

Ravensbourne Students' Union

Sustainability Policy

February 2018

Introduction:

Ravensbourne Students' Union (RSU) recognises that all of our activities, services and products have an impact on our environment, either positive or negative. As part of our commitment to sustainability, we believe that managing the environmental and ethical implications of our activities should be an integral part of good management practice and responsible corporate governance.

Through the policies and actions on the following pages, we will actively seek to achieve continual improvement of our measurement and responses to reducing the environmental impacts, and actively communicate this to all of our students and other stakeholders.

In particular, RSU will:

- SUSP.01** Establish and meet clearly defined objectives and SMART targets that address the environmental issues relevant to our operations to ensure continual improvement in our environmental performance.
- SUSP.02** Re-Use equipment where possible, increasing recycling and promoting the use of recycled materials.
- SUSP.03** Dispose of materials in an environmentally sensitive manner.
- SUSP.04** Ensure sustainable development and environmental issues are considered in the design and introduction of new activities, products, services or facilities, in order to minimise any potential adverse impacts and improve our own environmental performance and credentials.
- SUSP.05** Set an example and further our relationship with Ravensbourne and our local community to progress sustainable development and environmental initiatives as a 'transition' network, sharing any best practice that may have been discovered.
- SUSP.06** Work with other Unions who are part of the NUS, in order to share best practice and advice.
- SUSP.07** Provide support, information and training to RSU staff on sustainable development and environmental issues.
- SUSP.08** Monitor, Audit, Review and Report on our environmental performance and seek to improve that performance in the light of experiences, developments in best practice and the evolving environmental agenda.
- SUSP.09** Engage in dialogue with and disclose information to, interested parties on our environmental performance issues of the local or global environment.
- SUSP.10** Fully implement this policy, providing the necessary resources.
- SUSP.11** Enter the National Union of Students' Green Impact Award scheme on an annual basis to monitor and track progress and improvement, allowing for comparison against similar institutions.
- SUSP.12** Actively support Ravensbourne's application to be an EcoCampus.

- SUSP.13** Assist Ravensbourne in supporting any bids, applications or environmental projects that we feel would be of benefit to the students of Ravensbourne.
- SUSP.14** Work alongside Ravensbourne to ensure any new developments and facilities are as sustainable as possible, with a given budget and set of requirements.
- SUSP.15** Actively seek to elect an Environment & Sustainability Executive on an annual basis to oversee, guide and advise RSU's Executive on the necessary steps and actions that must be taken to improve performance.
- SUSP.16** Circulate any minutes, agendas or papers for Union meetings by email rather than printed hard copies wherever possible.
- SUSP.17** Support the work of Ravensbourne around sustainability where this is felt relevant and of benefit to our student members.

For Further Information: contact the sustainability officer, sustainability@ravesu.co.uk.