

Title:	Sustainability	Date of Group Chat:	06-04-2022
Proposer name:	Ashique Salim	SID:	Vice President Business & Law
Secunder name:	Kevin Joy Divya Agarwal	SID	Vice President Science & Engineering VP Health, Education, Medicine and Social Care

Union Notes:

ARU Students' Union has a current Sustainability Awareness policy state: "The Union should commit to being a more sustainable organisation".

- The Students Union has [its strategy](#) directing the union, one of the core values is Sustainability: "We will champion wellbeing, equality and justice; make ethical decisions and help to grow a cleaner, fairer planet."
- In 2019 the Students Union alongside ARU declared a climate emergency.
- The union has committed to reducing unsustainable printing.
- The Union has supported the University to develop and Launch its new [sustainability strategy 2020-2026](#).
- The union recognises the broad scope of the term sustainability using the [sustainable development goals](#)
- Anglia Ruskin University scored 0%/15% for its sustainable food policy by the [People & Planet League Table](#)

Union Believes:

- The Union believes that each project and activity they undertake should have Sustainability and the sustainable development goals embedded into the planning and delivery.
- The Climate and ecological emergencies are one of the largest issues this generation faces.
- As an institution with Sustainability at its forefront, the union believes that members in a directorial role, board member or senior management role at ARU & ARU SU will hold values akin to those of the students.
 - The Union should commit to continuously progress and develop as a more sustainable organisation.
 - The Union staff lead by example.
- Universities should all have a plan for managing and reducing their carbon emissions, if Anglia Ruskin University has a carbon management plan
 - The University should support a staff engagement scheme (like Eco-Champions or inter-departmental green team competitions) to engage all staff across the university in environmental and ethical practice through training, workshops and projects.
- One of the most common ways to measure commitment to sustainable catering in the public sector is through the achievement of an externally assessed sustainable food awards.

Union Resolves:

- The Union will introduce a commercial review stage bi-annually and when introducing new stock to determine if there are any sustainable alternatives to products.
- Where there are products in the Students' Union's outlets that have a more sustainable alternative, they should choose the alternative, even if the profit margin is reduced.
 - The Union and Executive Committee will continue to offer and regularly promote activities and volunteering projects that relate to sustainability, such as replicating sustainability week.
 - The Union will actively promote good sustainable practices such as reducing single-use plastic in union or union-affiliated activities.
 - The Union will continue to support ARU to deliver its sustainability strategy,
 - The Union will incorporate a sustainability training programme for Union staff to lead by example.
 - The Union will continue to work with the Global sustainability Institute to facilitate the monthly student sustainability working group, which reports to the Executive committee and the Sustainable operations group.
 - The Union will continue to run a sustainability all-staff activity every year to continue to challenge themselves and generate

new ideas and collaborations.

- The Union will continue to engage with and promote ARU Green.
- The Union will review and annually report to Exec, Trustees and the student members meeting on the projects, actions and progress the union has made throughout the year.
- We will encourage SMEs and local suppliers to tender for our contracts.
- The Union will encourage the university to seek accreditation for sustainable food framework
- The Union will support the university to address the lowest ranked criteria from the People and Planet results and seek further internal development in line with relevant scores and criteria.

Policy Summary:

ARU Students' Union should have ambitious and meaningful views towards sustainability and embed positive sustainable practices into the heart of the organisation.