

The University of Exeter Students' Guild is committed to minimising its environmental impact wherever possible. This is achieved strategically and operationally through an Environmental Management System, but crucially includes educating our members about ways in which they can improve their impact on the environment. Furthermore, the Students' Guild facilitates and supports environmental initiatives which highlight current issues and provide volunteering opportunities for students.

This policy applies to all activities of the Students' Guild and aims to:

- Demonstrate a commitment to protect the environment, and ensure that all applicable environmental legislation and compliance obligations are adhered to and fulfilled.
- The Guild is also committed to the continual improvement of its Environmental Management System and environmental performance. Clear quantifiable objectives and targets will be set and communicated.

- Continual improvement will be achieved through the accreditation to the international standard ISO14001 and participation in the NUS Green Impact schemes. Such initiatives are rewarding and should be continued.
- Put in place appropriate controls to prevent pollution.
- Furthermore, the Guild will hold the University to account on all environmental issues and ensure that it both makes targets and meets them.
- The operation and implementation of this policy is expected to be primarily guided by the Head of Facilities & Central Services and a designated Sabbatical Officer. However, the entirety of the Students' Guild should support this policy.

Waste and Recycling

- The Students' Guild is committed to ensuring that all possible recycling facilities are used to the best extent. The Guild should take the lead in recycling and waste disposal initiatives and therefore ensure

that all waste is disposed of in the most environmentally friendly way possible.

- The Students' Guild supports various groups of environmentally aware students, has an elected official responsible for the environment (DVP Sustainability) and has an elected Sabbatical Officer responsible for ensuring that environmental objectives are pursued. The Students' Guild will support any interested student or elected officer in lobbying the University or local authorities over waste and recycling issues especially via Student Ideas.

Energy Consumption

- Energy awareness initiatives are commonplace, and the Students' Guild fully supports these initiatives. Either the elected Sabbatical Officer or the DVP Sustainability Officer will work in conjunction with any interested parties on the promotion and organisation of energy awareness initiatives, for example Go Green Week or Student Switch Off.

Sustainable Procurement

- The Students' Guild is committed to sourcing environmentally friendly produce wherever appropriate and possible. Ethical sourcing and 'food miles' should be taken into consideration.
- The Students' Guild is committed to procuring and promoting Fairtrade/ethically sourced products wherever possible. Within this, the Guild will support Fairtrade Fortnight each year.
- The use of plastic where unnecessary (e.g. plastic bags) is unacceptable and the Students' Guild will act to reduce the use of plastics wherever possible. The objective is to become 'plastic bag free' and replace plastic disposable cutlery with renewable wood.

Achievements:

- We have held ISO14001 accreditation since 2013. ISO14001 is an internationally recognised standard for Environmental Management Systems.
- We have achieved NUS Green Impact Gold & Excellence since 2012. This year NUS Green Impact

has changed slightly with a more challenging workbook and a focus on the operations of the Students' Guild.

•The work of the Students' Green Unit enabled many student led projects to take place between 2013 and 2017. We are extremely pleased that the Green Unit will continue to run. Check their Facebook page for more details: <https://www.facebook.com/studentsgreenunit/>

We strive to improve year upon year adapting to the various changes within a vibrant student environment.

Do you have an environmentally friendly idea for the Students' Guild? Submit it

here: <http://www.exeterguild.org/change/ideas/>

The Chief Executive of the Students Guild and the Sabbatical Officers through the General Management Committee have ultimate responsibility for the environmental performance of the Students' Guild. All Students' Guild staff have a responsibility in delivering this policy.

