

# University of Stirling Students' Union: Sustainability SMART Action Plan 2018-2021

This plan links to the development of sustainability within the following core Union areas:

- 1) Campaigning and Influencing
- 2) Students' Union Operations
- 3) Education
- 4) Clubs and Societies
- 5) Sport

Action	Specific	Measurable	Achievable	Resourced	Time-bound	Staff Responsible	Status
<b>Campaigning / Influencing</b>							
Increase knowledge and use of Fairtrade products on campus	To increase knowledge and use of Fairtrade products on campus	Achievement of Fairtrade University Standard	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)  University agreed to enter FT Award Pilot	Pilot study financed by University	1 year to achieve award and then on-going	Leads: Environmental Development Coordinator  Commercial Manager  University Senior Management	In progress  University to provide Policy and Planning support for drafting new policy
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 (2019)  University "Embedding Sustainability in Learning, Teaching and Research" Working Group tasks with reducing the environmental footprint of education.	Staff/student capacity from the Union  Financial investment requested from University	Water fountain petition launched 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2019  Meeting with Vice Chancellor 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2019  Work for fountain installations in 2020/21 academic year	Leads: Sustainability Officer  Supported by: Environmental Development Coordinator  VP Communities	In progress  Water fountain campaign delivered;  Commitment from University to install water fountains in current campus development projects
Green Impact Universities	Request University participate in NUS Green Impact Universities Award	University engagement with Green Impact Universities Award	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)	Financial investment requested from University	3 years	Leads: Environmental Development Coordinator  Union President	In progress  Information supplied to University's

							Corporate Sustainability Steering Group in October 2019 for consideration
Embed campus reuse scheme – “The Fair Share” – in campus life	Increase donation weight to Green and Blue Space each year and increase use of The Fair Share scheme.  Identify and communicate positive outcomes for University to support organisational embedding.	Weight of donations to Green and Blue Space  Sales through The Fair Share	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)  University Accommodation Services staff support initiative (summer review 2017)	Union staff capacity	3 years	Leads: Environmental Development Coordinator  GBS Retail Supervisor	In progress  New carbon saving achieved for 2017/18 (71.74 tonnes CO2e)
Increase number and quality of cycling spaces on campus	Increase in bike spaces on campus  Increase in secure bike spaces on campus  Increase in sheltered bike spaces on campus	Number of bike spaces on campus  Number of secure bike spaces on campus  Number of sheltered bike spaces on campus	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)  City Deal £2.7 million success – to deliver city centre to campus active travel route.  University plans to increase staff and student numbers in future without additional car parking facilities.  New sports centre development project.	Financial investment requested from University.	3 years – in line with City Deal project lifeline	Lead: Environment Development Coordinator  Supported by: VP Communities  Union President	Achieved  Received funding for and purchased 120 new sheltered bike spaces for campus;  Currently developing new funding bid for 80+ sheltered bike spaces for off-campus residences

### SU Operations

To support ethical economics through ethical banking in Union financial arrangements	To review our current financial arrangements with Bank of Scotland and review alternatives against: a) Banking ethics b) Business usability (e.g. can the Union access all the banking services needed for our operations?)	Submit Ethical Banking Review to senior management  Union moves financial operations to most ethical bank in light of business considerations	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)  Motion put forward by GM	Union staff capacity	1 year	Leads: Environment Development Coordinator  Finance Manager	In progress  Banking review complete; period review of banking operations in future
Create link between community garden and SU commercial services	Increase the use of organic produce from the Community Garden and Orchard in Union catering	Number/weight of produce from Community Garden and Orchard used in Union catering	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)  University catering being supported by Food For Life standard	Union staff capacity  GBS garden budget	Year 1: establish growing plan and trial use of produce in catering  Year 2/3: Review and adapt	Leads: Environment Development Coordinator  Commercial Manager	Not started
Reduce carbon emissions from <u>office</u> transport use	To reduce the carbon emission footprint that arises from Union office travel (excludes Clubs and Societies, and Sport travel).	Overall reduction in CO <sub>2</sub> emissions arising from office travel.  And/or:  Reduction in the CO <sub>2</sub> emission intensity of office travel	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)	Union staff capacity	Year 1: create 2017/18 baseline and establish targets  Year 2/3: Review transport emissions vs baseline in line with target	All staff  Support: Environmental Development Coordinator	In progress  Staff travel baseline created
Improve communications regarding SU's sustainability actions	To increase knowledge among students and University staff of Union sustainability	Increase in number of Union website views of "Environmental" pages	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)	Union staff capacity  Green and Blue Space Costs budget	3 years	Leads: Environmental Development Coordinator	Achieved  Improved outreach from communication activity;

	actions and opportunities.	<p>Increase in volunteer engagement with Green and Blue Space activities and events</p> <p>Increase in student member perception of Union sustainability as benchmarked by NUS Sustainability Skills Survey</p>				<p>Communications Manager</p> <p>Communications, Marketing and Events Coordinator</p>	<p>increased number of student volunteers engaged with Green and Blue Space</p> <p>On-going monitoring in place to ensure positive changes are continued</p>
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 (2019)	Union staff capacity	In place December 2017	<p>Leads: Communications Manager</p> <p>Communications, Marketing and Events Coordinator</p>	Achieved
Promote use of reusable hot drink cups in SU premises	To increase knowledge and use among student members of reusable coffee cups and associated offers.	Increase in number of transactions within Union utilising 25p saving for using a reusable coffee cup.	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)	Commercial budget	3 years	<p>Leaders: Commercial Manager</p> <p>Support: Communications Manager</p> <p>Communications, Marketing and Events Coordinator</p>	<p>Achieved</p> <p>New campus-wide disposable coffee cup charge has increased reusable cup used from 3% to 30% (Union)</p>
Recycle single-use hot drink cups	To install, monitor and review the use of coffee cup recycling	Increase use of coffee cup recycling stations within the Union	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)	Union staff capacity	Year 1: Create baseline of how many single	Lead: Environmental Development Coordinator	<p>In progress</p> <p>Recycling point established in</p>

	stations with the Union			Coffee cup recycling station resourced by University	coffee cups are used vs recycled  Set targets for year 2 and 3  Year 2/3: review current use vs baseline in line with target	University Waste Managers  Support: Commercial Manager	Union; need to address contamination issues
Reduce printing volume within Union operations	To reduce each year the amount of printing and ink use within Union operations	Reduction in total volume of annual printing  Reduction in the volume of annual colour printing	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)	Union staff capacity	Year 1: Establish baseline 16/17 – 10% reduction target 17/18 vs baseline  Year 2: 15% reduction 18/19 vs baseline  Year 3: 20% reduction 19/20 vs baseline	Leads: Environmental Development Coordinator  Chief Executive  Commercial Manager  Financial Manager  Communications Manager  Support: All staff	Achieved  40% reduction in printing 2018/19 vs 2017/18  Ongoing monitoring in place to ensure savings made are consistent going forward

### 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 (summer 2017/18)	Lead: VP Education  Support: Environmental Development Coordinator	Achieved  Student printing across campus has reduced by 3 tonnes
To reduce resource use of energy, water	Introduction of paper-less examinations	Number of modules using paper-free exams	Potential support from Embedding Sustainability in	Union staff capacity	Year 1: action scoping	Lead:	In progress

and/or other material resources that arise from learning, teaching or research activities.	Reduction in screen brightness for public computers	Energy saving attributed to computer brightness reduction	Learning, Teaching and Research working group (University)	Resource commitment, if needed, from University.	Year 2/3: if successful after scoping, implementation and review	Environmental Development Coordinator  Support: VP Education	Established new Embedding Sustainability in LTR group within the University
Recognise efforts made by teaching staff in supporting sustainability within teaching, learning and research.	Introduce a teaching and learning award within RATE recognising staff championing sustainability within education	Number of nominations for sustainability award category for RATE  Number of votes cast for sustainability award category for RATE	Potential support from Embedding Sustainability in Learning, Teaching and Research working group (University)	Union staff capacity	Year 1: implementation of digital education award category within RATE  Year 2/3: Implementation of UN Sustainable Development Goal award category within RATE	Leads: VP Education  Democracy & Research Coordinator	In progress  RATE Award created to recognise teaching staff supporting UN Sustainable Development Goals

### Clubs and Societies

Improve clubs and societies engagement with UN Sustainable Develop Goals	To increase awareness of the UN SDGs among Clubs and Societies through Clubs Academy training.  To promote and recognise the work of Clubs and Societies that supports the UN SDGs through “Clubs Ribbons”	Number of sustainability projects or actions recognised as supporting the UN SDGs through “Club Ribbons”	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)	Union staff capacity	Year 1: Introduce SDGs at key events such as Fairtrade Fortnight to raise awareness  Year 2: introduce SDGs to Union website and showcase Club and Society engagement	Leads: VP Communities  Activities & Volunteer Coordinator  Support: Environmental Development Coordinator	In progress
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					Year 3: monitor projects and provide support for further engagement where needed		
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Sports							
Reduce carbon emissions related to transport use	To reduce the carbon emission footprint that arises from Union Sports Club activities	Overall reduction in CO <sub>2</sub> emissions arising from Sport Club travel  And/or:  Reduction in the CO <sub>2</sub> emission intensity of Sport Club Travel	Supported by Union Sustainability Policy (2019)	Union staff capacity	Year 1: create 2018/19 baseline and establish targets  Year 2/3: Review transport emissions vs baseline in line with target	Lead: Sport Development Coordinator  Sports President  Sports Union Administrator  Support: Environmental Development Coordinator	In progress  Scoping exercise of potential intervention actions explored; promotion of active travel for training / local fixtures