University of Huddersfield Water Audit

Conducted by Phil Tower, Energy Manager, Published [15/05/2025]

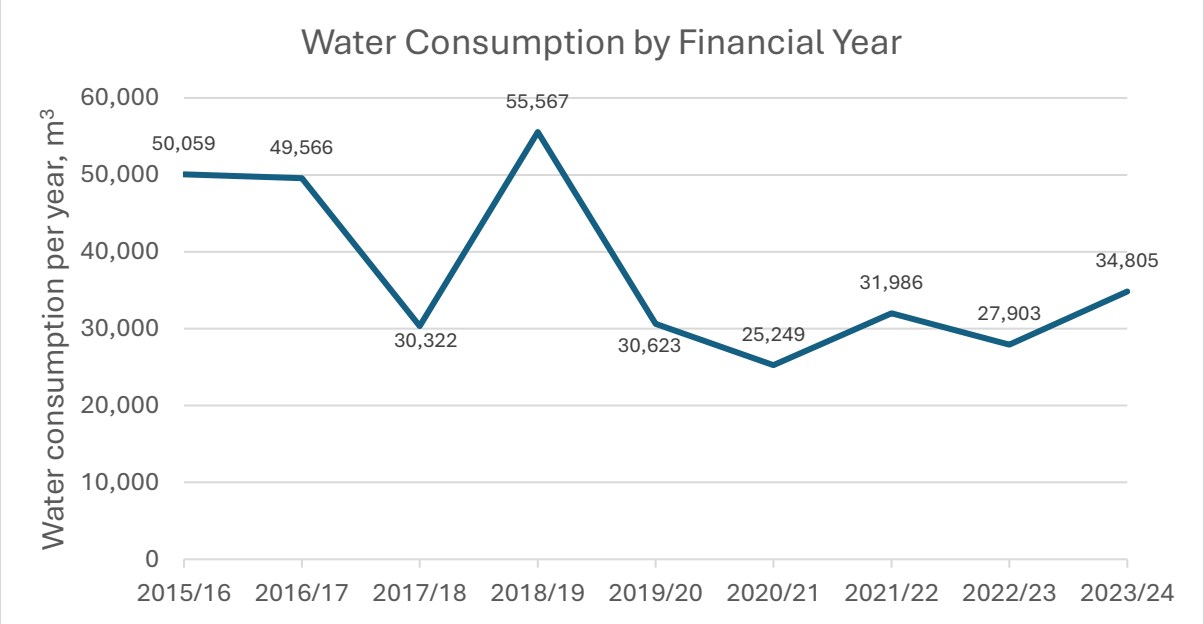
Introduction

This report summarises the findings and recommendations of an audit of Water consumption at the University of Huddersfield.

Audit Methodology

- Collect water consumption data for whole University
- Develop a baseline for water consumption
- Analyse data to identify significance any trends.
- Put forward recommendations for further research or mitigation.

Baseline



The baseline water consumption for the year 2023/2024 is 34,805 m^3 water. This is equivalent to an average consumption of 1.1 litres of water consumption per second, for every second of the year.

Findings/ Results

- Although there is no definitive trend, water consumption has reduced by 31% since covid, when comparing the previous average annual consumption of 43,227 m^3 (2015-2019) to the more recent average annual consumption of 29,986 m^3. However, the uptick in water consumption from 2022/23 to 2023/24

could be an indication of the impact of higher ‘new normal’ occupancy rates than in the years immediately following the covid pandemic.

- A close inspection of the water invoices showed that there were many meters which had not been read very frequently. This means that a significant proportion of the consumption data each year is based on an estimate, that may only be corrected every 6-18 months.

Recommendations

- Work with the water Utility supplier to increase the frequency of meter readings
- Consider installing AMR meter data loggers to increase the frequency of data and identify any leaks. This will help identify water saving opportunities.
- Work with other colleagues in Estates, other professional services, and Schools to identify causes of significant water consumption on campus.