

Guidance

- Your report should be 1000 words or fewer. You should write in all three sections, but it is up to you to decide how much weight to give each section.
- Your report should be submitted one week before the date of each Scrutiny Panel. Completed reports should be emailed to r.nadeem@guild.bham.ac.uk or l.gill@guild.bham.ac.uk
- You will have two minutes at the beginning of each Scrutiny Panel meeting to supplement your report with a verbal update.

Officer:	Matthew Griffin
Date of panel:	9/12/20

Written Statement action plan

This section is for you to track your progress on your written statement priorities, as outlined in your action plan. The “context” section of the document can remain the same for each panel.

Written Statement Item #1	
'Climate Emergency Campaign'	
Context:	This campaign is one of my main focuses and aims for the year- to lobby the university into declaring a climate Emergency. This is crucial given the climate crisis and the campaign will also aim to encourage greater transparency and action at the University, and educate staff and students about the crisis.
Progress:	The campaign is almost ready to launch, with resources being completed and perfected in the next couple of weeks. It will launch at the beginning of Go Green week with a 'Campaign Launch event' (8/02/21). Following advice from the scrutiny panel, I have collaborated with societies and UCU on this matter, and Steve McCabe will play a role in an event of Go Green week. Due to the online nature of the campaign, it will centre around an open letter, a video and a guide to email your head of college.

Written Statement Item #2	
'Plastic free zero waste shop'	
Context:	This is one of my main projects that represents an exciting opportunity for students and staff to shop more sustainably
Progress:	News regarding the outcome of the meeting was disappointing. Due to the pandemic posing financial issues and the retirement of one of the key university personnel, CleanKilo have informed me that this is no longer something they can see doing this academic year. I hope to work with them in promoting the shop and ethos, and will brief my successor on this, with hope they can make it a reality in the post-pandemic world. This was a really disappointing start to the year, but hopefully groundwork has been laid to see this come to fruition at some point in 2021.

Written Statement Item #3	
Organise a collaborative Sustainability Working Group	
Context:	I pledged on my manifesto to encourage collaboration between the different Sustainability/climate action groups on campus.
Progress:	Again, I regret to say that no zoom meeting to report since last scrutiny panel, due the Christmas break and January exams. As outlined last time, I have continued to use the Facebook group chat to encourage collaboration, especially in regards to the organisation of Go Green week. The plan is to have a meeting sometime after Go Green week in February and will invite the Sustainability manager.

Role and responsibilities

This section is for you to write about any projects you have been working on or meetings you have been to that you think are of particular importance to your remit.

Meeting / project	Outcome for students
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<p style="text-align: center;">Go Green Week Agreed dates: 8th February to the 12th of February.</p>	<p>A schedule and plan for the week has been created, with 10 events planned and resources (blogs, e-leaflets etc) to be published. I have sent the schedule separately (it would be great to see scrutiny panel members attend some events!) because I am aware of the length of the report already- no obligation to read it. Based on feedback for the Trans and Non-binary officer, I have written a feedback form to be distributed after every event.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sustainability Steering Group (SSG)</p>	<p>This group has not met since the last scrutiny panel meeting. Due to meet next on 10/02/21.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sustainability Task Group (STG)</p>	<p>This group has not met since the last scrutiny panel meeting. Due to meet next on 22/02/21.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Biodiversity Working Group</p>	<p>I attended this working group for the first time and supported continued work on biodiversity, particularly highlighting the need for greater publicity for the work of the Working group.</p>

Ideas and policy

This section is for you to report on progress made to ideas and Guild policy that you have been mandated to work on. You only need to update your actions taken. You can also add ideas or policy as they are passed through the year.

Idea / policy	Action taken since last Panel
<p style="text-align: center;">Installation of Ecosia at the Guild and University</p>	<p>Received a response from IT at the end of 2020, suggesting this could be taken up in 2021. I emailed Amie to follow this up and ask again to ask whether this is something we could consider now we are in the New Year.</p>

Other student issues, meetings or projects to note:

- **Reducing Guild Plastic Use-** In discussion with the Guild and the society 'Plastic Free UoB' to phase in reusable cups at sports night and fab events. An update on this, myself and

Plastic Free have been conducting research and hope to deliver our report on the merit of this scheme to the Guild in February.

- **Campus-wide Reusable Coffee cup scheme-** following a discussion with a student who proposed this idea at Plastic free's symposium, we are working on a trial scheme to begin a more effective reusable cup scheme. Can provide more info if requested and have a meeting on the 1st of February to continue this plan.
- **Student Composting-** Working to find a solution for students to compost food waste. Planning a campaign with BUCV to encourage students to use the community garden composting facilities. We are still awaiting delivery of new compost bins- as soon as these are in, and students have returned en masse, there are plans to promote this. Also planning a long term, council start up scheme for better composting facilities in Selly Oak.
- **Catering plans- Carbon footprint labelling and Palm Oil Commitment-** Will pick up discussion and policy with James (catering review leader) again in the new year. Palm oil policy is still something I would like to do but pursuing the red meat reduction (below) first.
- **Red Meat reduction-** Working to try and get the Guild to commit to a red meat reduction for environmental reasons. Arranged a meeting with Adam for February and plan to launch a survey to students to get some research on this.
- **Encouraging more Sustainable commuting-** Still planning to introduce better signposting and cycle lanes to connect campus with the cities 'Superhighway'- waiting to pursue this when more students are back on campus. I have supported the potential welcoming of electric scooters on campus, and hope to work with the company to promote this when they launch at the University. A sustainable travel guide will be published during Go Green week for students and staff.
- **Addressing Fast Fashion-** This will be the focus of a Go Green week event, featuring a talk from 'Threadsforapenny', a slow fashion activist and Harriet, the UoB student and founder of zero-waste swap service Hazaar. Talk of a clothes swap has been put on hold due to the current COVID-19 restrictions.
- **Hedgehog society-** following continued work from myself and the group, It seems highly likely the University will this year achieve Silver accreditation (an upgrade from Bronze of last year), which is fantastic news. There will be a hedgehog resource pack released as part of Go Green week.
- **Election drop In-** with the support of Rozena, myself and the Campaigns Officer will be holding a short talk and Q&A session for students considering applying for EEO and Campaigns Officer. Due to take place 29/01/21.
- **Student Initiatives-** supporting a student in creating a environmental magazine, mainly by reaching out to potentially interest people. Also supporting a student in creating a sustainability society in the Med-school for medic students.
- I have played an important role in the launch of two campaigns:
 - 1) Fossil Free UoB- as a group we are lobbying the university to divest from fossil fuels. The meeting which I noted in my last report, took place on 21/01/21. As a majority of the meeting was in confidence I am unable to share any details at this stage, but will be able to provide an update for the panel.

2) Undoing Borders UoB- as a group we are lobbying the university to pledge to end hostile borders on campus.