, collaborative partner institutions and policy makers.
5. To engage with business community, supporting local businesses and charities
6. To establish subcommittees/working groups, as and when appropriate, to deal with specific aspects within the Committee's remit.
7. To report to the relevant Committees and Boards, as appropriate.

Membership:

The CBL Sustainability and Social Impact Committee comprises of staff from the College of Business and Law, the Students' Union, and the University Estates Team.

1. The constitution of the Committee is:
2. Academic Dean, *ex officio*
3. College Operations Manager, *ex officio*
4. Associate Dean Quality and Accreditation, *ex officio*
5. Associate Dean Student Experience, *ex officio*
6. Quality and Accreditation Manager
7. Up to five members of staff representing each school and Research Centres (CLS, EFA, SMM, SSL, CBiS and CFCI)
8. The College Student's Union Engagement Coordinator
9. Head of Sustainability and Environment
10. College Sustainability Champion and PRME Lead (Chair)

1. The Committee may from time to time appoint additional members from the College considered to be of relevance.
2. The Committee may also extend invitation to other colleagues from Coventry University Group, external partners, and businesses to attend any meeting(s) as it may consider necessary in the attainment of its objectives.

Quorum: 50% rounded up

Frequency of Meetings: The CBL Sustainability and Social Impact Committee shall meet three times a year (at least once per semester), this can be virtual or in person.

The Chair of the CBL Sustainability Committee will be responsible for the escalation of matters from the Committee for College Board consideration.

Formal Record: Action Grid

Reports to: College Board

Organizational Structure for RME

The following organizational entities at College of Business and Law, Coventry University are responsible for RME:

- ❖ Although, in the College of Business and Law, we do not have one particular organisational entity that is solely accountable and responsible for PRME, we do have a clear and effective governance structure that is responsible for this as explained in the narrative of question 1.



Teach

We transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.

RME Elements in Degree Programs

College of Business and Law, Coventry University integrates responsible management education into its degree programs through 6 different approaches:

Guest Speakers and Showcase Events

Examples of guest speakers and showcase events

Date

August, 2022 - August, 2024

Location


Coventry, UK

Speakers

Various speakers as shown in attachment

In line with the University and College strategies, CBL embed PRME principles across all activities including teaching and learning, research, operations and practices and community engagement. As discussed below, we aim to bridge the gap between academia and practice by engaging with industry partners through guest sessions and events.

P3 - Object 1 guest speakers and events

[View document](#) 

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Professor-Discretionary Course Topics

Examples of topics in courses

Department

College of Business and Law

Learning Object Subject

Finance and Accounting; Business and Management; Entrepreneurship

Educational Level

Undergraduate

Learning Outcome

Evaluate and critique the challenges faced by organisations from the demands of the sustainability agenda; Critically analyse the effects of the sustainability agenda on the practice of marketing; Critique the application of domestic, international, regional, and bi-national conventions relating to specific aspects of environment protection and pollution control.

Interactivity Type


Active and Social

Learning Object Description

Our academics incorporate PRME into teaching and learning through various methods. These include examples, case studies, collaborative online international learning (COIL) projects, simulations, experiential learning opportunities, dialogues, and debates.

P3_Object 2 _Examples of topics in courses

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Program-Level RME Integration

Description of degree programs with RME in the program-level learning goals and assessment rubrics

In 2021-2022 academic year, all our full-time three-year undergraduate courses in the College of Business and Law have been reviewed as part of our Curriculum Transformation Project. As part of this project, we have taken a transformational approach to embedding the SDGs and PRME Principles into our undergraduate curriculum. As of September 2023, all new UG degrees delivered in CBL reflect our commitment to the Principles for Responsible Management Education. We ensure students learn in an environment focusing on responsible management education and develop into responsible business leaders and decision makers to advance sustainable development. We are currently evaluating the curriculum's transformative impact through a longitudinal survey and have received the results of the first population sample, which we anticipate sharing with the PRME community.

Our Business and Management cluster, a group of 10 undergraduate degrees, strategically embeds aspects of sustainability throughout the curriculum. For example, students who complete our BA (Hons) Enterprise and Entrepreneurship programme should be able to, as part of their learning outcomes, evaluate the importance of an entrepreneurial mind-set for business and society and analyse how idea generation and innovation contribute to sustainable development. They should also be able to assess issues of sustainability, social responsibility, responsible leadership, and ethics, drawing on informed research sources, and critically

evaluate the role of individuals and organisations in behaving responsibly. This is achieved through case studies, industry partnerships and embedding the UN SDGs within our modules that make up the programme. For example, the Entrepreneurial Leadership module of the programme enhances students' awareness on how the five leadership qualities of Intentionality, Ambition, Consistency, Collaboration and Accountability can be applied to a business' strategy, business model, products, supply chain and operations, to create impact at scale by developing a principled approach to SDG action as an entrepreneurial leader. In the Entrepreneurial Marketing module, students explore from both a theoretical and practical perspective how entrepreneurial marketing can foster socio-economic development. To do this, students work on case studies, exploring SDG goal 17, which is complemented by a continuous dialogue with industry through guest lectures or clinic sessions.

The signatory's pedagogical approach, which includes RME in all degree program design and pedagogical innovations

Description of the Signatory Member's pedagogical approach, which involves RME in all degree program design and pedagogical innovations

Our pedagogical approach centers on fostering an inclusive learning environment that encourages active engagement, critical thinking and real life application of content learned in classrooms. By integrating diverse teaching techniques developed with both internal and external experts, including experiential learning and technology driven teaching, we aim to develop a culture of deep understanding and lifelong learning of the subject matter. Our commitment to continuous reflection ensures that our strategies remain current to the evolving needs of our students, thus preparing them to excel both academically and professionally.

Course development

All Undergraduate degrees (or programmes) at Coventry University Business School were redesigned and relaunched in September 2023. Consequently, all of our UG degrees have Learning Outcomes that are directly connected to RME and SDGs.

PRME i5 Pedagogical Innovation Sessions

Throughout 2023/2024, we have had the honour to collaborate with Professor Natascha Radclyffe-Thomas (Chair of PRME UKI) who delivered three PRME i5 sessions for us, at Coventry. One of these sessions was the European stage 4 workshop attended by fellow academics from UKI Chapter with online contributions from members Europe's Expert Pedagogy Group from European Universities. Through these sessions, we aim to improve the quality of our responsible management education, as well as our pedagogy.

The three sessions helped inspire and equip our colleagues with improved tools on how to teach students to think critically about ethical and sustainable business practices. The three workshops were very well received by colleagues particularly as they encouraged innovative teaching methods that integrate sustainability and responsibility. The i5 framework that Prof Radclyffe-Thomas introduced, provided hands-on guidance and resources on how to incorporate ethical, social and environmental reflections into our curriculum and day-to-day teaching and learning activities which were truly impactful for colleagues who attended.

Staff and students training

In collaboration with the responsible futures programme, we offer our staff training on embedding sustainability and climate education in teaching and learning. Carbon Literacy Training is offered to both staff and students and within CBL, we offered the training to our College Leadership Team. Student PRME and sustainability induction is incorporated into courses, and we continue to foster PRME awareness through staff development sessions and resource sharing.

RME is in the signatory's educational vision, so that it drives the signatory's business model and all educational efforts, courses, programs, degrees, and non-degrees

Description of the business model with RME in all educational efforts

Our business model is deeply aligned with PRME driving us to integrate sustainability, ethics and social responsibility into both our curriculum and business processes. By embedding these values into our course offerings, we have developed an UG curriculum, launched in September 2023, that equips students with the skills and knowledge to lead in a rapidly changing global environment. Simultaneously, we have started a thorough review of some of our own business practices, ensuring that they reflect the same commitment to ethical and sustainable management that we advocate in our teaching.

More focused curriculum

As part of our undergraduate degree revalidation process, we made a concerted effort to streamline our course offerings. Initially, we had nearly 300 modules (or courses), but we have since refined this to a more modern, focused portfolio of just under 200 modules across three undergraduate levels. Our college now features four distinct clusters of degrees, fostering a more student-centred educational experience, compared to the traditional, siloed degree structures. For example, in our Business and Management cluster, which comprises of 10 undergraduate degrees, students begin with a shared Level 4/Year 1. This common foundation allows students the flexibility to switch between any of the other nine degrees at the end of their first year, ensuring that they find the best fit degree for their academic and career goals.

This effort is now allowing us to focus on delivering high quality, cohesive courses. Our current structure promotes a significantly enhanced interdisciplinary collaboration among academic colleagues which subsequently leads to richer, more integrated learning experiences for our students. This is reflected in our overall student satisfaction at Level 4 which is 90%, the highest level since 2016/17.

This rationalisation of our portfolio has enabled a much greater quality oversight at College level. It is now much easier for us to integrate more innovative teaching methods (such as those discussed in the PRME i5 workshops) and to explore topics and subject areas in greater depth.

For our professional services teams, such as registry and timetabling, the reduction in the number of modules helps us reduce administrative complexity tremendously. Plenty of our processes (albeit, not all) have become more straightforward, enhancing efficiency.

Reduction of the in-person exam sittings

The pandemic has been truly transformative to the way in which we assess our students. Specifically, pre-2020, in the College of Business and Law, we used to have more than 170 in person exams, on average, during each assessment period (three in a year). These were all written on printed exam booklets with a tremendous impact on the environment. Since 2020, we made a concerted effort to move away from in-person exams to online assessments and we retain, only for Professional, Statutory and Repository Bodies accreditations, a very small number of in-person, handwritten exams, an average of 25 exams for each assessment period. Although, we have not yet measured the accurate environmental impact of our decision, we have noticed that the number of paper exam booklets we use has decreased significantly.

Course-Level RME Learning Goals

Examples of course syllabi with course-level RME learning goals

Department

College of Business and Law

Learning Object Subject

Finance and Accounting; Business and Management; Entrepreneurship

Educational Level

Undergraduate

Learning Outcome

Critical thinking; futures thinking; collaboration; cultural competency.

Interactivity Type

Active and Social

Learning Object Description

Various examples of course syllabi with course-level RME learning goals

P3 - Object 3 example of course syllabi with
RME learning goals

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Research

We study people, organizations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.

RME Elements in Research

College of Business and Law, Coventry University incorporates responsible management education into its research endeavors through 6 different methods:

Regular Research Seminars

Examples of responsibility-related regular research seminars

Date

March, 2022 - August, 2024

Location

Coventry, UK and other places

Speakers

Various speakers as shown in attachment

Examples of responsibility-related regular research seminars for the period between March 2022 to June 2024

P4 - Object 1 Examples of responsibility-related research seminars

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Research Conferences

Examples of responsibility-related conferences

Date

March, 2022 - August, 2024

Location

Various places

Speakers

Various speakers as shown in attachment

Examples of responsibility-related conferences for the period between March 2022 to June 2024

P4 - Object 2 Examples of responsibility-related conferences

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Dedicated Research Funding

Description of research funding specifically related to responsibility

Our research funding is dedicated to supporting projects that drive meaningful progress in sustainability. By prioritising initiatives that address critical environmental and social challenges, we aim to foster innovation and develop practical solutions that contribute to sustainable development.

CFCI

- A research grant was obtained from the Research Excellence Development Fund for data collection on SDGs in Mexico, Indonesia, Nigeria and Turkey.
- Obtained internal funding from the Research Excellence Development Fund 23/24 to research: Shareholder Activism/Proposals related to ESG issues.

CBiS

CBiS – Sustainable Production and Consumption Cluster

- The stakeholder trust in industrial symbiosis within the circular supply chains (funder: CU/ITB dual award PhD scheme). Development of a framework to manage risks in industrial symbiosis.
- Co-tutelle partnership on behalf of Coventry University with the University of Pretoria.
- Project Funder: Coventry University and University of Pretoria.
- Project Team: Prof Gideon Maas

Research Awards Program

Description of research awards for responsibility-related research

Our research colleagues have been honoured with external awards and funding that recognise their significant contributions to sustainability and ethical research. These accolades reflect their dedication to advancing knowledge in alignment with PRME principles and addressing sustainability challenges.

CFCI

- Award on Interdisciplinary Exceptional Awards for Studentships (IdEAS) Scheme to recruit a PhD student on Taxation, Money Laundering, Arts and Antiquities Markets.

- Trailblazers award on a PhD studentship to research NFTs and Money Laundering.
- Ethical use of AI technology as part of the Horizon Europe-funded project TRACE.
- Exploring the glass-cliff phenomenon in the appointments of female Chairpersons on FTSE350 boards, BA/Leverhulme.
- Leverhulme Research grant to support research project "Lagos State's SDGs Implementation Vision Via SMEs Inclusion Plan: Workshop on Changing the Narrative". Under Development.

CBiS

- Dr Macarena Beltran and Catherine Mazhandhu underwent an extensive mentoring programme on sustainable leadership offered by the Association for Business in Society.
- The Creative Accounting project won the Editor's Special Award from PQ Magazine in April 2024.
- Conference paper 'Why is Financial Wellbeing So Complex? Developing a Comprehensive Measure' has won best development paper for the British Academy of Management Marketing and Retail track, September 2023.

CBiS – Sustainable Production and Consumption Cluster

- Social innovation management for biobased, biodegradable plastics, Funder: ESRC
- Nudging recycling behaviour for novel materials: A case study for bioplastics (funder: BA/Leverhulme). Development of recycling intervention on bioplastic disposal by using social experiments and agent-based modelling.
- The roles of ecolabelling to promote the adoption of bioplastic packaging (funder: GCRF). Development of design rationale for bioplastic packaging.
- Uncovering major business research themes and future trends on anaerobic digestion (funder: Doctoral Training Alliance). Identification of the new business models for waste to energy.
- Domestic Science Diplomacy to Tackle Plastics Pollution: Improving Cooperation, Negotiation and Influences at the Local and Regional Levels. This project which is UKRI QR funded aimed to assist local authorities in managing the transition process by offering a tool to help manage the transition toward a circular plastics society.
- Policy Measures Needed to Better Support Frontline Community-Based Organisations in the Fight Against Hunger in the Midlands. The project is about what may enable and constrain the emergence and delivery of community-based food organisations. This was UKRI QR funded.
- Ready Healthy Eat project, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. The project brings together community food organisations across the UK to further the provision of healthy 'ready meals' made from local and surplus ingredients.
- The edible insect industry collaborated with Thailand researchers funded by Newton Fund.

- Evaluation of the Environmental impact of the Coventry City of Culture Programme. Funded by Coventry city Council.
- Project “Roadmap for accelerating transition to renewable energy through behavioural interventions in Indonesia”, Funded by RISPRO-UKICIS
- New Frontiers in Social Innovation Research: Social Innovation Management for BIOPlastics (SIMBIO) is a multi-nation project, led by Professor Benny Tjahjono and Dr Macarena Beltran, relating to increasing concerns over the environmental impact of plastic single-use packaging.
- SIMBIO – Social Innovation Management for Bioplastics for Unlocking the bioplastics supply chain (ESRC)
- Dr David Bek and Dr Jill Timms were part of a project entitled, Building Resilience in Flower Supply Chains, which was funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to provide an immediate response to the COVID-19 crisis.
- Sustainable wild harvested foliage and flowers (IDH Holland)
- Sustainable waste management at International Committee of the Red Cross garages (Red Cross)
- TechSTER: Tech students, entrepreneurial routes (Erasmus+)
- Drone delivery optimization: Network and scheduling (UKRI)

CBiS – Data, Organisations and Society Cluster

- Aviva Foundation (2024-2026) – This funded project involving CBiS and Aston Business School, together a unique mix of researchers with expertise and track record in exploring small business ownership and financial resilience, in partnership with Citizens UK. The project is exploring the financial resilience challenges faced by ethnic minority-led small businesses and how, in practice, they are really coping and growing in the current climate.
- ESRC IAA and Money and Pensions Service (2024) – This funded review draws on CBiS research and brings together the latest evidence on the value of financial conversations and their role in reducing financial vulnerability.
- Applied Disability Research Foundation (FIRAH) (2024) – CBiS is working with researchers at Royal Holloway University of London with partners in France on a project entitled “Making voices heard: Exploring opportunities and challenges of technology use for people with disabilities to engage in politics”. The aim is to investigate how technological tools, such as social media, may support or constrain people with disabilities in the development of their political interests and careers.
- EPSRC MSN Network+ (2021-2023) – This funded project examined the future lives of hydrogen fuel cells. The project undertook a feasibility study for a predictive maintenance model for automotive hydrogen fuel cells. It identified the potential for

extended lives and to reuse these fuel cells in stationary applications, such as domestic heat and power, industrial and commercial back-up generation and remotely located generation.

- Barrow Cadbury Trust (2021-2023) – Project to reduce the financial vulnerability of those susceptible to financial hardship from within Birmingham’s Muslim Pakistani and Bangladeshi (PB) community. The project will provide a resource of targeted financial guidance that is culturally and religiously appropriate for this substantially underserved group. This community is known to demonstrate high levels of financial vulnerability, compounded by the ongoing pandemic (see England’s poorest areas hit by Covid ‘perfect storm’ – leaked report, Guardian 17/02/21).
- Fair4All (2021-2022) – Access to affordable credit is crucial to financial inclusion and the point of being declined for credit is an understood moment of vulnerability for consumers. This project focuses on how community finance providers can be supported to better manage the declines process and develops tools that support them to do so. Manual and also templates were developed during the project. We worked with Swoboda Research Centre and were supported by Fair4All on this project. Our research has shown that these individuals are not always well supported by financial providers at a time when positive intervention may make a difference to their financial outcomes. Good intervention can also help improve the prospects of these people being accepted for reasonably priced credit in the future. This project co-created and then tested a range of interventions directly with community finance organisations.
- Money and Pensions Service (2022) This funded review looks at the latest evidence (published between 2018-2021) on the financially vulnerable, with a specific focus on those using credit to pay for essentials. Co-branded with MaPS and published on their evidence hub, this report identifies how people in this position might be best supported.

CBiS – Economic Transformation, Inclusion and Entrepreneurship (ETIE) Cluster

ETIE collaborates with a number of groups and Centres across Coventry University that share its research interests. Most recently, cluster members have undertaken business development activity, project development and project delivery with the Institute for Future Transport and Cities (IFTC) and Coventry University Social Enterprise (CUSE). Externally the team is also highly active with examples of project delivery presented below:

- Project Title: KEYSTONE, Project aims to support the development of a safe, sustainable and efficient transport system through enabling enforcement authorities to access data for compliance checks. This will help to support a reduction in costs and CO₂ footprint.
- Project Funder: UKRI (ESRC, AHRC and Innovate UK in combination) project, Developing Local Policy Innovation Partnerships (LPIPS).
- Project Team: Dr Andrew Jones, Dr Kevin Broughton, Dr Preetha Ramiah.
- Project Title: EventRights mobility, Investigate the impact of the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games upon accessible transport and the lives of disabled people

- Project Funder: EventRights
- Project Team: Dr Ian Brittain and Prof David Jarvis
- Project Title: Private Sector Development in Ethiopia (PSDE), Leading on WP5 with a focus on developing Universities within the Ethiopian Innovation Ecosystem
- Project Funder: Ethiopian ministry of Industry
- Project Team: Prof Gideon Maas and Dr Esin Yoruk
- Project Title: Developing and Enhancing the Implementation of Board Assurance Frameworks in NHS Scotland Health Boards: Impact on Strategic Decision-Making
- Project Funder: NHS Scotland.
- Project Team: Dr Iniobong Enang

CBiS – Sector, Economic Equality, and Responsible Finance Studies Cluster

- Vaillancourt, T., Craig, W., Kerr, G., MacMillan, H., & Webb, T. (2024). Co-Investigator - A tolerated intolerable: A longitudinal examination of youth soccer referee abuse and its impact on health. Canadian Institute of Health Research. Funding received: £732,225.
- Aliende, I. & Webb, T. Joint Principal Investigator - Analysis of the key factors influencing the beginning and continuation of football referees' careers in Europe: Improving recruitment and retention. UEFA Research Fund. Funding received: £15,049.
- Bason, T. (2023). Engaging Scotland's community voice to understand the next steps needed around gambling related harm. Bristol Hub Research Innovation Fund seedcorn award. Partnered with a gambling charity. (£10,000).
- Da Vita, G. (2023). The Leverhulme Trust Research Project Grant - 'Do higher debt levels benefit the wealthy?' Principal Applicant: Prof. Glauco De Vita 12% FTE (with Co-Is: Dr Luo Y., University of Southampton, and Dr Kyaw K. S., Cardiff Metropolitan University, both on 8% FTE replacement teaching). Research Assistant: Dr Kexing Li (Coventry University). Awarded on 22 June 2023. RPG-2023-099. Amount: £59,156. Start date: 01/12/2023. End date: 30/11/2024. Beneficiaries: The project is firmly embedded in UNSDG 10: 'Reduce inequality within and among countries'
- Brittain, I. (2023). The National Lottery Heritage Fund (Pilot Project). Partnered with the National Paralympic Heritage Trust. "Don't Dis My Ability: Marginalised voices from sport. (Principal Investigator, 2023-2024, £45,708.00).
- Garcia-Perez, A., Jones, A., Broughton, K. & Ramiah, P. (2023). Horizon Europe: 'KEYSTONE: Simplifying Cross-Border Logistics Compliance. PI: Prof Alexeis Garcia-Perez, CI's Dr Andrew Jones, Dr Kevin Broughton. Research Fellow Dr Preetha Ramiah. Total Amount: €3.8m. Start Date: 06/23. End Date 05/26. Beneficiaries: One of the project objectives concerns reducing the CO₂ footprint of users and can be connected to SDG9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure).

- Vaillancourt, T., MacMillan, H., Kerr, G., Webb, T., & Craig, W. (2023). Co-Investigator - A tolerated intolerable: A longitudinal examination of soccer referee abuse in Canada and its impact on health. Safe Sport Research Grant Program; Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC). Funding received: £53,901.
- Appleyard, L. (2022). abrdn Financial Fairness Trust, £59,845.45 (April 2022-July 2023) Your money, your life: Lived experiences of young people's borrowing' PI and Dr Hussan Aslam (Co-I). Policymakers e.g. Money and Pensions Service, practitioners e.g. Debt advice charities, and the public.
- Hancock, D. J., Sullivan, P., Cunningham, I., Mascarenhas, D., Webb, T., Livingston, L., & Gorczynski, P. (April 2022 – April 2025). Co-Investigator - Exploring sport officials' mental health. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Funding received: £117,674.

Non research centre awards:

- Bello, J and Ward, J (2024). 'Responsible Management Education as Socialisation: a longitudinal study on the impact of undergraduate curriculum on students' values, attitudes, and intentions.
- Tony-Okeke, U., Bello, J., & Sapre, N. (2023). Collaborative sustainability integration project (CoSIP). [Association of commonwealth universities \(ACU\) higher education and the SDGs challenge grants 2023](#).

Required Research Reporting

Summary of faculty-wide responsibility-related research or description of what is requested from faculty members

Our research staff hold a vital responsibility to advance sustainability and PRME related topics, ensuring that our research contributes meaningfully to ethical practices, environmental stewardship and social equity. We commit to producing research that not only informs our, and others', teaching but also drives positive change in alignment with global sustainability goals.

Centre for Financial and Corporate Integrity (CFCI)

CFCI responsibility research activities are geared towards achieving the SDG target 16.4 which calls for tangible efforts to 'significantly reduce illicit financial flows and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime'. These contribute, overall, to enhancing the achievement of SDG 16 on the promotion of 'peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

- Some CFCI members are currently researching Shareholder Activism/Proposals related to ESG issues.

- Our Post graduate researchers (PGRs) are doing research in ESG, sustainability, CSR, ESG controversies, climate change, gender diversity etc.
- Examples of CFCI-published papers on responsibility:
 - The Role of Emerging Digital Communication Emerging Technologies in Supply Chain Disruptions During COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence from Nigerian SMEs. *Annals of Operations Research*. doi: 10.1007/s10479-022-05049-9.
 - Relational governance enablers of dynamic capabilities for small and medium-sized enterprises operating in a weak institutional business market during the COVID-19 crisis. *Industrial Marketing Management*.
 - Digital Technologies, Social Entrepreneurship, and Resilience during Crisis in Developing Countries: Evidence from Nigeria. *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research*, doi.org/10.1108/IJEBR-01-2023-0012.
 - Does board–CEO age similarity affect earnings management? An Empirical Analysis from M&A Contexts. *Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting*.
 - Does Shared Tenure Between Board of Directors and CEO Matter for R&D Investments? *International Review of Financial Analysis*.
 - Does Age Similarity Between Audit Committee Chair and Engagement Partner Affect Audit Quality? *Journal of International Accounting, Auditing and Taxation*.
 - The predictive ability of share-based compensations, *Accounting and Business Research*.
 - Seven Mantras for Board Chair Effectiveness – An Enlightened Approach for the 21st Century. *Journal of Management Inquiry*.

Centre for Business in Society (CBiS)

CBiS – Sustainable Production and Consumption Cluster

The Sustainable Production and Consumption cluster focuses on the ultimate goals of living within environmental limits and the attainment of social justice, through the delivery of responsible business and ethical consumption practices. Our research projects cover areas such as waste reduction, resource and energy efficiency, sustainable community and consumer behaviours, ethical certifications, ESG (environment, social and corporate governance), disaster management and supply chain governance with a focus on operational research and decision-making.

Overview of PGR activity linked to responsibility:

- Sustainable home health care PhD thesis
- Techno-Centric Sustainable home health care planning PhD thesis
- Dealing with Cotutelle programme for Dual PhD with Deakin University Australia, ITB and ITS Indonesia.
- Some related PhD theses such as:
- How do young consumers understand the idea of 'sustainable foods'? And how do these understandings influence their purchasing behaviours?

- Equity-based Collaboration in the Coffee Value Chain to Drive Economic Development in Supplier Markets While Building a Sustainable Supply Chain
- Promoting Sustainability within Horticultural Value Chains in Southern Africa: An Investigation of a Corporate-Led Sustainability Initiative
- Sustainable Supply Chain Risk Management Assessments for the Oil and Gas Industries in Developing Countries
- Improving Sustainable Performance in the Construction Sector by Enhancing Supply Chain Resilience: The Dynamic Capability Perspective

Impact activity and support of external organisations associated with responsibility

- Establishment of working group on Plastics, Packaging and Waste in Cut-flower industry Identifying the hotspots in the cut-flower supply chain. Production of advice materials shared with sector stakeholders.
- Driving sustainability in the global cut-flowers market. This multi-stakeholder set of projects works with the cut-flower industry to better understand the sustainable risks within the industry and to identify solutions to reduce, or even eradicate these risks.
- A circular future with bioplastic packaging. This work has delved into the transition towards biobased, biodegradable plastics to better understand the industry context, by implementing a social innovation management approach through collaboration with stakeholders across the bioplastic supply chain.

CBiS – Data, Organisations and Society Cluster

Our research explores what it means to be vulnerable in this digital economy and society and the harms that can arise. In collaboration with funders, industry bodies, businesses, charities, and community organisations, we examine digital vulnerabilities such as the impact of digital surveillance on people's privacy, problems linked to digital literacy, the exclusionary effects of digital, and concerns about AI fairness. A specific focus is on population segments that are potentially vulnerable, whether for reasons of social injustice, marginalization due to protected characteristics, or lack of access to resources. Our projects have extended knowledge about discriminatory and harmful effects of digital practices, informed policy debates, contributed practical recommendations to help and support organisations, and produced implications for businesses. Understand the causes of digital vulnerability, who is digitally vulnerable, and how this vulnerability can be mitigated. We also seek to understand the causes of financial vulnerability, who is financial vulnerable, and how this vulnerability can be mitigated. Coventry University is a partner in the [Centre for Research into Information, Surveillance and Privacy \(CRISP\)](#), which examines the political, legal, economic and social dimensions of the surveillance society, including the vulnerabilities arising from it.

Overview of PGR activity linked to responsibility

The work of **Laura Di Chiacchio**, a former PhD candidate within the co-tutelle between CBiS and the Technical University of Cartagena (Spain), discusses the challenges and opportunities associated with the use of information technology to promote proenvironmental behaviours in

our relationship with natural areas. Natural protected areas are among the few institutions that have the mission and means to connect man and nature. 24% of European natural protected areas are already damaged and threatened by tourism. The Covid-19 pandemic has led to an increase in the number of 'new types of visitors' to natural areas, some of whom still need environmental education for the benefit of nature and society. In a pilot study, part of Laura's PhD research, data have been collected from natural protected areas in France, which shows that decision makers either do not understand or do not see value in the opportunities provided by information technologies to achieve their educational objectives and raise environmental awareness in new generations.

- William King, a former PhD candidate in CBiS who graduated in July 2022, examined knowledge management with Community Energy Groups.
- Shannen Gibbons, a current PhD candidate in CBiS, is researching the impact of credit marketing on the public's financial vulnerability.
- Was Rahman, a current PhD candidate in CBiS, is studying the fairness of AI that is used within HR and recruitment practices.
- Mohammad Iman, a current PhD candidate in CBiS, is examining the effects of interventions in supermarkets to remove data labels and reduce food waste.
- Sinead Ouillon, a current PhD candidate in Centre for Trust, Peace, and Social Relations (CTPSR) but co-supervised in CBiS, is researching a city's journey towards circular transition through citizen mobilisation, to understand what a people-powered transition to circular looks like.
- Stuart Kerr, a current PhD candidate in CBiS, is examining a new era of surveillance resistance in employment, looking at how employees respond to intrusive digital monitoring of their work by employers.

Impact activity and support of external organisations associated with responsibility

Reducing financial vulnerability: We recently delivered two Festival of Social Science events to reduce the public's financial vulnerability, as part of the university's ESRC Impact Accelerator Award. One provided a digital resource to help families enjoy good value days out and provide top tips for navigating the cost-of-living. The other was a face-to-face marketplace event in Coventry, bringing together organisations such as Citizens Advice, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), and the Coventry Migrant and Refugee Centre to provide help and guidance to support the public's financial wellbeing. Working with community finance firms, policy makers and the public, the CBiS team has developed practical tools for consumers, best practice guidance for practitioners and policy recommendations designed to reduce this vulnerability. These outputs include a free to use Moneyskills app, to help consumers budget, set financial goals and reduce their spending. Through collaborations with credit unions, Community Development Finance Institutions (CDFIs), Fair4All and Swoboda Research Centre we have worked to improve practices in how vulnerable consumers who are declined for credit as a result of AI credit scoring are managed, including by developing a toolkit for these organisations to use to support those who have been credit declined. Through collaborations

with Birmingham City Council, local community organisations, and local places of worship, CBiS researchers have developed impact from their research to improve the financial wellbeing of the Muslim community in the West Midlands, including through the delivery of workshops and sharing of materials with local people.

Assistive technology: We contributed to the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Assistive Technology's 'Smarter Homes for Independent Living' white paper, which examines how the elderly and disabled can use digital smart home product to live well and independently for longer.

CBiS – Economic Transformation, Inclusion and Entrepreneurship Cluster

The Economic Transformation, Inclusion and Entrepreneurship cluster (ETIE), has as its mission the aim to promote and provide tools to facilitate economic transformation, which is socially inclusive, environmentally responsible and entrepreneurial. The interests of the cluster reflect our belief in a multi-disciplinary, multi-faceted, social economic approach to understanding, engaging with and delivering economic and entrepreneurial change that is sustainable and equitable. There are four emergent themes that we perceive as representative of the Cluster's expertise, interests and current work profile. All are of significant academic interest, complement the research profile of CBiS, align closely with the stated interests of Coventry University, and are demonstrably of paramount concern to local, national and international policymakers. Most notably all four can be matched against UN Sustainable Development Goals:

- **Transformational entrepreneurialism:** The focus of this theme is understanding the learning, leadership, and innovation activities that underpin and support transformational entrepreneurship
- **Accessibility and social inclusion:** At its core mobility and accessibility factors underpin social and economic transformation. They are crucial for business competitiveness, delivery of key services, and by extension, sustaining and improving quality of life.
- **The greening of economies:** Lack of green planning can create instabilities within an economy and undermine its sustainable production and consumption functions.
- **Occupational development and structural change:** Highly skilled, highly mobile labour has created concentrations of wealth and poverty around urban centres and their periphery, with a concomitant impact on a wide range of social and economic areas

Overview of PGR activity linked to responsibility

ETIE currently has 25 Part Time and Full Time PhDs aligned against the cluster, as well as involvement by all core staff and an increasing number of associates in the delivery of the DBA programme. Cluster members are also currently conducting joint doctoral supervision and project delivery with the Centre for Creative Economies (CCE), Centre for Peace and Security (CTPSR), Centre for Future Transport and Cities (FTC) and the Centre for Global Learning

(GLEA). Finally, we also had a **Visiting Postgraduate researcher** in the last academic year: Marika Intenza, PhD candidate at University of Foggia at Italy and visiting PhD candidate at CBiS with CBiS ETIE staff

Impact activity and support of external organisations associated with responsibility

Externally the cluster is well-connected to public and private actors, as well as having a long record of engagement with local and regional policymakers. Examples include the AHRC Cities of Culture Research Network, GLOBELICS, the Midlands Engine, CIRCLE, GERPISA, Zemo partnership, as well as Coventry City Council's Transport Innovation team. Members of the team also hold valuable posts in key Midlands' organisations:

- Prof David Jarvis, Coventry University lead and invited advisory board member for The West Midlands Regional Economic Development Institute (WM REDI) [2021 – Continuing]
- Prof David Jarvis, Invited member of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) Smart Sustainable Transport working group [2021 – 2023]
- Prof David Jarvis, Coventry University lead for the Midlands Engine Research Partnership [2020 – Continuing]
- Dr Jason Begley, Board Member Journal of Midland History
- Dr Jason Begley, Trustee Birmingham & Warwickshire Archaeological Society

CBiS – Sector, Economic Equality, and Responsible Finance Studies Cluster

The capital account liberalisation and financial reforms since the early 1980s, including eased restrictions on foreign direct investment and short-term portfolio flows, are at the heart of financial globalisation. Financial openness and deregulation can be seen as an essential step in the process of economic development, but can also have detrimental effects, including higher co-dependence, contagion and likelihood of systemic crises. This research team focuses on the study of such economic and financial phenomena and how these impact on economies, industries, individuals, communities and societies, with a particular focus on responsible finances and investments. This cluster is very eclectic in nature, focusing upon the study of such economic and financial phenomena and how these impact on economies, industries, individuals, households, communities and societies. This includes the examination of wide-ranging issues, including economic growth and social development, inequality, responsible finances and investments. Furthermore, the cluster explores the implications of the cost-of-living crisis, personal debt and social hardship; mental health and wellbeing; social exclusion; plus, the implications of international trade on the SDGs.

Overview of PGR activity linked to responsibility


- Tiphaine De Valon. Fashion and sustainability: The strategy of co-creation in the fashion industry. Thesis has been submitted and examination on 26th June. (Dos Harjit Sekhon and David Jarvis). This is in collaboration with University in Spain.
- Alferea, M. Modelling engagement: The case of South Asian and their retirement plans. (DoS Harjit Sekhon and Mujahid Babu). Due for submission September 2024.

- Bhardwaj, Sukriti; 'Satellite Hosting: The Impact of the Commonwealth Games on the City of Coventry'. Expected completion 2027. (supervised by Dr Tom Bason and Dr Ian Brittain).
- Chindondo, Hillary: 'The role of economic upgrading in the coffee value chain in driving economic development in producer countries while building a more sustainable global supply chain - A case for Zimbabwe Coffee Industry Revival'. Expected Completion 2024. (Supervised by Dr Andrew Jones, Prof David Bek, Dr Marsha Smith).
- Ghouse, Suhail; 'Women and student entrepreneurship: Voices from Oman and India' (PhD by publication. Started in January 2023, expected completion in November 2024 (supervised by Prof. Glauco De Vita and Dr Jason Begley).
- Mazhandhu, Catherine; 'Does sustainability bear fruit for all? Investigating environmental outcomes of sustainability standards for agriculture value chains'. Expected Completion March 2025 (Supervised by Dr Andrew Jones, Prof David Bek, Dr Donna Udall).
- Impact activity and support of external organisations associated with responsibility
- Bason, T. (2023). Partnered with charity (Fast Forward) to win funding bid from Bristol Online Gambling Hub.
- Brittain, I. (1st May 2023) Invited Expert for the United Nations Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD) of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Expert Group Meeting on Disability, sport, and the SDGs (Online).
- Webb, T. (2024). Invited Research Member, Research Chair in Safety and Integrity in Sport (SIMS). Webb, T was invited to join the board of researchers for the Research Chair in Safety and Integrity in Sport, based at the University of Laval in Canada due to their research related to the abuse and maltreatment of sports officials.
- Webb, T. (2024). Invited keynote presentation for the Heads of Refereeing Convention event organised by the European Handball Federation in Vienna. Invited to speak on referee abuse, aggression and mental health. Attended by all heads of refereeing from countries throughout Europe.
- Webb, T. (2024) Invited keynote presentation for the 'Integrity Symposium' organised by the Welsh Rugby Union in Cardiff. Invited to speak on research related to the abuse and maltreatment of sports officials.
- Webb, T. (2024). Invited keynote presentation for the European Handball Federation on the mistreatment of referees in sport. Invited to speak online to a forum of coaches, administrators and referees from across Europe, and as far afield as Africa.
- Webb, T. (2024). Invited keynote presentation for the 'women in sport' event, organised by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. Invited to speak on research related to women sports officials and the opportunities and barriers that existed related to their recruitment and retention as sports officials.

- Webb, T. (2024). Invited expert contribution to webinar for the Ontario Soccer, Canada, Body Camera Trial Invited to contribute to an international webinar with Ontario Soccer and Reveal Media on the body-worn camera trial in Canadian and English football and the evaluation of the initial trial, which Webb, T conducted.

1. CFCI CFCI has 22 PhD students, nearly half of the CFCI PhD population are specifically researching on a variety of sustainability topics. For example, several students are working on the topics of sustainable and ethical finance and investments, including green finance, carbon trading, CSR, carbon performance, ESG controversies, sustainable funds and climate risks. The more social side of finance like microfinance and crowdfunding, are also investigated by CFCI's PhD students. Other students are studying the role of companies in promoting sustainability, like how their compliance level in environmental, social and governance (ESG) compliance affects financial and operational performances. Some students are studying the anomie and financial crime in developing countries: South Africa and Nigeria as a case study, and safeguarding girl-child's right to education in Nigeria. Similarly, the impact of diversities, e.g. cultural and age diversity, is examined among the students. To ensure the students' success in completing sustainability research, CFCI runs many support programmes such as methodology summer and winter schools, colloquium/presentation series, writing retreats and various in-house trainings. ☞ CFCI staff members support and contribute to the PhD community in different ways such as the Research Methodology Summer School, reviewers for the PhD by publications programme, subject experts for PRP Vivas, and internal examiners for our PhDs as well as acting as mentors for the CFCI (ASPIRE) members

2. CBiS CBiS – Data, Organisations and Society Cluster Our involvement in the CRISP network (<https://www.crisp-surveillance.com/>), alongside the Universities of St Andrews, Stirling, Edinburgh and Essex, is closely aligned with our interests in digital vulnerability. A recent highlight was the CRISP PhD Summer School, hosted by the University of Essex, June 2023, where privacy, surveillance and other problematic digital issues were key talking points among delegates. While there, we were fortunate to be invited to BT's national centre of tech and digital excellence at Adastral Park near Ipswich. The visit revealed the latest technological and digital advances through a series of innovation showcases, including on the smart world (5G and IoT), digital industries, health, security, and the home. CBiS – Economic Transformation, Inclusion and Entrepreneurship Cluster ETIE has a strong PGR programme presence with core staff closely involved in designing, developing, overseeing, supervising, regulating and delivering on both the PhD and DBA programmes for CBiS and the Business School. Core staff members include: ☞ Prof David Jarvis, QA, PGR and DBA support ☞ Dr Jason Begley, PGR Lead ☞ Dr Kevin Broughton, DBA Lead, Mentor PhD programme ☞ Dr Andrew Jones, Ethics Lead In addition to Seminar support and Seminar delivery alongside PGRs aligned with the cluster, staff members are also integral in the annual delivery of: ☞ CBiS Summer, followed by Winter, Research Methods Schools, a set of upskilling events designed to give doctoral candidates the most robust methodological tools available for their research projects. ☞ Monthly All PGR Day Core staff members also support Doctoral College delivery of key activities, including: ☞ Research Voice Forum ☞ Doctoral Supervision Programme (C1 - C6) CBiS

– Economic Equality, and Responsible Finance Studies Cluster  Jones, A. Research Ethics and Integrity (Local training of CBiS staff and PGRs as part of Dr Jones' responsibility for co-leading ethics within CBiS).

Other types of research support for faculty or PhD students

Our faculty and PhD students have received various forms of funding, research support and institutional resources which have been crucial in developing their work on sustainability and PRME related topics. Our support not only facilitates their research efforts but also reinforce our commitment to fostering academic excellence and impactful contributions to ethical and sustainable management practices.

CFCI

CFCI has 22 PhD students, nearly half of the CFCI PhD population are specifically researching on a variety of sustainability topics. For example, several students are working on the topics of sustainable and ethical finance and investments, including green finance, carbon trading, CSR, carbon performance, ESG controversies, sustainable funds and climate risks. The more social side of finance like microfinance and crowdfunding, are also investigated by CFCI's PhD students. Other students are studying the role of companies in promoting sustainability, like how their compliance level in environmental, social and governance (ESG) compliance affects financial and operational performances. Some students are studying the anomie and financial crime in developing countries: South Africa and Nigeria as a case study, and safeguarding girl-child's right to education in Nigeria. Similarly, the impact of diversities, e.g. cultural and age diversity, is examined among the students. To ensure the students' success in completing sustainability research, CFCI runs many support programmes such as methodology summer and winter schools, colloquium/presentation series, writing retreats and various in-house trainings.

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CBiS

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national centre of tech and digital excellence at Adastral Park near Ipswich. The visit revealed the latest technological and digital advances through a series of innovation showcases, including on the smart world (5G and IoT), digital industries, health, security, and the home.

CBiS – Economic Transformation, Inclusion and Entrepreneurship Cluster

ETIE has a strong PGR programme presence with core staff closely involved in designing, developing, overseeing, supervising, regulating and delivering on both the PhD and DBA programmes for CBiS and the Business School. Core staff members include:

- Prof David Jarvis, QA, PGR and DBA support
- Dr Jason Begley, PGR Lead
- Dr Kevin Broughton, DBA Lead, Mentor PhD programme
- Dr Andrew Jones, Ethics Lead

In addition to Seminar support and Seminar delivery alongside PGRs aligned with the cluster, staff members are also integral in the annual delivery of:

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- Monthly All PGR Day

Core staff members also support Doctoral College delivery of key activities, including:

- Research Voice Forum
- Doctoral Supervision Programme (C1 - C6)

CBiS – Economic Equality, and Responsible Finance Studies Cluster

- Jones, A. Research Ethics and Integrity (Local training of CBiS staff and PGRs as part of Dr Jones' responsibility for co-leading ethics within CBiS).



Partner

We engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.

Partnership Approaches for RME

College of Business and Law, Coventry University partners with external stakeholders to advance responsible management education through 5 different approaches:

Knowledge Translation and Dissemination

Description of partnering activities that involve informing

Our staff engage in diverse partnering activities that focus on informing and advancing sustainability and PRME initiatives. These collaborations, which include partnerships with industry, academic institutions, and PSRBs, enable us to share expertise, drive innovative solutions and contribute to the broader dialogue on responsible management and sustainable development.

Researchers from our Centre for Business in Society (CBiS) have been investigating new and more effective ways of encouraging responsible lending and borrowing, working with UK credit unions to target the source of the problems and spread knowledge of better practice across the sector. Our experts set out to improve the whole process of borrowing, focusing specifically on access to affordable credit for people with low and moderate incomes, and were involved in the development of an online tool to help people to improve their resilience against financial instability before any problems set in. The project is also improving education around saving and borrowing habits to help ensure positive change for the future. By continuing to offer help to encourage responsible lending across the sector, the researchers are influencing public debate with mainstream banks and regulators. As well as producing materials to spread the word about responsible borrowing, the team's workshops are also leading the conversation around the role of credit unions as responsible lenders.

Creative Accounting Events: A thought-provoking industry event occurred on May 18th, 2023, at Drapers' Hall. The accounting profession was "Sent to Coventry!" in a business-style dinner organised by academic researchers from CBiS and Monash University (Australia). The evening's entertainment aimed to explore how arts and performance-based methods could engage and provoke business leaders' thinking. The event was part of a bigger project known as *Creative Accounting*, which brings together an interdisciplinary team, including researchers from the Centre for Business in Society, Centre for Creative Economies, and the Centre for Dance Research (all Coventry University) and Monash University. The team organised the business dinner for eleven senior accountants to discuss two challenging topics in the profession: **sustainability** and the use of **digital technologies**.

Artists were commissioned to facilitate the evening in a creative, playful and thought-provoking manner. The evening was supported by global professional accounting bodies the *Institute of Chartered Accountants England and Wales* (ICAEW), the *Association of Certified Chartered Accountants* (ACCA) and the *Certified Institute of Management Accountants* (CIMA).

The research team collaborated with [Talking Birds](#), a grass-roots arts organisation based in Coventry. **Talking Birds** co-designed, co-led and co-facilitated the discussions on social and ecological responsibility and the use of technology in accounting. The event featured mycelium (mushroom) artist Lisa Franklin's interactive installation on sustainability.

During the event, the accountants engaged in candid discussions on various professional concerns, with sustainability and digital topics as central themes. Feedback indicated that the integration of thought-provoking experiential and performative artistic elements contributed greatly to important discussions within the accounting profession. The participants agreed that this helped to make the dinner more informal and intimate, yet structured; as one said, "art broke down the stiffness of accounting". Some of the main takeaways from the event were:

- The participants gained more awareness of the topic of sustainability, thanks to the evening's experiences and reflexive discussion.
- The event helped to reinforce their existing thinking about new ways of working in the accounting and finance profession. A number of participants commented that the event had given them increased confidence in what they are already doing in their daily job.
- Other participants felt inspired; it was a reminder of other people's mindsets, and it challenged any reluctance to make changes to improve sustainability practices and reflexive adoption of new technologies.

At a timely and critical juncture in managing global capitalisms, the initial success of this project has led the transdisciplinary research team to commit to: the acceleration of integrative forms of thinking, measurement and value within accounting and finance practice; continued development of interdisciplinary approaches within business and management, social science, and practice-research; and to organise similar future events aimed at fostering creativity, values, and imagination that drive positive change in business and the business leaders of tomorrow, ultimately creating a more prosperous, healthy, sustainable, and secure future for society.

This project has been funded by Coventry University's Quality-related Research Funding (QR) and the Arts and Humanities Research Council. The research team comprises Dr Alessandro Merendino, Professor Maureen Meadows, Professor Nick Henry and Professor Scott Delahunta (Coventry University), with Professor Nick McGuigan (Monash University, Australia). We are grateful to *Talking Birds*, Lisa Franklin, Camille Aubry and the accounting bodies ICAEW, ACCA and CIMA.

A second event, *'Creative Accounting: Growing Mindsets for Business and Finance Professionals'* was held on 24th January 2024 at Toynbee Hall in London. The event aimed to further investigate how the creative arts and playful methodologies can disrupt traditional business mindsets, build future work capacity for uncertain and complex environments, and promote more integrated approaches to business. The event featured an immersive creative experience where participants engaged with audio and visual work of art developed during the previous event - "Sent to Coventry!". The "Creative Accounting" project report was launched, and the discussions focused on how creative methodologies can be best utilised to open awareness, change behaviour and provoke new ways of thinking, preparing accountants and finance professionals for the future challenges facing their profession.

External Community Dialogue

Description of partnering activities that involve dialoguing

We actively participate in dialogue with industry and other academic institutions, fostering partnerships that advance sustainability and responsible management practices. These collaborative efforts enable us to align academic research and practices with real world challenges.

Coventry University was among the first cohort of universities to join the Responsible Futures framework & accreditation mark for embedding sustainability in learning, in 2014. Through this programme, the university engages in student-led social responsibility and sustainability (SRS) audits to maintain accreditation every two years. During the audit year, students at Coventry University, in collaboration with Responsible Futures, interview staff across the university on aspects of SRS that are relevant to the staff. We are currently awaiting the outcome of the last audit and interviews, which took place in May 2024.

We partner with businesses, the third and public sectors on sustainability challenges and opportunities. For example, in 2023, Coventry University welcomed eight Chevening Ethiopia Leadership Fellows for the Chevening Ethiopia Leadership programme. The participants were professionals from within the Ethiopian health sector, ministry of justice, a women's disability group, and environmental organisations. CBL hosted a session for the Fellows on effective collaboration towards attainment of the SDGs. Through the [University Ethical Investment Working Group](#), our staff and students engage with university fund managers to help us develop our policies and our approach to ethical investment. For instance, in 2023, we organised the Students Fund Managers Forum where students engaged directly with our fund managers on how we can improve ethical investment in the future.

Collaborative Problem Solving

Description of partnering activities that involve problem-solving

Our colleagues engage in partnering activities with industry and community organisations on collaborative problem solving projects. They apply their expertise to tackle real world challenges in sustainability and responsible management. These joint efforts not only address pressing issues but also create impactful solutions for the wider society and the industry.

Researchers at the [Centre of Agroecology, Water and Resilience](#) have worked with the Lemon Tree Trust to help transform the landscape of refugee camps with trees, plants and crops. Their project is crucial in making refugee camps greener, healthier and more productive places to live. Their poorly constructed houses, made up of plastic sheets, discarded plastic bags and pieces of cardboard, offer little protection from the burning sun and scorching heat. The initiative has used an urban agriculture project to transform the Domiz camp in the north of the Kurdistan region of Iraq, between Mosul and Dohuk, which is home to more than 40,000 refugees. At first, staff handed out seed packets and distributed olive trees within the camp, launched a garden competition and made a short film about the gardening and tree planting they were carrying out. Within 18 months, 2,000 trees had been distributed, 420 rose bushes and potted flowers given out and 450 bags of fertiliser and numerous packets of seeds had been passed around the refugees living in the camp. One of the project's biggest impacts will come from the construction of a large demonstration and training garden within Domiz camp, where camp managers and residents will offer their expertise on construction, irrigation and design. This will be the first such project of its kind within a refugee camp in Iraq.

Our [Centre for Flow Measurement and Fluid Mechanics](#) researchers are working with production companies and colleagues at the University of San Carlo to help implement a solution which removes the health risks related to the mango industry by eliminating almost all waste vegetation from the process. The country produces more than one million tonnes of mangoes each year and supports 2.5 million farmers – but the harvesting technique only uses around half of the fruit, leaving huge amounts of waste to rot in dumpsites. By using a drying technique, factories are able to turn virtually all of the plant waste into products such as mango flour and mango tea. This frees up dumpsites of hazardous material and has the added effect of generating more business for communities. The team at Coventry has now helped to streamline and automate this drying process by introducing a full end-to-end environmental monitoring system based on wireless sensor networks. The system can target temperature, humidity and air flow in the factory drying tunnel, making the whole process completely automated and more efficient. In the past 12 months, the system has already yielded

impressive results, creating an up-skilled workforce and allowing business to grow at the factory. Researchers can now use the data gathered by the networks to understand the process and produce even more effective technologies for the future.

Collaborative Change Action

Description of partnering activities that involve acting

Thanks to support from the Heritage Lottery Fund experts in our [Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience](#) are studying which bumblebee species visit gardens and allotments, and which flowers are most attractive to them.

The team is harnessing the power of citizen science and is engaging gardeners and lovers of bees from across the country to help generate a national picture of our bumblebees' habits. Using the free project app, people are being encouraged to monitor the flowering plants in their gardens and allotments and submit photos of the bumblebees that they see. Data from the research will be shared with the National Biodiversity Network, giving other organisations around the UK valuable insight into UK bumblebee populations.

Formalized Partnership Governance

Examples of formal governance structures for partnering

We have governance framework that support partnerships aimed at enacting change in sustainability and responsible management. This framework provides clear guidelines for decision making, ensuring that our joint efforts with industry and partners are strategic, coordinated and impactful.

The University has [sustainability engagement and communication plan](#) which provides information on type and frequency of activities, stakeholders engaged, delivery partner and more. Our Sustainable Development Strategy, which can be found via this [link](#), provides details of our commitments and governance to sustainable development across the University Group. We recognise the need to collaborate with our students, staff, communities and partners as communications and partnerships are critical to the realisation of our sustainable development strategy.



Practice

We adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.

RME Policy Implementation

College of Business and Law, Coventry University has implemented 6 policies to support its commitment to responsible management education:

Greenhouse gas emissions

Policies on greenhouse gas emissions

Scope

The university

Enforcement Date

March, 2024

Number Of Pages

36

Publisher

Coventry University Enterprise Limited

Media

Website

[Supporting Links](#)

Water

Policies on water

Scope

The University

Enforcement Date

September, 2014

Revision Date

August, 2030

Number Of Pages

1

Publisher

Coventry University

Media

Website

[Supporting Links](#)

Buildings/real estate

Policies on building/real estate

Scope

The University

Enforcement Date

March, 2024

Revision Date

August, 2030

Number Of Pages

36

Publisher

Coventry University Enterprise Limited

Media

Website

[Supporting Links](#)

Local staff/student/faculty transportation

Policies on local staff/student/faculty transportation

Scope

The University

Enforcement Date

August, 2022

Revision Date

August, 2026

Number Of Pages

59

Publisher

Coventry University

Media

Website

[Supporting Links](#)

Employee equity, diversity, inclusion

Policies on employee (including faculty) equity, diversity, inclusion

Scope

The University

Enforcement Date

September, 2020

Revision Date

September, 2025

Number Of Pages

10

Publisher

Coventry University

Media

Website

[Supporting Links](#)

Ethical Investment Policy; Sustainable Food Policy Statement; Fairtrade Policy.

Other policies not mentioned above

Scope

The University

Enforcement Date

June, 2024

Revision Date

June, 2025

Number Of Pages

1

Publisher

Coventry University

Media

Website

[Supporting Links](#)

Institutional Aspiration Targets

College of Business and Law, Coventry University has set aspiration targets in 6 different areas:

- ❖ GHG Emission Targets
- ❖ Water Conservation Targets
- ❖ Building and Real Estate Targets
- ❖ Internal Transportation Targets
- ❖ Employee EDI Targets
- ❖ See Coventry University Group Decarbonisation Strategy March 2024



Share

We share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.

Performance Disclosure and Transparency

Regarding transparency in RME performance disclosure, College of Business and Law, Coventry University operates with the following approach:

Full Transparency Disclosure

Website of disclosure of performance

Our University wide sustainable development reporting website.

Author

Coventry University

Published Date

September, 2021

Degree Of Recognition

International

Media Name

University website

Media Type

Reports

Duration

Various

[Supporting Links](#)

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