

# Responsible Futures Project Plan 2020 - 2022

## 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 April 2020. 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 April 2020 re-accreditation audit were:

- Ensure that the SU has a stronger voice/role in the partnership.
- Ensure evaluation of all RF activities.
- Shape student expectations and experiences of ESD in the formal curriculum, ensure this is more embedded and there are clear opportunities for students to assess their engagement.
- Gain feedback on the impact of RF work on students.
- Communicate RF work more extensively to the student/staff body and more widely to local communities.
- Enhance awareness of social sustainability issues.
- Engage with other RF partnerships to share good practice.

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	Element	current situation	actions next period				Owner	Progress
			Semester 1 2020/21	Semester 2 2020/21	Semester 1 2021/22	Semester 2 2021/22		
1	RF accreditation audit.	Full report of the April 2020 audit received August 2020.	Review audit and recommendations 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 2022.	KB/HB/TH-B/SU officers	RF audit report discussed and plan developed. Plan reviewed through SSG meetings.
2	Embedding SDGs in the formal curriculum.	New L and T Strategy approved July 2020 – education for sustainable futures one of the key goals.	Strategy for embedding SDGs to LTSEC for approval.	Participation in the SDG Teach-in.  Development of a workshop for course teams on embedding the SDGs	Delivery of workshops to course teams.  Development of SDG curriculum mapping.	Participation in the SDG Teach-in.  Review impact of strategy for embedding SDGs.	HB/DLTQE	Strategy approved by LTSEC and monitoring through university LTQE plan. Increased participation in SDG teach-in including SU sessions/inputs during the two weeks 2021 & 22. ESD Workshop developed and delivered to course teams in 2021-22 academic year. Social responsibility one of UW 5 graduate attributes to be included in all

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								courses.
3	Embedding sustainability – EfS curriculum projects.	Review 'Learning for Responsible Futures' (LFRF) scaffolding projects.	2020-21 LFRF proposal call launching in New Year.  Explore SoS-UK 'For Good' platform.	Projects proposals reviewed and agreed new projects to start.	Review LFRF scheme for re-launch.		HB/KB	Inquired about 'For Good' – no further action.  LFRF 5 launched Jan 2021 – one proposal received, not accepted. LFRF 6 launched March 2022 – three proposals received to date and under review.
4	Measuring engagement of students in sustainability and impacts of RF work	Preparation for launch of SuLiTest for all new student starters in August 2020.	Review results of SuLiTest uptake by Sept 2020 starters	Invite S2 starters to take SuLiTest.  WPI project on student engagement with sustainability (with SoS-UK co-sponsor).	SuLiTest available to be taken by new starters in August 2021.	Invite S2 starters to take SuLiTest.  Further WPI project on engagement with wider cross universitywork.	HB/KB/THB	SuLiTest made available 2020 but late so limited engagement. Also available for S2 starters and better % uptake. Made available 2021 S1 much improved uptake. Made available to 2022 S2 Nursing intake.  WPI projects completed 2021 (3

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								groups) & 2022 (4 groups).
5	Student action for EfS	UWSU Sustainability Network established.	Sustainability Network chair as member of SSG  EfS/SDG session at 'Repsival' for course reps.	Review strategy for engagement of course reps with SDGs and EfS.	Develop course rep role descriptor to include sust. and develop supporting training for reps.		HB/TH-B/SU network	Sustainability Network established and chair participating in SSG.  SDG session at Repstival did not take place S2 2020/21. Session delivered at Repstival S1 2021/22.  SDGs and inclusivity part of SU course reps training.
6	Embedding SDGs in SU work/campaigns	Beginning of mapping SU work to the SDGs	Develop mapping of SU activities and campaigns/posters the SDGs.	Embedding SDGs into Elections training and delivering Network led SDG teach in sessions. Delivering SDG newsletters for SU staff.	Green checklist for SU clubs and societies sustainability awareness raising with other societies and networks eg BAME, LGBTQ+, etc.  SU staff training in SDGs		TH-B/SU network	Mapping complete  SDGs now included in all SU design requests to ensure mapping across all promotions  SDG Teach-in Sessions took place.  Staff newsletters sent out.  SU staff training on SDGs

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								delivered.
7	<p>Communication dissemination</p> <p><a href="https://www.worcester.ac.uk/documents/communications-and-community-engagement-strategy.pdf">https://www.worcester.ac.uk/documents/communications-and-community-engagement-strategy.pdf</a></p>	<p>STO Digital creatives Comms link- two new students recruited to the team. review site and back office over the summer</p>	student lead content	Continue in semester two	Promoting research active colleagues	Cont in semester 2	KB	<p>Excellent student STO teams – number of posts developed.</p> <p>Instagram campaign S1 2022.</p>
8	Carbon literacy training	<p>University and SU have declared a climate emergency (carbon neutral by 2030). Need for further training and awareness raising.</p>		<p>Launch carbon literacy training in GGW Feb 2021.</p>	<p>Wider dissemination of carbon literacy training to students and staff.</p>	<p>Extended into community</p>	KB/GS/SE	<p>CL training delivered to UW staff and external social housing organisations S1 and S2 2021/22. Further training planned for June 2022.</p>
9	Networking and dissemination	<p>Engage with SoS-UK RF partnership network.</p> <p>Disseminate practice via media posts conferences and publication.</p>	Attend planned SoS-UK RF partnership catch-ups	Attend planned SoS-UK RF partnership catch-ups	Attend planned SoS-UK RF partnership catch-ups	Attend planned SoS-UK RF partnership catch-ups	HB/KB/WUSU	<p>Worcester attendance at all catch ups.</p> <p>Meeting with Keele SU officers 2021.</p> <p>Advance HE ESD conference</p>

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							<p>April 2021.</p> <p>Attendance at SOS-UK RF support days.</p>
Further ahead work programmes				<p>PRME alumni Awareness raising SWAY Education in Climate Emergency SU coms</p>		<p>KB T H-BEL</p>	<p>PRME accreditation for WBS 2021.</p> <p>SWAY presentation on Sustainability at UW developed and added to sustainability web pages.</p>

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