

Transcript of the 'Sustainable Discoveries' video

Dr Michael Ranes, Higher Scientific Officer: Climate change is a global issue we all can play our part in tackling it.

Lisa O'Fee, Senior Scientific Officer: The ICR is a world leader in cancer research and I feel that we should be leading the way and setting the example. Our staff and students really want to work in an environment that considers sustainability in everything that we do.

Professor Kristian Helin, Chief Executive of the ICR: For the ICR, sustainability means developing a work environment that contributes to the wellbeing of our staff, and minimises damage to the environment while delivering our world leading cancer research.

Alexandra Carroll, Scientific Project Manager: It's important that the ICR becomes more sustainable as we use more energy per head than any other UK university as we have such a large lab footprint.

Dr Edward Briggs, Postdoctoral Training Fellow: Just saying "reduce your carbon emissions" is quite a big and difficult problem to tackle on its own, but by having the Sustainability Action Plan, breaking it down into foundations, procurement, science and professional services, it's going to be relevant to everyone here at the ICR.

Simon Francis, Director of Estates and Facilities: It sets out clearly the actions we are going to take to deliver against the targets. It clearly states responsibilities, accountabilities and is smart in its objectives.

Alan Cumber, Deputy Director of Facilities: On the environment itself, we'll be looking to decarbonise our estate completely. Where we can start to reduce waste to use our resources more efficiently that will have a massive financial impact.

Michael: The ICR's new Sustainability Action Plan is very important in providing us as an institute with this framework.

Simon: We put in a lot of groundwork over the last few years, we've declared a climate emergency in 2020. We have created and supported the ActNow group.

Lisa: ActNow will help the ICR deliver its targets on sustainability by really being at the grassroots level.

Alexandra: ActNow have been doing a lot of different things. We've been looking into introducing a One Waste system, so all of our waste streams are unified. My colleagues in the lab have been trying to be more sustainable by taking part in the Freezer Challenge, committing to turn our ULTs up to minus 70.

Simon: Raising the temperature of our freezers can make a significant saving in energy.

Michael: Diverse voices brings us a wide variety of input and ideas.

Alan: We do a lot of great work on equality, diversity and inclusion already, but linking that to the financial and the environmental elements is so important to our new Sustainability Action Plan.

Michael: Throughout the organisation we will then hear from individual scientists, from admin workers and from students.

Simon: Focus on wellbeing for staff and students and also creating a collaborative and supportive workplace culture that really recognises difference.

Lisa: I hope the Sustainability Action Plan will focus on clear routes forward to achieving net zero by 2040. Action that will really have an impact on reducing our carbon footprint.