



## **DUNDEE UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION (DUSA) SUSTAINABILITY DECLARATION FOR 3rd PLANT MICROBIOME SYMPOSIUM 2022**

### **The commitment:**

DUSA as a kinder, greener, and diverse global student community strives to create a long-lasting impact for generations. Sustainability improvement throughout all of the organizations activities by being ethical and environmentally conscious is at the centre of DUSA's strategic priorities.

### **With this commitment in mind, we are:**

- in continuous collaboration with University of Dundee, we are seeking to understand our organization's carbon footprint and off-set this;
- developing an action plan to determine steps to reduce the carbon footprint;
- planning to launch an Environmental and Sustainability forum with collaborates with our student and wider community;
- undertaking work to inform and educate our employees and students of our impact on the environment and the measures we as an organization are taking to reduce this;
- conducting Environmental and Sustainability forum;
- developing and improving our waste management systems.

### **Our achievements so far:**

- sourcing local suppliers to reduce carbon footprint;
- collaborating with suppliers to provide ethically sourced products with recyclable packaging;
- reducing and recycling all plastic and cardboard packaging and food waste;
- working in partnership with Binn group, a leading recycling company, to increase our waste recycling rate to 90%;
- collaborating with the University of Dundee for the local Deposit return scheme;
- providing our local community with affordable aluminium recyclable water bottles and non-BPA plastic, and reusable coffee cups;
- using compostable or made from plants crockery in our daily food and beverage operations;
- our leadership team members sitting on the University of Dundee Sustainability Forum;

- started community garden project in collaboration with our kitchen team and the University of Dundee, where all the produce would be used to cater for our daily kitchen operations;
- facilitated 'Student Climate Conference' held by Student Representative Council.

### **Catering declaration for the conference**

Food waste is a global problem not only from social or humanitarian perspective but from an environmental one as well. An estimated 1.3 billion tonnes of food are wasted every year. This is around one third of all that is produced for human consumption, and it is generating about 8% of the world's greenhouse emission.

DUSA as Bonar Hall venue management along with 3<sup>rd</sup> Plant Microbiome Symposium organizing committee aim to minimise the environmental impact of the conference and contribute towards a safe and healthy environment. As part of our commitment to reducing food waste and carbon footprint, we are offering nutritional plant-based meals prepared by our head-chef from locally sourced produce. The provided plant-based meals and snacks are not only healthy and beneficial to your wellbeing but are also better for the environment, and if there are any excess meals left they will be donated to our local community.