

## Sustainability Engagement Plan 2023/2024 - 2024-2025

### **Background**

The University of Kent recognises that communication and engagement are key to achieving the ambitious objectives set out in our Sustainability Strategy for Climate and the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). As such the Sustainability team, working in conjunction with central communications, are working on delivering against several objectives included in the sustainability strategy action plan.

It is important that we show our students, staff, and the wider community the progress we are making towards becoming more sustainable, as well as encouraging others to get involved to help combat Climate Change. Having a visible sustainability presence can also help attract new students to Kent, with GenZ being the generation who are potentially most concerned about Climate Change and the global environmental impact.

### **Aims**

- To **raise awareness about sustainability progress** at Kent, for example sustainability reports
- To share **sustainability successes** with internal and external audiences
- To **build sense of community around sustainability** at Kent, for example Sustainability Champions network and Kent Community Oasis Garden
- Build momentum and **inspire action** from our Kent community
- To provide opportunities for all to **engage with and learn** about sustainability challenges and solution
- To be transparent about the challenges and build a community around finding solutions

## Engagement Programmes and Opportunities

Engagement Programme/Area	Stakeholders	Objective 2023/24	Objective 2024/25
Staff / Student induction Training	Staff Student	Review staff induction training and work with HR to improve uptake rate to 40%	Develop student sustainability induction to roll out in 2025/26 academic year
Sustainability Champions Network	Staff	Develop and trial new champions network model	Run year one of new model and review outcomes
Kent COG	Staff Student Community	Complete year one of KentCOG strategy objectives and report on progress	Complete year two of KentCOG strategy objectives and report on progress
Carbon Literacy / ESD	Staff Student	Launch Sustainability pathway on Target connect Run 2 carbon literacy courses for students Secure funding to deliver CL training to staff.	Offer CL training to staff through staff connect
Sustainability network / Societies	Student	Connect with the KU sab lead for Sustainability. Continue supporting student groups and societies on request	Connect with the KU sab lead for Sustainability. Continue supporting student groups and societies on request
Staff consultation / Biodiversity Forum	Staff	Review and trial new model of the forum.	Adopt trial results.
Right to Food / Civic Mission	Staff Community	Represent sustainability on the Right to Food Steering Group Participate in the NCIA programme Develop River of Vegetation project	Represent sustainability on the Right to Food Steering Group Deliver River of Vegetation project
Website / Social Media	Staff Student Future Student Community	Annual review of website Maintain Instagram Regular internal news stories	Annual review of website Maintain Instagram Regular internal news stories
Reporting	Staff Student Future Student Community	Publish sustainability round up	Publish sustainability round up

CCAP / CDBN	Community	Participate in CCAP climate action awards and festival 2023 Maintain engagement with CDBN Organising Committee and build on partnerships	Participate in CCAP climate action awards and festival 2024 Maintain engagement with CDBN Organising Committee and build on partnerships
Recruitment activity	Future Student	Include SDGs, Curriculum and alumni case studies on course landing pages	Embed sustainable events practice into open days and applicant days
UPP Waste Engagement Programme	Student	Support UPP to complete year 1 of SOS student residences engagement programme	tbc
Other	All	Begin development of 'Secret Sustainability' – highlighting the ways the University are working on sustainability that might not be immediately obvious  Personal stories from Sustainability Champions and students/societies  Celebrating sustainability successes big and small	Deliver secret sustainability project