

NUS Student Switch Off

Passed by: Senedd

Passed on: 01/11/2020

Policy lapses: **01/11/2023**

Status: **Completed**

Officer Responsible: Union President

Summary

Have Aberystwyth University join the NUS Student Switch Off sustainability programme to reduce electricity and water usage in university halls, plus increase recycling!

Details

Carbon emissions from the burning of fossil fuels is causing irreversible changes to the environment, therefore it is crucial to reduce emissions before the global conditions worsen. For Aberystwyth University to become carbon neutral by 2025, students must be actively participating on a daily basis and at a large scale. The NUS's Student Switch Off is a sustainability scheme that helps students in university halls to reduce energy and water consumption and increase recycling rates, all by holding competitions between halls within each university. In the last 12 years the scheme has prevented almost 15,000 tonnes of CO2 being emitted, and has trained over 7000 UK student ambassadors. There are currently 16 UK universities listed as participating on <http://studentswitchoff.org/> and I think Aberystwyth should become the 17th! The cost of the scheme varies depending on how many students are in halls, but I think the money saved on electricity and water bills, plus providing the university with a new environmental publicity angle will overall be a massive benefit to the university.

Submitted By: Bethany Wright

Actions List

Actions Taken	Name and Role	Date
We have investigated how we are able to do NUS Switch off, however, unfortunately due to the way the university measures its energy use, this is not something we are able to run. Instead, we have run alternative initiatives to help students save energy: Aber Cwtch Up – promoting saving energy by wrapping up warm.	N/A	N/A