Staff and student environmental engagement strategy

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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
Estates and Facilities newsletter	Directorate of Estates and Facilities	• Monthly digest of news across estates and facilities	• Published monthly	Directorate of Estates and Facilities
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	Sustainable Futures Board
Social media channels	Environmental Sustainability Team	• Instagram • Facebook • Viva Engage • 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	• Monthly	Environmental Sustainability Team

Activity	Responsibility	Resources	Timeframes	Reports into
		university and provide a space to collaborate on sustainability issues and activities		
Sustainability Squad focus action months	Environmental Sustainability Team and the Sustainability squad	• Three ES themes selected to run three months full of sustainability engagement activities and events run by internal staff, students and external partners	• Schedules three times a year, typically October, April and June	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
Sustainability fair	Environmental Sustainability Team	• Events to welcome both internal and external teams and organisations to promote a specific sustainability theme	• Scheduled twice a year	Environmental Sustainability Team

Student engagement activities

Activity	Responsibility	Resources	Timeframes	Reports into
Sustainability Champions	Environmental Sustainability Team	• Induction	• Open for new registrants in September each year	Environmental Sustainability Team

Activity	Responsibility	Resources	Timeframes	Reports into
		• Regular meetings with ES Team • Guidance for running events etc.		
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	Sustainable Futures Board
Social media channels	Environmental Sustainability Team	• Instagram • Facebook • 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

Activity	Responsibility	Resources	Timeframes	Reports into
Volunteering	Student Development and Community Engagement	• Volunteering hub • Volunteering Team • Students' Union	• All year with a particular focus for student volunteer week in February	Social Responsibility Governance Group
Sustainability Careers Fair	Careers service	• Careers service hub • Instagram • Facebook	• November during green careers week	Careers Service
Sustainability squad focus action months	Environmental Sustainability Team and the Sustainability squad	• Three ES themes selected to run three months full of sustainability engagement activities and events run by internal staff, students and external partners	• Schedules three times a year, typically October, April and June	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
Sustainability fair	Environmental Sustainability Team	• An event to welcome both internal and external teams and organisations to promote a specific sustainability theme	• Scheduled twice a year	Environmental Sustainability Team
University Living Lab	Sustainability Teaching and Learning	• Partnerships between students and organisations for sustainable development through assessment • Living Lab student champions to run events and campaigns	• Ongoing	School of Environment, Education and Development