

Environmental and Ethical Report – Bath University Students’ Union (Dec 2006 – Dec 2007)

Bath University Students’ Union (BUSU) made a commitment in 2006 to work towards being perceived by students, staff, the University and outside organisations as an ethical and environmental Students’ Union. In 2006 BUSU was pleased to be awarded Bronze status in the Sound Impact Awards and since then a number of initiatives have been in place to further reduce the environmental impact of the SU.

These include:

- Refurbishment of the coffee bar and removal of energy intensive pizza oven – this has significantly reduced the amount of electricity used
- Working in partnership with the University e.g. promotion of Energy Challenge and Student Energy Saving Competition
- Continued with NUS Services ethical retail campaign, Sound Ethical Choice – Fair Trade Product stocked in Retail outlets
- Inclusion of questions on ethical and environmental issues in the SOS survey - a high proportion of students identified the SU as being ethical and environmental and have given excellent suggestions for further improvement which will be incorporated into the SU Ethical and Environmental Action Plan
- Introduction of Bags for Life in the Retail outlets
- Lobbied the University for Recycling Bins – now available on campus)
- SU Staff encouraged to look at working practices in offices – staff questionnaire circulated to review current situation identified areas of good practice as paper recycling, plants in offices, use of mugs (not disposable cups), emails reminding staff to turn off lights/computer monitors etc
- Monitoring of separately metered SU areas undertaken
- Energy Champion appointed
- An Environmental Audit was undertaken to identify areas for improvement and an action plan has been developed
- Transport training includes efficient driving techniques to minimise fuel use
- Supported Fair Trade Fortnight – commercial area promotions and support for SU activity groups
- Continued to support student activities such as One World, Vegetarian Society , SIFE (Students’ in Free Enterprise), Rag and Volunteer Opportunities such as Bath University Student Community Volunteers, Avon Wildlife Trust , Bath City Farm, Bath Organic Group, BTCV, Envolve, The National Trust, Prior Park Landscape Garden and Bath Skyline, RSPB etc

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Dec 2007