

# Engaging our students and staff with sustainability and the well-being of current and future generations

While Bangor University is directly responsible for many of the impacts of its operations, it relies on its community of students and staff to contribute significantly to modifying its overall impacts through personal and group actions. The University actively encourages its students and staff to make long lasting and far-reaching sustainable behaviour changes to not only enable it to make continual sustainable improvements to institutional operations and practices, but also to enable those students and staff to take their new behaviours into all areas of their lives both within and outside the University.

## Our students

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Our students are central to everything we do here at Bangor. We know that they are passionate about sustainability. NUS surveys<sup>1</sup> for many years have revealed that:

**89% say they agree their place of study should “actively incorporate and promote sustainable development”**

**82% would like to see “sustainable development actively incorporated and promoted through all courses”**

**67% say “sustainable development is something they would like to learn more about”**

Both **Bangor University** and **Undeb Bangor** (the Students’ Union) have sustainability as a strategic enabler, and our students can take direct sustainable action according to the [Undeb Bangor Sustainability Statement](#) as well as through the University’s strategic plan: [Strategy 2030 - A Sustainable World for Future Generations](#) (see below for an overview).

## Our staff

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Sustainability is embedded throughout our strategic plan which emphasises its importance as a central organising principle of the University’s vision, values, and strategic enablers. By acting in accordance with our strategic plan, staff are empowered and enabled to embed sustainable behaviour change throughout the University, both amongst colleagues and with our students.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://sustainability.nus.org.uk/research/sustainability-skills-survey>

## Strategy 2030 at a glance – A Sustainable World for Future Generations



## Student & staff involvement in sustainability governance, management, development, and delivery

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Students are represented on the majority of University committees dealing with the policies and strategic decisions of the University. Oversight of the development and ongoing monitoring of our various sustainability policies, strategies management and action plans by students and staff is especially enabled through their membership of the [Sustainability Implementation Group](#) (SIG). Students and staff are strongly encouraged to co-develop policies, strategies, action plans, projects, funding proposals and cost analysis alongside the University and bring forward ideas for development and monitoring to the SIG.

The University will also strive to create and embed a network of sustainability champions to promote sustainability across colleges and professional services and will work with the Students' Union to further champion sustainability for the student community.

## Raising awareness and encouraging involvement

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### Inductions

To ensure that all students and staff are aware of the opportunities for getting involved in developing and monitoring the policies, strategies and action plans that support Sustainability at Bangor, the University sustainability policy and plan, sustainability issues and student engagement opportunities for sustainability, are all a component of the induction processes for all new students and staff on the compulsory student and staff inductions. In addition, regular information is obtained through the staff and student Bulletin newsletters.

### University-wide and community events and campaigns

Last year the University and Undeb Bangor ran several sustainability events and campaigns designed to reach all students and staff, and in some cases outreach into Bangor city's community.

Some of our internal and external campaigns, events and knowledge sharing we participate in:

[Students Welcome Week](#)

[Staff Induction](#)

[Campus Life Events Programme](#)

[Cost of Living Campaign](#)

[The Hot Meals Project](#)

[25 by 25](#)

[Fairtrade Events](#)

[Friends of Treborth Botanic Garden and Students for Treborth Action Group \(STAG\) events](#)

[Environment and Social Sustainability Volunteering Opportunities](#)

[NUS's Green Impact Award](#)

[WWF's Earth Hour](#)

## University targets and funds for student or staff-led practical sustainability projects

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Any member of the University who has an idea for sustainable development and thinks they need funding or other support is encouraged to bring their ideas forward and get in touch with any of [our sustainability staff](#), or email us at [sustainability@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@bangor.ac.uk). The ideas are then taken to the [Sustainability Implementation Group](#) (SIG) who manage the funds and other support required.

The sustainability targets are included in the list of KPIs in the [Sustainability Strategy](#) and are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure best practice and continual improvement.

Funds and other support are available for approved projects through schemes such as our [Invest to Save initiative](#) for which the University makes 5% of its energy costs available to fund sustainability projects.

All staff and student engagement news and events will be published on the website, in Staff and Student Bulletins, with funded projects also reported to SIG annually until their completion.

Examples of successful bids for funding and support supported by University's staff time, funds and other resources include:

[Cycle to Work Scheme](#)

[Waste Awareness and Recycling Schemes](#)

[A Pilot trial of a Digital/Smart Campus](#)

[Investigating a potential change to a carbon negative University search engine](#)

[Fully-secured bicycle storage](#)

[Branded travel mugs and water bottles to reduce waste at University catering outlets](#)

[Waste Awareness Week, Fast Fashion, Period Poverty](#)

[ISO14001:2015 accreditation](#)

## Find out more, do more

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Please get in touch with the Sustainability or Environment Team for further information or to get involved in Sustainability please email [sustainability@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@bangor.ac.uk) or one of the Team:

<https://www.bangor.ac.uk/sustainability/team.php.en>

<https://www.bangor.ac.uk/environment/environmentteam.php.en>

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