**Staff and student environmental engagement strategy**

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**Last updated:** June 2024  **Review date:** June 2024

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**Introduction**

As stated in the University’s Environmental Sustainability Strategy, engagement is central to our environmental sustainability activity. It is how we share ideas, knowledge and research, inspire discussion, debate and creativity, and listen to and work in partnership with our staff, students, external communities and Cultural Institutions to achieve our sustainability commitments. As global environmental sustainability challenges continue to grow we will tailor our engagement approaches to support and empower those who can create the greatest change. We recognise the need for innovation, leadership, diversity, and collaboration and will adapt our systems and processes to further enhance our sustainability impact. Our engagement objective is to provide opportunities for our staff, students and external partners to engage with sustainability and take meaningful action, personally and professionally.

Commitments:

• Foster engagement specific to the core ambitions of the strategy.

• Provide staff with the skills and techniques to embed environmental sustainability into plans, policies, processes and everyday activities that are recognised and valued within the institution.

• Support the embedding of sustainability within teaching and learning by taking a partnership approach with our students and communities.

• Collaborate to maximise our research impact to sustainability.

• Focus on sustainability leadership with sustainability built into University training.

• Support leaders and managers, enabling them to learn the skills and confidence to take sustainability action.

• Develop and agree strategic partnerships to engage our communities to support proven natural solutions to capture carbon, restore the natural world and enhance environmental sustainability.

Engagement is tracked through feedback and data from engagement programmes, events, website and social media.

**Staff engagement activities**

| **Activity** | **Responsibility** | **Resources** | **Timeframes** | **Reports into** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Making a Difference awards | Office for Social Responsibility | * Annual awards ceremony * Guidance on applications * Videos made of each winning entry | * Applications open annually in January * Ceremony: annually in May | Social Responsibility Governance Group |
| Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF) | Environmental Sustainability Team | * Regular meetings for faculties * Virtual space to share resources | * All year | Environmental Sustainability Committee |
| Social responsibility newsletter | Office for Social Responsibility | * Monthly digest of social responsibility activity and events | * Published monthly | Social Responsibility Governance Group |
| Sustainability seminars | Sustainable Futures | * Latest sustainability research and practical examples * Opportunity to discuss issues with experts | * Regular events are listed on the [Sustainable Futures website](https://www.sustainablefutures.manchester.ac.uk/events/) | Sustainable Futures Board |
| Social media channels | Environmental Sustainability Team | * Twitter * Instagram * Facebook * Yammer * Regular takeovers of the University’s main channels | * Content scheduled daily * Regularly updated calendar of varied themed events | Environmental Sustainability Team |
| Sustainability Network | Environmental Sustainability Team | * Space for staff to share news, ask questions etc | * Ongoing | Environmental Sustainability Team |
| Sustainability Squad | Environmental Sustainability Team | * Regular meetings to share engagement plans across the university and provide a space to collaborate on sustainability issues and activities | * Monthly | Environmental Sustainability Team |
| Sustainability Action Month | Environmental Sustainability Team | * A month full of sustainability engagement activities and events run by internal staff, students and external partners | * Scheduled every April | Environmental Sustainability Team |
| Active Travel Breakfasts | Faculty of Humanities and Environmental Sustainability Team | * Breakfast events for active travel staff * Opportunity to interact with active travel charity stands and physiotherapists | * Quarterly | Faculty of Humanities |
| Green Together | Faculty of Science and Engineering | * Sustainability in science and engineering research showcase | * Scheduled every March | Faculty of Science and Engineering |

**Student engagement activities**

| **Activity** | **Responsibility** | **Resources** | **Timeframes** | **Reports into** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sustainability Champions | Environmental Sustainability Team | * Induction * Regular meetings with ES Team * Guidance for running events etc. | * Open for new registrants in September each year | Environmental Sustainability Team |
| Making a Difference awards | Office for Social Responsibility | * Annual awards ceremony * Guidance on applications * Videos made of each winning entry | * Applications open annually in January * Ceremony: annually in May | Social Responsibility Governance Group |
| Social responsibility newsletter | Office for Social Responsibility | * Monthly digest of social responsibility activity and events | * Published monthly | Social Responsibility Governance Group |
| Sustainability seminars | Sustainable Futures | * Latest sustainability research and practical examples * Opportunity to discuss issues with experts | * Regular events are listed on the [Sustainable Futures website](https://www.sustainablefutures.manchester.ac.uk/events/) | Sustainable Futures Board |
| Social media channels | Environmental Sustainability Team | * Twitter * Instagram * Facebook * Yammer * Regular takeovers of The University of Manchester’s main Instagram channel | * Content scheduled daily * Regularly updated calendar of varied themed events | Environmental Sustainability Team |
| Stellify | Student Development and Community Engagement | * Sustainability Challenge * Social Justice Challenge * Workplace Ethics Challenge * The University College for Interdisciplinary Learning * Volunteering * Step up and lead | * All year | Social Responsibility Governance Group |
| Volunteering | Student Development and Community Engagement | * Volunteering hub * Volunteering Team * Students’ Union | * All year | Social Responsibility Governance Group |
| Sustainability Careers Fair | Careers service | * Careers service hub * Instagram * Facebook | * November during green careers week | Careers Service |
| Sustainability Action Month | Environmental Sustainability Team | * A month full of sustainability engagement activities and events run by internal staff, students and external partners | * Scheduled every April | Environmental Sustainability Team |
| Green Together | Faculty of Science and Engineering | * Sustainability in science and engineering research showcase | * Scheduled every March | Faculty of Science and Engineering |