

# SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Title:	Sustainability	Date of Group Chat:	21/04/2021
Proposer name:	Emily Long	SID:	VP Science and Engineering
Secunder name:	Fatima Lakhani	SID	VP Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

## Union Notes:

- The current ARU Students' Union Sustainability Awareness policy states: "The Union should commit to being a more sustainable organisation"
- The Students Union has developed it's [new 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 it's new [sustainability strategy 2020-2026](#)
- The union recognises the broad scope of the term sustainability using the [sustainable development goals](#)

## 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

## 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

Policy Summary:

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

Please e-mail to Rachel Wilkenson, Democracy Coordinator at [r.wilkenson@angliastudent.com](mailto:r.wilkenson@angliastudent.com)