

University of Worcester

Impact report 2017-18

Thank you so much for everything you've put into Green Impact this year. We're really proud of what the programme's achieved, and hope you are too.

This document confirms your achievements this year, lets you know about the combined impact of teams at the university, and updates you on what's going on with Green Impact nationally.

National impact

Green Impact is a change and engagement programme – it helps people understand sustainability and social responsibility, shows them what they can do to make a difference, and supports them in achieving these actions.

It has been developed over the last ten years, using social change theory and NUS' expertise to produce a model that works in all environments and workplaces year-after-year. It covers the whole sustainability spectrum and is based on the themes of continual improvement, collaboration and meaningful change to establish new social norms and inspire people with the skills and passion needed to make a difference.

In 2017/18, Green Impact has so far:



Been used by 290 organisations ranging from students' unions to NHS Trusts



Engaged 42,973 people in sustainability and social justice issues



Provided 840 students with training and development opportunities



Been made up of 1,094 teams led by 6,093 people



Seen 42,232 actions completed, 28,117 as a direct result of the programme

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We're delighted that:

- 84% of participants last year found the programme either excellent or good;
- 72% of people said that after being involved with Green Impact they know more about how to use their knowledge to make changes to their daily life;
- 72% of people said that after being involved with Green Impact they're also more likely to encourage others in the sustainability agenda too;
- And 88% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they felt good about themselves as a result of taking part in Green Impact.

We know this because so many of you take the time to tell us - from time to time, we ask participants of the programme to provide feedback on its impact as well as to evaluate how the programme is run and how it can be improved. We know that surveys can be boring, but we're really grateful to people who complete these as it helps us better understand what the programme achieves and what we can do to better support those involved.

We're currently collecting, and will soon be analysing, this year's results so please do spare some time to give us your feedback [here](#).

To see more examples of what's being done by Green Impact teams across the country, search for the Twitter hashtag #GreenImpact and of course, don't forget to tweet about your actions too.

The programme at University of Worcester

2017/18 has been a great year for the university, collectively we have:



Created 10 teams



Engaged 282 colleagues



Achieved 2 bronze awards



Achieved 1 silver award



Achieved 3 gold awards



Been led by 82 team members – our average team size is 3



Put 165 actions into place, 163 as a direct result of Green Impact



Provided 6 students with training and development opportunities in their roles as auditors



Saved at least 39 tonnes CO2



Saved at least £12,648

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This data is taken from the information you've put into your online tool, as well as from the audit data. To calculate carbon and cost savings we selected just 13 criteria and used the Carbon Trust's empower tool to analyse the impact of these. This is just 13 out of 77 criteria! We collect a lot of data, because people involved in Green Impact undertake so much positive change. A lot of the data we collect is too complex to be able to allocate carbon and cost savings to every action but it does show that the impact of the programme is considerable.

In addition to the standard award categories, we also recognised innovation, good practice and people going above and beyond in the special award categories. Well done to the winners of these awards!

This year there are also Green Impact teams that are undertaking exciting Excellence projects on a wide range of sustainability topics from energy to biodiversity. Although their achievements are not fully captured by the online toolkit, their work this year will add to the fantastic successes described above when they receive their award in the year ahead.

The table below outlines the average achievements across the teams at Worcester along with the total available criteria and points.

	Team size	Bronze criteria completed	Silver criteria completed	Gold criteria completed	Points obtained
Average across UoW	3	22	21	19	171
Total available	N/A	26	22	29	448

Team size is estimated based on how many people have accessed the online toolkit this year. The average may well be higher if team members are not registered online, but contributed towards the award.

The table below shows how many criteria were completed in some common toolkit themes, both as a result of Green Impact and in total.

Theme	Number of actions completed as a result of Green Impact	Total actions completed
Biodiversity and community	8	9
Embedding and Communications	39	39
Energy	19	19
GIPA	2	2
Health and Well Being	5	5
Love Food Hate Waste	6	6

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Procurement	10	11
Travel	13	13
Waste and Recycling	36	36
Water	8	8
Wellbeing	9	9

Feedback

Team feedback has been very positive this year, with staff mentioning a number of key positive impacts that were a result of green impact this year, these included; creating a positive work space, getting teams to work together on something other than their day job, a chance to make a difference to the environment, how much it has taught them about sustainability and crucially the chance to do something really positive alongside colleagues and strengthen team bonds. When asked during the audit about the change with which they have made the biggest impact, many teams mentioned changes to biodiversity (planting, awareness events), reducing resource use (paper, water, electricity), reduction in food waste (via food donations and food waste bins in offices), working within the community (at events and via donation campaigns), and finally increasing walking rates and reducing car use.

Katie Ferneyhough, Sustainability Project Officer at NUS said of Green Impact as a whole at the University of Worcester "It has been another fantastic year at Worcester! Teams have continued to achieve exceptional change within their departments and beyond and it has been a pleasure to work more closely with staff this year via the Green Impacts workshops and additional training events. I am really excited to see the brand new Projects workbook come to life, a chance to let all teams put their green impact skills into practice via one large project rather than several smaller ones. This will be a great fit for where we are currently, and a chance to further engage staff at the university with sustainability."

Next steps

Once again, on behalf of the whole Green Impact team, many thanks for helping to make the programme a success this year. We hope you look forward to taking part next year. Congratulations on all your achievements and before you get cracking on next year, make sure you take a good rest, reward your team, and reflect on everything you've achieved this year!

In addition to the success of scheme here at the university, as well as at the other organisations using Green Impact this year, we're now recruiting further organisations to the programme for the next year. If you know of an organisation who might benefit from taking part, get in touch.

For more information, news, case studies and information about NUS' other sustainability programmes, visit www.nus.org.uk/greenimpact or contact jo.kemp@nus.org.uk.