

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. We continue to embed environmental and ethical practices in Union activities and operations.

2. Scope

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

3. Roles and Responsibilities

- 3.1** SUSU's Chief Executive, on behalf of the Senior Leadership Team, has responsibility for overseeing the implementation of this Policy, providing strategic direction and ensuring that the necessary resources are available for implementation.
- 3.2** Heads and Managers implement the policy within their areas and teams and monitor environmental performance.
- 3.3** Staff and Sabbatical Officers follow sustainable practices, report environmental concerns and opportunities for improvement.
- 3.4** Student groups including Clubs and Societies consider environmental impacts when organising activities and events.

4. Objectives

This policy commits SUSU to:

- 4.1** Protecting the environment and preventing pollution of air, land, and water, through our direct actions and influencing others.
- 4.2** Minimising environmental impacts, complying with environmental legislation, and continually improving environmental performance through implementation of the Environmental Management System (EMS) and supporting the University to retain ISO14001:2015 certification.
- 4.3** Supporting the University to achieve its environmental objectives and deliver its Sustainability Strategy and holding it to account over its environmental performance.
- 4.4** Measuring scope 1 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions associated with operational activities and identifying potential reductions.
- 4.5** 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.
- 4.6** Adopting circular economy principles and following the waste hierarchy to reduce waste and improve resource use.

- 4.7** Embedding responsible purchasing and ethical trading practices; taking environmental and ethical impacts into account across the supply chain when sourcing goods and services.
- 4.8** Providing responsibly sourced food and drink options in our outlets and encouraging informed purchasing by customers.
- 4.9** Delivering the Plant Based Universities mandate to make plant-based meals the default option in our outlets.
- 4.10** 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.
- 4.11** Supporting students to take action on the climate and ecological emergency and to adopt behaviours which contribute to living within planetary boundaries.
- 4.12** Providing opportunities for students to engage in sustainability issues through societies, campaigns, projects, and events.
- 4.13** Working with our suppliers to ensure they comply with this policy and manage their activities to minimise harm to the environment.
- 4.14** Working in partnership with local communities, local authorities, and other key stakeholders to share good practice and collaborate on sustainable initiatives.
- 4.15** Promoting and communicating our sustainability initiatives and actions.

5. Review

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



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Chief Executive
July 2026



Krzysztof Mikulski
Union President
July 2026