#SRSsuperheroes

Celebrating the people and projects making the University of Edinburgh – and the world – more socially responsible and sustainable.
A celebration of you

Our staff and student community are passionate about making the University – and the world – a more sustainable place.

From individual actions to huge collaborative research and teaching projects, this exhibition highlights just a few of those people and stories.

They are all ‘SRS’ superheroes – and you can be too.

We encourage you to interact with the exhibition by adding in your own thoughts, stories and tips, either here or online.

#SRSsuperheroes

This exhibition was curated by students Celia Du and Hannah Stewart during a work-based placement as part of their MSc Science Communication & Public Engagement degree.

The Department for Social Responsibility & Sustainability would like to thank Celia and Hannah wholeheartedly for their enthusiasm and professionalism in gathering stories, and for the high-quality work they produced in designing this exhibition.
Local and global context

The University of Edinburgh is committed to making a significant, sustainable and socially responsible contribution to Scotland, the UK and the world.

We celebrate these contributions on campus with the Sustainability Awards, and report on progress both locally or globally using the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

The Sustainability Awards

The Sustainability Awards offer an opportunity for staff and students to receive recognition for making a difference and contributing towards the University becoming more socially responsible and sustainable.

Look out for these icons which indicate past and present award winners, and the level of award they received.

The Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, the United Nations asked countries to adopt a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda covering the next 15 years.

In 2018 the University and Students’ Association signed the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals Accord, in recognition of the critical role that education has in delivering the ‘SDGs’, and the values it brings to governments, businesses and wider society. The University now annually reports on how it is fulfilling the goals.

Look out for these symbols that indicate projects which contribute to these goals.
Inspiration is everywhere
What sparked our SRS superheroes’ interest in sustainability?

“I spent almost my entire childhood IN NATURE”

Mara Goetz
Careers Service

“Our desire to SAVE THE WORLD... even if it’s just via a little office in our corner of the world.”

Stina Saunders
Centre for Dementia Prevention

“PEOPLE sparked my interest in sustainability... the determination and passion of those who want to contribute positively towards society and the environment is inspiring.”

Matthew Lawson
Social Responsibility and Sustainability
“We all need to prioritise the WELLBEING of the planet and each other.”

Joshua Holton
Edinburgh Global & Student Recruitment and Admissions

“for me, SUSTANABILITY is about EQUALITY.”

Sarah Ford-Hutchinson
Social Responsibility and Sustainability

“The SRS Awards are a MOTIVATING TOOL and are a very well-organised programme.”

Jess Barrows
Scottish Student Sport
Over to you

What inspires you to be sustainable?

Grab a pen and tell us why sustainability matters to you.
Meaningful action

What are the SRS superheroes doing to be more sustainable?

Staff clocked up over **8300 MILES** during the Make Your Move challenge, a potential carbon saving of **2.21 TONNES**

Gold Project
Centre for Sport & Exercise

“Sharing food brought people together and encouraged staff to take time away from their desks.”

Bring and Share lunch
Careers Service

**SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION of the week**
Centre for Dementia Prevention
Meaningful action

We designed and manufactured a version of HYPERLOOP, proposing a route from London to Edinburgh IN 50 MINUTES

“There is no such thing as waste; just resources in the wrong place.”

“We have a swapshop, a food sharing group and run BIKE REPAIR WORKSHOPS.”

SHRUB
Swap & Re-use Hub
The Swap and Reuse Hub
Meaningful action

Tackling global environmental challenges through TEACHING, RESEARCH and OUTREACH

Global Environment and Society Academy

Exploring SRS issues in scientific, social, economical, political and artistic ways

Sustainability & Social Responsibility online course
School of Geosciences

“We are inspired by amazing colleagues and students

CHAMPIONING SUSTAINABILITY.”

Dave Reay
School of Geosciences
Meaningful action

184 PIECES OF FURNITURE REUPHOLSTERED
“we saved resources, supported a local small business, and got a new look for less.”

School of Social and Political Science

We are committed to tackling MODERN SLAVERY in the University’s supply chains

Procurement Office & Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability

“We listed unwanted items on Warp It”

School of Law
Over to you

What actions do you take to bring sustainability into your studies, work or life?

Use the space below to scribble your own SRS superhero actions.
Tips for success

What tips do the SRS superheroes have for anyone interested in improving the sustainability of their fellow students and staff?

“Find ways to **ENCOURAGE** people by focusing on the things they **CARE** about.”

Edinburgh Global & Student Recruitment and Admissions

“Make it **COMPETITIVE**, make it **INCLUSIVE**, and offer **INCENTIVES**.”

Lisa Adams
School of Law

“Incorporate **SUSTAINABILITY** into the team’s **IDENTITY** so everyone feels a level of **RESPONSIBILITY**.”

Centre for Dementia Prevention
Tips for success

“LEARNING about saving energy & ADOPTING sustainable behaviours are more fun when done COLLABORATIVELY.”

Centre for Dementia Prevention

“Embedding sustainable practices into your procedures is often MORE EFFICIENT and MAKES YOU FEEL BETTER about what you’re doing.”

Megan Cruickshank
School of Social and Political Science

“Think about the small changes you can make in your life to make your work or home more sustainable.”

Jess Barrows
Scottish Student Sport
Over to you

What tips do you have for others who want to be more sustainable?

Extra points for drawing them!
The Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability would like to thank everyone who contributed to this exhibition. For every story featured there were many more to choose from, and we’d like to congratulate everyone who makes the University a more sustainable place to learn and work in.

For more information on any aspect of sustainability at the University of Edinburgh, or to find out how to get involved, visit www.sustainability.ed.ac.uk.