

University of Suffolk Students' Union

Sustainability Policy Statement

Sustainability is a huge issue facing the world in the 21st century and the majority of students in the UK are concerned about environmental issues. More locally, in the NUS' most recent (2018) Sustainability survey, 66% of students at the University of Suffolk felt that it was 'very important' or 'fairly important' to learn about 'using resources efficiently to limit the impact on the environment and other people'. The full summary is available [here](#)

In 2017/18 we received a 'very good' rating in the NUS Green Impact Campaign which gives confidence that we are making progress and that we are committed to reducing impact and improve sustainability. We also note that the University is 99th out of 124 English Universities in the People and Planet League.

We believe that:

- The Union should lead the way within the University on environmental sustainability, through raising awareness, influencing behaviour and setting a good example by 'practicing what we preach'
- The Union must improve its own environmental sustainability operationally (purchasing, recycling, reducing waste) and by raising student awareness by campaigning on and highlighting environmental issues. Progress will be reported to Student Council and via NUS Green Impact
- The Union should strive for a higher level Green Impact Student Union Award and challenge and support the University to improve its standing in the People and Planet Green League.

We will:

- Continue to meet the requirements for an NUS Green Impact Award at Good or above
- Support and challenge the University to do all that it can to exceed the requirements of their sustainability policy.
- Ensure that the Union, or an affiliated society, organises a campaign around environmental sustainability at least once per year
- Ensure all new and existing staff are informed of this policy, together with the implications that it has for their work.
- Ensure that the Executive Committee in conjunction with Union staff review this policy statement once per year