

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF OUR OPERATIONS

Nottingham Trent Students Union is committed to reducing our own environmental impacts. As such, we have documented our most significant environmental aspects and impacts. These impacts are both direct (e.g. resulting from operations at our premises or whilst travelling on company business) and indirect (e.g. resulting from operations outside of the company such as emissions from power stations producing electricity). The emphasis is on direct impacts as they are much easier to influence and reduce, although we do cover indirect impacts where we have the realistic potential to work with outside agencies, such as suppliers, to reduce our collective environmental impacts.

We have used the definition of an aspect as "... an element of an organisation's activities or products or services that can interact with the environment" (ISO, 2004).

We have used the definition of an impact as "... any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partly resulting from an organisation's environmental aspects" (ISO, 2004).

Headline figures

Average energy usage past 3 years electricity: 1224707 Kwh

Average energy usage past 3 years Heating: 973194 Kwh

Recycled 3.2 tonnes of glass from our venues saving around 1 tonne of CO2 entering the environment

100% of Glass, paper/card, plastic, food and cooking oil recycled.

From September 21st 2017 – 19th March 2018 our shops sold 9125 single use carrier bags.

No.	Aspect	Impact	Steps to Reduce
1	Gas and electricity usage in Union buildings	Usage of fossil fuels; contribution to climate change	The main union building at City Campus was traditionally amongst the highest energy usage buildings of the entire NTU estate on a per sq./m basis although monitoring was difficult due to the layout and complexity of the building and its users. The new City campus building is still fairly new, however it has achieved BREEAM Excellent and includes comprehensive energy monitoring and control. Currently 100% of the student unions electricity is provided from renewable energy sources (green tariff). On Average the Students union uses 1270415 Kwh in electricity annually.
2	Wastage produced from our trading operations including retail, bar and Costa outlets.	Energy usage - during manufacture, delivery and disposal – usage of fossil fuels; contribution to climate change; air pollution Disposal to landfill - contribution to climate change; land degradation and land useage	At NTSU we are avid recyclers all of bars, retail and Costa outlets fully recycle any wastage that is recyclable. Currently we recycle 100% of glass plastic and paper/cardboard waste, this equates to 1.7 Tonnes of glass recycled saving around 524 kg of Co2 entering the environment (data from http://www.packagingfedn.co.uk/images/reports/Enviro_Report.pdf) We sold 9125 single use carrier bags in the first two terms of 2017-2018 academic year we are going to put steps in place to reduce this for 2018-2019 academic year.
3	Waste produced from freshers fair	Use of natural resources on print materials. Waste to landfill	We have a policy that bans plastic bags in our freshers fair on paper is allowed we also stopped balloons being used at our event. We have event staff on hand to litter pick outside of our venues and surrounding area to ensure no litter is caused by the event All waste from the fair (where applicable) is recycled
4	Catering	a) Farming - animal welfare; habitat loss; species loss; land degradation; pollution from fertiliser and pesticides b) Transport (food miles) - contribution to climate change; air pollution c) Supply chain issues - workforce welfare; animal welfare d) Food waste – contribution to landfill; land degradation e) Water usage – resource depletion; contribution to climate change	Policy to be presented to reinforce existing practice on only using free range eggs. Policy to be produced to only use British bacon accredited to a certain standard (probably the Red Tractor?). Policy to be produced to encourage local food supply where possible. Use the campus allotment composter.
5	Travel – on company business	Usage of fossil fuels; contribution to climate change; air pollution	Speed restrictors are fitted on all minibuses to reduce fuel usage. Minibus training includes efficient driving guidance. Ensuring correct vehicle is used for the correct job i.e. not having 3 people in a minibus. Minibus training (for all drivers) includes efficient driving guidance. Over the past three years our Fleet vehicles have averaged around 55,000 miles per year. Averaging around 25.1 tonnes of CO2 direct from tail pipes and the upstream effects of diesel production and 23Kg of NOx+PMs. Policy to be written on car sharing; with other institutions if necessary i.e. Nott'm Trent and Uni Nott'm travel together to sports events etc.
6	Production of Print materials (e.g. for Events and Events) but also day to day office workings	Raw material usage, excessive quantities produced due to bulk purchasing of printing is cheaper. Causes litter and mess and could be wasteful	We regularly use WFM Print which have a green ethos they never use recycled paper due to the chemical needed to dye it but do use products from sustainable forests, their ink is all vegetable based and 40% of the energy used in their factories comes from solar power. Instant Print is another company we use who are certified ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 14001:2001 and use FSC raw products. Propose a policy to enforce more a sustainable approach i.e. not overprinting due to bulk costing, if bulk ordering do it for promotions with no ending and will be used all year. Enforce flyering staff to collect/pick up their waste, and recycle. Recycle bin is provided next to the flyer storage area for any out of date flyers. We have a large focus on Digital engagement serious investment has been made to ensure our digital offering can compete with print based media. We have introduced cloud based collaboration and as an organisation we are transitioning to Microsoft Teams to increase workflow and productivity but also reduce the need to travel for meetings and print hand outs etc.
7	IT usage	Energy usage (electricity when in use) – contribution to climate change	Encourage a culture of shutting down computers and turning off monitors. Encourage 'undocking' culture when using a laptop and external monitor so the laptop isn't being powered when the battery is 100% promote longer life of battery and reduce energy use. Purchase more efficient computers/equipment. And carry out an audit of the IT equipment we currently have in the students union. Ensure IT equipment is included in Shutdown Procedures.