

Committee Title	Student Voice					
Date of Meeting	22 nd October 2018					
Item Number and Title/Subject	Sustainability Policy					
Paper Presenter	Rachel Simpson, Student President (or nominee)					
Brief Summary of Issues/Topic	<p>Update of and re-approval of the Sustainability Policy.</p> <p>Changes include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update of current staff lead and Full Time Officer lead for sustainability - To allow UK domestic flights, subject to Green Impact rules - Removal of “Gold” criteria for Green Impact – as accreditation ratings have subsequently been altered by NUS 					
Recommendation(s)	Information		Discussion		Approval	X
	<p>Any member can ask a question by raising their voting card and being recognised by the Chair to speak.</p> <p>Student Voice is asked to approve the changes to the Sustainability Policy.</p>					
Who have you consulted when developing the paper?	Ethical and Environmental Committee Executive Committee					
Staff/Student Protocol	Yes		No	X	N/A	
Will any decision approved directly affect the work of staff?						
Should the paper be submitted to any other committee following its consideration/approval at this meeting?	Trustee Board					
If yes, please state the committee and proposed date of submission.						



Sustainability Policy

Status	Approved <u>DRAFT</u>
Consultation with staff	28th January to 31st January 2014
Health Check by Lawyers	N/A
Executive Committee Approval	18th March 2014 <u>6th April 2018</u>
Student Voice Approval	27th March 2014 <u>22nd October 2018</u>
Trustee Board Approval	15th May 2014 <u>17th December 2018</u>
The Sustainability Policy supersedes the Environmental Policy approved by Caledonian Student Parliament in April 2009.	

GCU Students' Association

Sustainability Policy

1. Policy Statement

GCU Students' Association recognises that our operations inevitably have an impact on the environment and is committed to minimising any potentially harmful effects. Our Sustainability Policy will ensure that our operations are planned and executed in a manner that minimises environmental risks.

We will undertake all reasonably practicable measures to: comply with environmental legislation; consume fewer resources; adhere to environmental codes of practice and best practice; engage with our stakeholders on the environmental agenda; and report our environmental performance in an open and transparent manner.

We also recognise that sustainability extends beyond environmental impact and as such this policy also covers ethically driven practices to which the Students' Association has committed.

2. Accountability

Primary accountability for GCU Students' Association's environmental performance rests with the Chief Executive. The staff lead in this area is the ~~Democracy & Campaigns Adviser and the policy lead is the Vice President Wellbeing.~~ Student Rep Assistant Voice Team Leader, with support from a policy lead in the form of one of the Full Time Officers. This is decided by the Association-Executive Committee prior to the beginning of the Academic Year. However, as safeguarding the environment is an integral part of how we operate, everyone in the Students' Association has a role to play in fulfilling these commitments.

3. Our Commitments

Through our Sustainability Policy we commit to:

1. Fully comply with all environmental legislation and codes of practice.
2. Ensuring that this policy is a consideration in all procurement and business decisions.

3. Campaigning to raise awareness of ethical and environmental issues and affect change within the University and the wider community.
4. Involve our members in the work we do on ethical and environmental issues.
5. Embed this policy and information on our ethical and environmental initiatives within our staff induction.
6. Actively work to reduce our water and energy usage and to report on this on an annual basis.
7. Encourage the use of sustainable travel to all staff, members and visitors.
8. Work to m~~M~~Measure the carbon footprint of all business travel and report on this on an annual basis.
9. Only allow ~~Enforcing a ban on the use of~~ domestic flights for business travel within the rules of the NUS Green Impact accreditation-
10. Work with the University to maximise the number of opportunities to recycle on campus and promote recycling to our members.
11. Actively work to reduce the amount of non-recycled waste produced by the Students' Association and to report on this on an annual basis.
12. Purchase only 100% recycled paper and commit to purchasing stationery made from recycled materials where possible.
13. Actively work to reduce our consumption of paper and report on this on an annual basis.
14. Only purchasing tea, coffee and sugar which is Fairtrade certified for Students' Association meetings.
15. Only using water supplied from a mains source for Students' Association meetings.
16. Only using cutlery and crockery which is reusable or recyclable for Students' Association meetings.
17. Procuring products locally where possible.
18. Achieving and maintaining the NUS Green Impact Award ~~at Gold Level~~.
19. Work to support the University's attainment of Fairtrade Status, EcoCampus Status and other sustainability initiatives.
20. Review this policy at least once every three years.