

Green Champions Network

Aim of the Network

- Create a network of staff who share a common interest in sustainability, and to share ideas and encourage best practices across teams
- Develop professional skills that align with departmental and corporate strategies, delivering net zero, zero waste and improving our overall sustainability
- **Empower** staff to promote behavioural change in the university and support the Sustainability Team to deliver the University's sustainability policies
- To showcase and recognise staff for their work

Training & Events

Ideas Sharing Platform

Resources

Supporting Staff's Initiatives





Main Roles

- To share ideas with each other and keep us up to date of what is happening, to create a culture of sustainable working and living across teams.
- 2. To help **disseminate information** that supports the Sustainability Policy and encourage staff and students to participate in calls for sustainability related action from the Sustainability Team or others.
- 3. To **encourage** colleagues on how to act sustainably, both on campus and at home, by sharing actions that can be taken by staff.
- 4. To identify and **report good practices** happening among the team so that staff can be recognised for their work (e.g. via internal comms stories).
- 5. To **advocate** the University Sustainability Policy and Net Zero Carbon Plan with your team and your wider faculty/ directorate.
- 6. **Be critical and give us feedback** on how our support is working for you in your department

What does it take to be a Green Champion?

You do not need any prior knowledge or skills. You just need enthusiasm in nature and the environment, and commitment to engage staff in sustainability!

Time Commitment

Expected to be on average **no more than 1 hour** per week. Training and meetings normally take place once in every 1-2 months.



What are the Benefits of Being or Having a Champion?

For individuals:

- Have an opportunity where staff have responsibility for helping make sustainability happen in their teams and delivering to the university's sustainability ambitions.
- Join an enthusiastic network of staff across the university who are also interested in sustainability to share ideas and make new contacts and friends.
- Receive newsletters and materials to help you promote sustainability change within your teams
- Receive trainings and attend events to boost your knowledge and skills in sustainability and confidence to take action.
- Get recognition for the improvements you are making and enabling
- Drive the change you want to see.
- Have fun!

For the Department:

- Help departments to achieve corporate strategic and sustainability goals
- Help teams and departments identify and develop initiatives that can help reduce costs, risks and improve processes and systems
- Be able to better access professional services available from the Sustainable Development Unit
- Improve **staff satisfaction** by illustrating sustainability commitment that aligns with staff values
- Align with the University Net Zero Plan, Sustainability Policy and Well-being Strategy

For the University:

- Meet corporate strategic goals
- Improve University and other League positions
- Ensure the Net Zero Plan and Sustainability Policy is carried out as planned
- Promote and live the values and culture of sustainability
- Reduce costs and risks
- Utilise sustainability as a means to deliver wider outcomes for students and staff



FAQs

Q1: I am interested to join but not sure if my manager will let me do it. What can I do?

Being a champion is not only beneficial to the individual, but also the department and the university as well, such as aligning with the University plan and helping the team achieve sustainability goals. Try to talk to your supervisor from their angle to see if it works.

Q2: I am interested to join but concerned about the workload.

Time commitment for this role is expected to be **no more than 1 hour per week.** You can choose your engagement level, from sharing ideas, attending training, to initiating your own minicampaigns, depending on your availability and level of engagement.

Q3: I have no experience or knowledge in promoting sustainability. Can I still join?

Yes! The aim of this network is to gather passionate people, exchange great ideas and learn from each other. As long as you want to do something for your team, you are very welcome to join!

Sign up as a Green Champion

Fill in the form <u>here</u> to join the network and sign up for the first meet-up.

For any enquiries please contact sustainability@gre.ac.uk

Agreement Form

Considering your current position, if you need a formal agreement from your manager to become a champion, please fill in the form below.

To ensure the manager understands and supports the work of Green Champions as a volunteer role, we would like both the champion and their manager to sign the agreement below:

	(name of Department) conf			tment) confirmed
that	(name of volunteer) will become our Green Champion to			
	Volunteer		Line Manager	
Name				
Signature				
Date				