

**Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee**

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| **Meeting details** |
| **Meeting name** | **Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee**  |
| **Date** | **Tuesday 15th March 2022**  | **Time** | **17:30 – 18:30** |
| **Location** | The Hive, Students’ Union, Plymouth Campus  |

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| **Minutes** |
| **1.** **Welcome** | Emi Dowse – President Will Jones – Part-time Environment and Sustainability Officer Iain Miller – Interim Head of Sustainability Matthew Tosdevin - Environment Officer (Engagement & Projects)Tracy Priestman – Representation and Democracy Manager  |
| **2.** **Attendance / Apologies** | Mads Morton – VP Activities  |
| **3.** **Minutes of last meeting** | Accepted as true and accurate record  |
| **4. Notification of any other business** | None  |
| **5 Matters to discuss**  | Take Away Cups Discussion around the take away cups in the SU which are current vegware and as such not recyclable. Matthew noted that the anaerobic digestor facility in Plymouth does not currently accept vegware, it could be sent elsewhere but that is not in the remit of the current waste contractor. Matthew added that the university are currently using vegware tops only and not cups. Will commented that vegware is perceived to be a more sustainable material but at the end of the day has its own challenges. Will also noted that Boston Tea Party stopped using any kind of takeaway cups. Both Emi and Will agreed that students should be involved in any decision making about this, ideally through the referendum/preferendum process. Will suggested a deposit scheme for the hard, plastic cups in the Bar. There was discussion about the possible logistics of re-useable takeaway cups across campus and for reusable plastic cups in the bar, this is something that needs further discussion. Emi noted that she will need to speak to the Director of Commercial Services on their return from leave and the feasibility of different options considered ahead of any vote.Iain and Matthew agreed that ideally any scheme would be campus wide but would need to have those conversations with the relevant university departments/staff.It was agreed that full information about all the options would need to be provided ahead of any vote.Green Week Proposed for 28th March -1st April Things to include in Green Week were the Green Champions Workshop and the bin design competition **Action: Will jones to speak to Debate Soc about a event during Green Week** **Action: Tracy Priestman to set up Team Chat for Green Week planning** University Sustainability Awards The university applies for several awards each year and Iain asked which ones the students most care about. Will thought that the People and Planet and Fair-Trade ones which get a lot of press are valued by students. Matthew explained that the People and Planet rating is given anyway and not something the university apply for.Will added that the university do lots of excellent sustainability work which needed more promotion and would benefit from greater collaboration with the SU to aid communication.Sustainability Town HallThe Sustainability Town Hall was discussed and the downside of inviting students to the staff session is that it is outside of term time. It was suggested that there could be a Q&A feature in Green Week.  |
| **11. AOB** | None  |
| **12. Dates for the diary** | Green Week 28th Match – 1st April  |
|  | **End of meeting** |