

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Policy and Procedure

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1. Policy Statement

- 1.1** Southampton University Students' Union (SUSU) is committed to being an environmentally and socially responsible organisation and having a positive impact on the planet and people by embedding environmental and ethical practices in Union activities and operations.
- 1.2** The Chief Executive, on behalf of SUSU's Senior Leadership Team, has responsibility for overseeing the implementation of this Policy and ensuring that the necessary resources are available for implementation. The Head of Sustainability has overall responsibility for implementing and monitoring this policy.

2. Scope

- 2.1** This Policy applies to all SUSU staff, Sabbatical Officers, student officers, student clubs and societies, external contractors, vendors, and other relevant stakeholders.

3. Objectives

This policy commits SUSU to:

- 3.1** Protecting the environment and preventing pollution of air, land, and water, through our direct actions and influencing others.
- 3.2** Minimising environmental impacts, complying with environmental legislation, and continually improving environmental performance through implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMS), certified to ISO14001:2015.
- 3.3** Supporting the University to achieve its environmental objectives and deliver its Sustainability Strategy and holding it to account over its environmental performance.
- 3.4** Reducing our greenhouse gas emissions in line with the University's Sustainability Strategy.
- 3.5** Using energy and water in our buildings in a responsible and efficient way, and working with Estates and Facilities to monitor usage, improve efficiency and reduce consumption.
- 3.6** Adopting circular economy principles and following the waste hierarchy to reduce waste and improve recycling and resource use.
- 3.7** Taking environmental and ethical impacts, and whole life costs into account when purchasing goods and services to improve procurement practices.
- 3.8** Providing responsibly sourced food and drink choices in our outlets to encourage informed purchasing by customers.
- 3.9** Adopting a climate conscious approach to travel; supporting staff, student clubs and student societies to follow the travel hierarchy and use lower-carbon methods of transport where possible to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.
- 3.10** Supporting our students to take action on the climate and ecological emergency and to adopt behaviours which contribute to living within planetary boundaries.

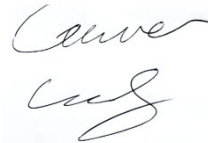
- 3.11** Providing opportunities for students to engage in sustainability issues through societies, campaigns, projects, and events.
- 3.12** Working with our suppliers, contractors, and vendors to ensure they comply with this policy and manage their activities to minimise harm to the environment.
- 3.13** Working in partnership with local communities, local authorities, and other key stakeholders to share good practice and collaborate on sustainable initiatives.
- 3.14** Promoting and communicating our sustainability initiatives and actions.

4. Review

- 4.1** This Policy is reviewed annually and is publicly available on SUSU's website.



Sonia Cottrell
Chief Executive
August 2024



Lawrence Coomber
Union President
August 2024