

Responsible Futures Project Plan 2022 - 2024

Project Summary

Introduction

Responsible Futures is an externally-assessed certification from SOS-UK of a whole institution approach to social responsibility and sustainability (SRS). By 'whole institution', that is a Partnership between the Students' Union and the University.

The scheme provides a framework for action that will help facilitate institutional change. The accreditation mark recognises and celebrates progress being made along a journey of change, rather than it being certification of an endpoint. Once awarded accreditation lasts for 2 years. UW has held accreditation since 2015 and most recently reaccredited in June 2022. The Sustainability Strategy Group provides the forum for the monitoring of the Responsible Futures Project Plan, developed jointly by Worcester Students' Union and the University, which seeks to build on our accreditation successes and set out a pathway for development and successful reaccreditation.

The key recommendations from the June 2022 re-accreditation audit were:

- Enhance vertical, horizontal, and interdisciplinary collaboration on work related to Responsible Futures - interdisciplinary learning opportunities (Susthingsout, Carbon Literacy, cross-disciplinary sustainability challenges).
- Widen breadth of student opportunities to progress SRS (opportunities for students to connect their interests with sustainability and link with their timetables, competitions and links to other Societies, etc.)
- More communication regarding sustainability work undertaken by University and SU.
- Further monitoring and evaluation of sustainability work – demonstrating impact.

The RF Project Plan 2022 -2024 is a live document shared by the University and the SU. Progress on actions will be RAG rated and fully reviewed in December and June within each academic year, with a report to the Sustainability Strategy Group at those points.

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Element	current situation	actions next period				Owner	Progress
		Semester 1 2022/23	Semester 2 2022/23	Semester 1 2023/24	Semester 2 2023/24		
1 RF accreditation audit. KPI – accreditation retained with improved score	Draft report of the June 2022 audit received August 2022.	Review audit and recommendation s at meeting of SSG and develop project plan.	Monitor project plan progress at June SSG meeting.	Review project plan elements and progress at October SSG.	Prep for re-accreditation audit summer 2024.	KB/HB/SU engage ment manager + officers	S1 2022/23 Regular RF catch up meetings with SU planned every 6 weeks. Meetings throughout 2023 & 2024 S1 2022/23 Live action plan developed.
2 Embedding SDGs in the formal curriculum. KPIs – - Number of UW courses mapped to SDGs - % of educators/ students participating in Teach in - WBS PRME report published	L and T Strategy has education for sustainable futures as one of the key goals. Social responsibility is one of the five key graduate attributes. Activities to highlight Fairtrade in the formal curriculum (linked to SDG 8 and 1)	Delivery of TE workshops on embedding the SDGs. SAPs project on ESD in the curriculum. QAA ESD & QA processes project .	Participation in the SDG Teach-in. Participation in Fairtrade Fortnight. Delivery of TE workshops on embedding the SDGs. SAPs project on ESD in the curriculum. QAA ESD & QA processes project report	WBS – PRME report. Second SAPs project on ESD in the curriculum.	Participation in the SDG Teach-in. WPI Sulitest project. Second SAPs project on ESD in the curriculum.	HB/ KE-P/ DQED	First ESD SAPs project completed June 2023 – report and presented at UW Land T Conference. Second ESD SAPs project approved but no students recruited, not progressed. QAA project completed May 2023. Presented internally to QA&E staff and

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							<p>externally Advance HE online workshop.</p> <p>Comms circulated for SDG Teach in March 2023 & 2024. Significant increase in participation in 2023 by staff (8th overall) and students (10th overall). 2024 dip in participation but still ranked 10th for staff engagement.</p> <p>Comms circulated for Fairtrade Fortnight (Feb 2023). Passed Fairtrade audit in April.</p> <p>LDTE ESD workshops for; Early Years July 2023, Psychology Nov 2023, open for all staff, online</p>
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								<p>May 2024.</p> <p>WBS second PRME report submitted Dec 2023.</p> <p>WPI Sulitest project completed April 2024.</p>
3	<p>Embedding sustainability – EfS curriculum projects.</p> <p>KPIs –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of projects - Number of community of practice (CoP) members, - metrics on CoP activity 	<p>Learning for Responsible Futures (LfRF) scaffolding projects (call 6 – two projects).</p>	<p>Explore setting up ESD Community of Practice</p>	<p>Learning for Responsible Futures (LfRF) scaffolding projects (launch call 7).</p> <p>Launch ESD Community of Practice.</p>			HB	<p>LfRF project launched Nov 2023 and student researchers recruited – two projects submitted but not progressed.</p> <p>CoP not launched yet</p>
4	<p>Measuring engagement of students in sustainability and impacts of RF work</p>	<p>SuLiTest for all students registering</p> <p>SOS-UK Skills Survey</p> <p>UW Travel/ Sustainability Survey</p>	<p>SuLiTest for all students registering September 2022</p> <p>SU promotion and analysis of</p>	<p>SuLiTest for all students registering Jan-March 2023</p> <p>Analysis of UW Student/ Staff</p>	<p>SuLiTest for all students registering September 2023</p> <p>SU promotion</p>	<p>SuLiTest for all students registering Jan-March 2024</p> <p>Analysis of UW Student/ Staff</p>	KB/HB/SU engagement manager + officers	<p>SuliTest Sept 2022 – 696 enrolled, 518 completed. Test open for S2 2022/23 starters, but</p>

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<p>KPIs –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - numbers taking SuLiTest & outputs - Response rate to surveys 		<p>SOS-UK Skills Survey</p> <p>Launch of UW Student/ Staff Travel/ Sustainability Survey</p>	<p>Travel/ Sustainability Survey</p>	<p>and analysis of SOS-UK Skills Survey</p> <p>Launch of UW Student/ Staff Travel/ Sustainability Survey</p>	<p>Travel/ Sustainability Survey</p>	<p>few enrolled. Sept 2023 – 501 enrolled, 396 completed. Test open for S2 2023/24 starters and WPI project looking at engagement (see 2 above). STO post to go up once WPI project completed after May 2024.</p> <p>SOS-UK Skills Survey 2022/23 - 537 Worcester responses (5th overall for responses). 2023/24 - 463 Worcester responses. Summary posts on STO.</p> <p>Travel survey launched Nov 2022 open until March 2023. Surveys in 2024 ends 31st May Posts on STO.</p>
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5	<p>Student action for EfS</p> <p>KPIs –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number signed up to sustainability opportunities register - Number in sust network and activities - Number of course reps attending training 	<p>Welcome Fair</p> <p>UWSU Sustainability Network</p> <p>Course Reps training</p> <p>GGW</p> <p>Fairtrade Fortnight</p>	<p>Welcome Fair</p> <p>EfS/SDG session at course reps conference.</p>	<p>GGW Feb 2023</p> <p>Online training resource?</p>	<p>Welcome Fair</p>	<p>GGW Feb 2024</p>	<p>KB/HB/SU engage ment manager + officers</p>	<p>Course Rep conference January 2023. Approximately 20 students (reps) attended the sustainability Workshop at the Rep Conference. Approximately 92% of 398 Course Reps were received training in 2022-23 which included sustainability induction and introduction to the SDG's</p> <p>GGWs Feb 2023 & 2024 took place (including SOS-UK 3Ds workshops).</p> <p>All training for students is mapped to the SDG's and students are educated about them throughout the sessions.</p>
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6	<p>Embedding sustainability in SU operations/strategy</p> <p>KPIs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of staff booked on to fairtrade fun - Number of students completing green check list. - All job descriptions linked to sustainability 	<p>Mapping SU operations to the SDGs</p> <p>Club/Society Green Checklist</p> <p>Officer/SAB roles</p> <p>SU Strategy</p>	<p>15 minutes of Fair-trade fun</p>	<p>Green checklist for SU clubs and societies & training</p>			<p>SU officers/ SU engage ment manager</p>	<p>10 members of SU staff received session "15 minutes of Fairtrade Fun" in May by student Gabi.</p> <p>Student Groups are encouraged to complete a Green Checklist throughout the year and are TeamWorc Points for doing so. Five student groups submitted a completed Green Checklist in 2022-23</p> <p>Sustainability written in all staff roles and sustainability training given to all new staff and new Officers.</p> <p>SU Strategy – SU to receive support with embedding sustainability into strategy.</p>
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7	<p>Embedding Sustainability in SU campaigns</p> <p>PIs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of artwork with SDG's on - Elections – number of freebies given out/number of freebies made sustainable - Number of items donated to community cupboard - Feedback given during Speak Week and Network Week - Achieving Very Good or above in GISU 	<p>SSO GI</p> <p>Speak Week Repair café Think before you ink Community Cupboard</p>	<p>Launch of GI 2022/23</p> <p>15 minutes of Fair-trade fun</p>	<p>Report of GI projects 2022/23</p>	<p>Launch of GI 2023/24</p>	<p>Report of GI projects 2023/24</p>	<p>KB /SU officers/SU engagement manager</p>	<p>Sustainability added to EDI committee and in All-Staff meetings.</p> <p>SDGs on all promotional materials.</p> <p>Network Week</p> <p>Cost of living campaign – including community cupboard</p> <p>Elections – reduced freebies</p> <p>Volunteering linked to SDG's</p> <p>Operational Plan</p> <p>Period dignity campaign</p>
8	<p>Work with Careers and with Alumni</p> <p>KPIs –</p> <p>Number of events</p> <p>Number people</p>		<p>Engage Careers with RF criteria re skills/ knowledge impacts</p>	<p>GGW careers session</p>				<p>Discussion with Careers re RF.</p> <p>GGW Green careers session delivered Feb 2023 and Feb 2024.</p>

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<p>engaged Linked In and Eventbrite analytics</p>							<p>KB working on creating 2 graduate alumni digital creative posts. – not approved.</p> <p>WPI project Jan- May 2024 green careers in secondary schools.</p> <p>Linked In posts promoted responding to Change Agents UK and Sanctuary Housing.</p>
<p>9 Communication/ dissemination https://www.worcester.ac.uk/documents/communications-and-community-engagement-strategy.pdf KPI – Metrics on media posts</p>	<p>STO Digital creatives Comms plan</p>	<p>Comms plan developed Digital creatives recruited. STO posts</p>	<p>Digital/STO posts following Comms plan</p>	<p>Digital/STO posts following Comms plan</p>	<p>Digital/STO posts following Comms plan</p>	<p>Comms, SU officers/ SU engagement manager, digital creatives</p>	<p>Posts produced of key events, campaigns, survey findings. WSU Promotion of SOS UK survey and Go Green Week across social media platforms.</p>

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10	Carbon literacy training KPI -	University and SU have declared a climate emergency (carbon neutral by 2030). Need for further training and awareness raising.	Deliver CL training to staff and students.	Deliver CL training to staff and students. Develop plan for mass-student CL training opportunity.	Develop plan for mass student CL training opportunity. Train students as trainers.	Mass student CL training event.	KB/GS/SE	Further take-up of CL training by staff. Mass training event approved 14 students appointed, training commencing April 2024.
11	Networking and dissemination KPIs- - Number of RF events attended - Number of presentations, etc. - Metrics for media posts	Engage with SoS-UK RF partnership network. Disseminate practice via media posts conferences and publication.	Attend planned SoS-UK RF partnership catch-ups & support afternoons	Attend planned SoS-UK RF partnership catch-ups & support afternoons Decarbonisation /decolonization workshop in GGW	Attend planned SoS-UK RF partnership catch-ups & support afternoons	Attend planned SoS-UK RF partnership catch-ups & support afternoons	HB/KB/WUSU	All RF cohort catch ups attended to date; Oct & Nov 2022 and Jan & Feb, April, May 2023 and 2024 RF Support afternoon attended Dec 2022 (Partnership working), March 2023 (Employability). WSU attended initial discussions about Running out of time and offered guidance about recruiting SUs. And 2024

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Version 1- November 2022.

SSG update – March 2023. Updated 20.4.23, updated April 2024