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**This Union Notes:**

1. That UCLU does not have a comprehensive Sustainable Development policy incorporating Environment and Ethics.
2. That UCLU currently only has 'working towards' accreditation under the Sound Environmental Impact Award scheme.
3. That UCL is below number 100 in the People and Planet Green league.
4. That aspects of this policy will have resource and/or financial implications.

**This Union Believes:**

1. That it is important to minimise UCLU's environmental impact.
2. That it is important for UCLU to have a comprehensive Sustainable Development Policy in order to help the Union develop a sustainable approach to its activities.
3. That UCLU should aim for the highest score it can get in the Sound Environmental Impact Award Scheme, as well as aiming to attain the specific awards.
4. That College's environmental image reflects on the Union's image, and so we should work to improve both.
5. That UCLU should be willing to meet the resource and financial implications inherent in this policy.

**This Union Resolves:**

1. To mandate the CSO and the EEO to work to raise our Sound Impact score as high as practical.
2. To mandate the CSO and the EEO to ensure that this motion and the policy are widely publicised to the student body.
3. To mandate the CSO to look into meeting the resource issues.
4. To adopt the following commitments:

When it comes to Environmental and Ethical issues, UCLU has a poor record. As such this policy is has been created with three objectives in mind: first to enshrine in the collective consciousness of the Union the belief that such issues are of great importance; second, to act as a foundation and framework from which to develop our Union in a sustainable fashion; and third to help us

minimise our Environmental impact as soon as we can. It should therefore be read with these goals in mind.

## **1. Definitions**

**1.1** 'As far as practical': particular considerations which could render something impractical include cost (particularly when working to a budget) and other resource implications, time implications, quality of the service/facility. Despite this however none of these considerations will automatically override sustainable concerns.

**1.2** 'Green check list': a checklist of considerations to be taken into account when organising and planning events, in order to minimise their environmental impact.

**1.3** 'Sound Impact Awards': NUS Sound Environmental Impact Award scheme.

**1.4** 'Environmental Initiatives': schemes run by UCLU or its members designed to promote or encourage sustainable behaviour.

## **2. Operational**

### **2.1 General**

- i. The Communications and Services Officer (CSO) and the Environment and Ethics Officer (EEO) are responsible for ensuring that this policy is fully implemented.
- ii. The CSO in particular holds responsibility for ensuring that UCLU keeps the sustainable development of its facilities and services on the agenda when both long and short-term strategies are considered.
- iii. UCLU commits to partaking in the Sound Impact Awards scheme each year.

### **2.2 Transport**

- i. UCLU commits to arranging travel in such a way as to minimise the impact on the environment.
- ii. In particular by prioritising travel methods as follows: walk, cycle, bus, tube, train, plane.
- iii. UCLU will not fund domestic flights for staff or students, and will endeavour to discourage short haul flights in general. A Domestic flight in this context only includes flights in the UK.
- iv. Further UCLU commits to maintaining a register of business travel including distance, mode of transport and purpose of the trip.

### **2.3 Renovation/Maintenance**

- i. When renovating any areas within the Union, UCLU commits to ensuring that those areas are made as environmentally efficient as is practical, through the use of appropriate appliances and fittings.
- ii. UCLU commits to ensuring that its facilities are maintained, as far as is practical, in such a way as to minimise their impact on the environment. This includes making necessary changes when areas are particularly inefficient.

### **2.4 Legislation**

- i. UCLU commits to holding a register of all relevant legislation on environmental issues.
- ii. It further commits to ensuring that it abides by all legislation relevant to Student Unions, and will lobby UCL on issues relevant to Colleges.

## **2.5 Reporting**

- i. UCLU commits to including a section on our sustainable development in the Annual Report each year.

## **2.6 Events**

- i. UCLU commits to running all of its events in such a way as to keep their environmental impact as small as is practical, by following the Union's Green checklist.

## **3. Meetings**

### **3.1 Sustainable Development Steering Committee:**

- i. UCLU commits to set up a formal committee: the Sustainable Development Steering Committee (SDSC), which shall:
  - a. Oversee implementation of this policy and other related policies
  - b. Oversee the completion and the submission of the Sound Impact workbook each year,
  - c. Discuss proposals for promotions and events aimed at raising awareness of environmental issues.
  - d. Commission surveys
  - e. Deal with any other business deemed appropriate by the membership of the Committee.

### **3.2 Sustainability Forum**

- i. UCLU mandates the EEO to hold a periodical meeting open to all students at which they can be updated on the Union's environmental projects, and air their views on what we should be doing. The EEO should report back to the SDSC.

## **4. Procurement**

### **4.1 General**

- i. When quotes are necessary for a purchase at least one should be for a sustainable alternative where practical, and this alternative should be given priority where the cost implication is not too great.
- ii. When tendering for services UCLU commits to including environmental and ethical considerations in the initial brief where appropriate to do so.

### **4.2 Office Supplies**

- i. UCLU commits to sourcing, where practical, sustainable office supplies.
- ii. In particular UCLU commits to sourcing 100% recycled paper for photocopiers and printers.

### **4.3 Commercial Services**

- i. UCLU commits to ensuring that its Commercial Services source sustainable products where practical.
- ii. In particular:
  - a. Food packaging should be biodegradable/recycled,

- b. Electrical appliances (particularly fridges/dairy decks) should be energy efficient where possible.
- c. Increased use of reusable mugs, plates and cutlery.

#### **4.4 Printed Material**

- i. UCLU commits to sourcing sustainable printed material where practical; this includes, fliers, posters magazines, newspapers, leaflets etc.
- ii. UCLU commits to ensuring that no publications are overprinted, and that as many copies as possible are recycled.

#### **4.5 Fairtrade**

- i. UCLU commits to procure Fairtrade products as per the joint Fairtrade policy of UCLU and UCL.
- ii. UCLU commits to sourcing Fairtrade uniforms for staff.
- iii. Fairtrade products should be locally sourced where practical.

### **5. Waste Management**

#### **5.1 Reduction**

- i. UCLU commits to reduce the amount of waste produced as best as possible
- ii. In particular:
  - a. Through monitoring and controlling the use of appliances such as Printers/Photocopiers.
  - b. Through minimising the use of expendable food packaging in catering outlets (such as paper cups and plates etc).

#### **5.2 Reuse**

- i. UCLU commits to reuse as much waste as possible, in particular paper and other office supplies and furniture.

#### **5.3 Recycling**

- i. UCLU commits to ensuring the proper segregation of as much of our waste as practical so that the UCL's waste management system will be able to recycle as much as possible.
- ii. This includes ensuring that recycle bins are as accessible as possible.
- iii. In particular UCLU commits to recycling print cartridges.

### **6. Water and Energy**

#### **6.1 Energy Audit**

- i. UCLU commits to arranging a full energy audit of itself, and further commits to future audits as and when it becomes necessary/appropriate.

#### **6.2 Energy Contracts**

- i. UCLU commits to raise the issue of green energy provision with UCL.

#### **6.3 Toilet facilities**

- i. UCLU commits to ensuring toilet facilities are as sustainable as possible, particularly through the installation of dual flushes on cisterns, and water saving devices on urinals.

## **6.4 Monitoring usage**

- i. UCLU commits to monitoring its energy and water usage wherever practical.

## **7. Awareness**

### **7.1 Environmental Initiatives**

- i. UCLU commits to running at least one initiative per term, and should aim for more than this. Further to this, initiatives should be spread across UCLU services rather than focused on one area, in order to maximise their visibility.
- ii. UCLU commits to running a freecycling event at the end of each academic year.

### **7.2 Website**

- i. UCLU commits to maintaining a current page on the website concerning our Environmental Initiatives relating to sustainable development.

### **7.3 Campaigns**

- i. UCLU commits to support student led campaigns on matters relating to sustainable development.
- ii. UCLU commits to recognise and support the national Go Green Week
- iii. UCLU commits to lobby college on matters relating to sustainable development when necessary.

### **7.4 Green Champions**

- i. UCLU commits to assisting UCL in finding student representatives for their Green champions Scheme
- ii. Further UCLU commits to having Green Champions from each of its own departments, broken down as follows: Marketing (1), Sports and Recreation (1), Commercial Services (1), Membership Services (2, from different areas), Finance, House/IT/HR (1).