

Emergency Motion: Recycling

Passed 11 Dec 2014

Proposer- Heather Baker (Circus)

Seconded- Iain Goddard (Environment Officer)

Notes

1. One of the union's key values is sustainability, as laid out in bye-law 7.5.6.
2. There is currently no policy in place to encourage recycling in unio.
3. During September & November 2014, the student union has produced over 8 tonnes of landfill waste. This represents a 16% increase on last year's waste figures.
4. The paper cups provided by the café are compostable.
5. The only bins found in the café area are for general waste.
6. Other areas of the union do have recycling schemes in place.

Believes

1. Not recycling is unsustainable.
2. There should be a policy to encourage recycling in unio.
3. The union has a responsibility to ensure the quantity of waste sent to landfill is minimised.
4. Not correctly recycling the cups in the café undermines the purpose of using compostable materials.
5. Wherever there is a general waste bin, there should also be a bin for mixed recycling waste and for compostable waste.
6. It would be easy to integrate recycling practices from other union areas into unio.
7. Given the substantial quantity of waste in question, changes should be implemented as soon as possible.

Resolves

1. To mandate the campaigns and democracy officer, and the environment officer to implement recycling options in unio, specifically for mixed recycling and compostable waste.
2. To continue to evaluate the effectiveness of this going forward
3. To encourage procurement of environmentally sound disposables in union owned services.