Example Students’ Union: Sustainability SMART Action Plan 2020-2022

This plan links to the development of sustainability within the following core Union areas: 1) Campaigning and Influencing; 2) Internal Operations; 3) Education; 4) Clubs and Societies; and 5) Sport

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| Action | Specific | Measurable | Achievable | Resourced | Time-bound | Staff Leads | Status |
| **Campaigning / Influencing** | | | | | | | |
| To reduce plastic bottle use on campus | Increase number of water fountains on campus accessible to students | Number of water fountains in student accessible areas | Supported by Union Sustainability Policy  Institution has working group tasked with reducing the environmental footprint of education. | Staff/student capacity from the Union  Financial investment requested from University | Water fountain petition launched early Semester 1  Meeting with Vice Chancellor November  Work for fountain installations in Year 2 | Leads: Sustainability Officer  Supported by: VP Communities | In progress –  Petition launched and awaiting results. |
| **Internal Operations** | | | | | | | |
| Promote use of reusable hot drink cups in SU premises | Introduce disposable cup charge and communications to increase knowledge and use of reusable coffee cups and associated offers. | Increase in number of transactions using a reusable coffee cup against baseline. | Coffee shop is managed internally – proposed change not constrained by contract  Supported by Union Sustainability Policy | Commercial budget | Year 1 launch awareness raising around issue of disposable cups / benefits of reusable cup  Year 2 introduce charge | Leads: Commercial Manager  Support: Communications Manager  Communications, Marketing and Events Coordinator | Achieved  New campus- wide disposable coffee cup charge has increased reusable cup used from 3% to 32% |
| Reduce emissions from office transport use | To reduce the GHG emission footprint that arises from Union office travel (excludes Clubs and Societies, and Sport travel). | Overall reduction in GHG emissions arising from office travel against baseline. | Supported by Union Sustainability Policy | Union staff capacity | Year 1: create baseline and establish targets  Year 2: Review transport emissions vs baseline in line with target | All staff  Support: Sustainability Officer | In progress  Staff travel baseline created |
| Reduce material resource use for Freshers / Re- Freshers | To discourage external business’s from using plastic bags for promotional events. | Develop new clause in “Advertising and Promotional Terms and Conditions” for all business partners | Supported by Union Sustainability Policy | Union staff capacity | In place by Year 1 Semester 1 | Leads: Communications Manager  Communications, Marketing and Events Coordinator | In progress |
| **Education** | | | | | | | |
| Paperless submissions for coursework | To have all coursework submitted as part of University courses submitted online | 100% of modules on campus shall facilitate online- only coursework submissions | University-backed policy – requirement of all teaching staff | Resource commitment, if needed, from University. | Year 1: introduction of policy; monitor compliance and impact | Lead: VP Education | To start |
| Keep making great ideas in to action! |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |