

YORK ST JOHN STUDENTS' UNION ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

York St John Students' Union recognises that it has a responsibility to the environment above and beyond regulatory requirements. Action on all parts of this policy will be the responsibility of all officers and staff. The Ethical and Environmental Officer will work with the General Manager to ensure the continued implementation of the policy.

Legislation

- We will keep an up to date register of environmental legislation pertaining to the Students' Union.
- This register will be reviewed in October of each year and reported to the AGM.
- We will ensure that we comply with relevant environmental legislation.

Paper

- We will minimise the use of paper in the offices
- We will seek to buy recycled and recyclable paper products whenever possible
- We will recycle everything we can

Water and Energy

- We will seek to reduce the amount of energy we use as much as possible.
- Lights, computers, photocopiers, games machines etc will be switched off when not in use, and heating adjusted with energy consumption in mind. The energy consumption of new products will be taken into account when making purchasing decisions.

Purchasing for all Areas

- We will reduce the amount of supplies that we need.
- We will seek to buy more environmentally friendly products.
- We will actively source fairtrade clothing for Sabbatical Officers and Union Councillors.
- We will seek to only purchase equipment from the Government's Efficient Technology list at <http://www.eca.gov.uk/etl/find/> when appropriate.

Students' Union Refits

- We will ensure that all refit briefs for the Students' Union will include a requirement to be energy efficient.
- We will lobby the University to ensure that their refit briefs include a requirement to be energy efficient.
- We will actively source furniture products from certified sustainable sources.
- We will lobby the University to actively source furniture products from certified sustainable sources for their refits.

Recycling and Waste Disposal

- We will either re-use, recycle or reduce in all areas.
- We will encourage students to re-use, recycle or reduce everything they can.
- We will provide recycling bins in offices and the Fresh Coffee Bar

Maintenance and Cleaning

- Cleaning materials will be as environmentally friendly as possible without compromising on quality and depending on budgetary constraints.
- Materials used in refurbishments will be as environmentally friendly as possible without compromising on quality and depending on budgetary constraints.

Transport and Getting to Work

- We will promote the use of environmentally friendly forms of transport by staff, volunteers and students.
- We will make additional efforts to accommodate the needs of those using public transport or bicycles.

Monitoring and Improvement

- The Ethical & Environmental Collective will continuously monitor our environmental performance and will report regularly to Union Council and the AGM on our progress. The previous year's environmental report will be discussed at the first meeting of Union Council each academic year.
- As far as is possible, we will monitor our energy consumption for improved environmental performance.
- We will monitor our use of products and supplies such as office paper, paper towels, glasses, plastics etc to ensure a steady reduction in consumption.
- We will set aside any savings that we make through our environmental initiatives in order to invest in more efficiency projects and so ensure continuous improvement.

Culture

- We will educate and involve staff, officers and students in the implementation of this policy, aiming for greater commitment and improved environmental performance.

Approved at AGM 4/12/07