

Green Impact Projects 2018-19

- 25 teams
- 23 projects
- All focused on reducing single-use plastics with

PLASTIC
FREE
LSE

Thank you and congratulations to all the teams that took part!

This booklet gives details on the winners of the awards and the impact each project had, as written by the teams.



2018-19 Green Impact Teams

Bronze Teams

Teams which completed the Actions.

- Middle East Institute
- Communications Division
- Marshall Institute
- LSE Careers
- Bankside Hall

See the next page for who won the following:

Silver

Teams which completed the Actions and a project.

Gold

Teams which completed the Actions and a high-scoring project.

Platinum

Team with the highest-scoring project.



Green Impact slates for winners at Celebration of Sustainability
Photo by Dan Reeves

2018-19 Green Impact Teams

Team	Project	Award
HR, EDI and Finance Division	Plastic Fishing	Platinum
Student Marketing and Recruitment	Engaging Future LSE Students	Gold
Dep. Of Management	Plastic Free Under the Tree	Gold & Innovation for Engagement
Garrick	Ditch the Disposable	Gold & Environmental Improvement
Carr Saunders	Say No to Plastic	Gold
LSE 100	100 Green Ideas	Gold
Passfield Hall	Dispo Ocean	Gold
Butler's Wharf	Save the Bag	Silver
Dep. of Government	Plastic-Free Week	Silver & Best Newcomer
Dep. of Geography and Environment	Sustainability Pub Quiz	Silver
Dep. of Social Policy	Living Sustainably Everyday	Silver
Estates Division	How Sustainable Are You? Student Engagement Stall	Silver
Graduate Admissions Office	Paperless Applications	Silver
Northumberland House, High Holborn and Grosvenor House	Less Plastic, More Cooking	Silver
Secretary's Division	Single-Use Plastic Free Office	Silver
Rosebery Hall	LSE Rosebery Water Bottles	Silver

The Problem

32%

the amount of waste in London that is recycled. Compared to the national average of 43%

7.7bn

the number of plastic bottles consumed in London, every year.

3/4

in a study of the Thames, 3/4 of all flounder had ingested plastic

Project Overview

Our mission this year has been to **ban the use of single-use plastic bottles** within the Finance, HR and EDI Divisions.

Whilst we have been hosting local events for staff, our main initiative has been to explore wider **Plastic Clean Up initiatives** in London and see where there were opportunities for the School to utilise the volunteer days offered to staff and students, to get involved.

ON WED, 6 MARCH WE TOOK
STUDENTS AND STAFF ...

Plastic Fishing!



Plastic Fishing

HR, EDI and Finance
Division



[Watch this short
video of their trip!](#)

"It was a fantastic opportunity to do hands-on volunteering to support vital work to protect our environment"

"It was really encouraging to learn that school children are leading the charge on calling on us all to reduce plastic pollution and to protect our water!"

"Meeting people with similar interests (plastic pollution), knowing that these issues are out in the public and that others are also concerned about them."



"This has been an amazing bonding experience with students, HR, Finance and EDI staff."



"I already limit my plastic consumption (I don't buy plastic water bottles), but perhaps I should select better grocery shops that limit their use of plastic for packaging."



"During the trip we picked up a lot of clear plastic bags which looked like the ones in the supermarket I use to pack my fruits. I will look for an empty box in the supermarket instead of using these clear plastic bags to carry loose produce."



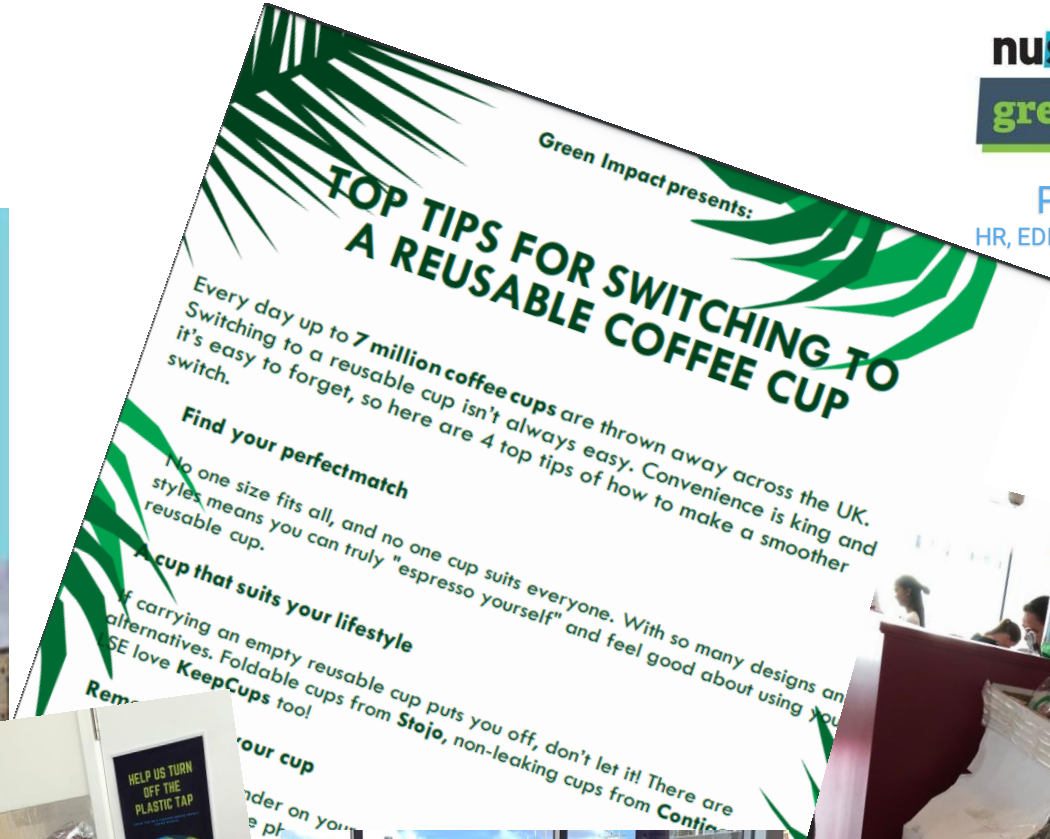
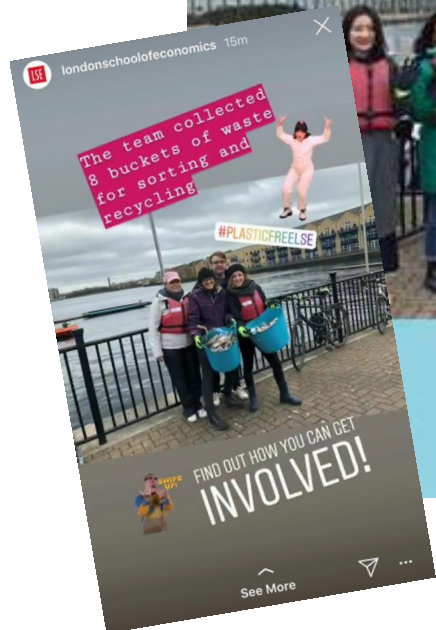
LSE
came Plastic Fishing
We collected **23** plastic bottles
and **800g** of recyclable plastic



HUBBUB
Registered Charity No. 1158700

#PlasticFishing

hubbub.org.uk/plastic-fishing



Great work team!

Gold winner

Engaging Future LSE Students

Student Marketing and Recruitment

We would like future LSE students to recognise the university as being actively engaged in the promotion of sustainable practices. We would like all applicants to arrive at LSE already feeling like they have a part to play in the green impact mission.

Project Overview

We pulled together strands of all elements of our work to produce a piecemeal project. We are probably the department with the greatest scope to reach future LSE students and so we sought to take advantage of that, as well as engage current students.

- Over 400 keep-cups and hot drinks vouchers were distributed to participants on our student shadowing programme.
- Our standard presentations have been updated to include information on LSE's sustainability objective. This will already have reached hundreds, if not thousands, of prospective students.
- Our open day and offer holders' day schedule have been amended to include a map of water fountains.
- All General course students received a water bottle and sustainably-manufactured hoodie upon arrival
- All general course students received a weekly Green Impact tip in the *Tembo* newsletter. These were read by 60-70% of all students.

400+ LSE Keep-Cups
325 Hoodies and Water bottles
2 Open Day Programmes
1 Offer Holders' Day Programme
Every audience member for standard presentations



Impact

We are planning on launching a feedback survey for the success of the keep-cup scheme in mid-April. Though we know that providing these cups has saved wasting disposables at least once for the visitor, we want to know if it had lasting impact. We'll be asking:

- Do you still have your cup? Do you use it?
- Why were you given a reusable keep-cup?
- What do you know about LSE's sustainability goals?
- How important do you think it is to be a part of this?

Beyond the students, it is clear that the efforts have made an impact in the office. Our waste audit showed a measurable difference in practice before and after the waste workshop and it now seems as though everyone has gone **keep-cup crazy!**

Learnings

I think much is yet to come! It will be fascinating to read the feedback from our shadowing sessions and think about which of our efforts is making the biggest difference. Our hope is to make a long term difference. As a team, it has definitely brought the different elements of our work together in a common purpose.



THE LONDON SCHOOL

LSE Open Day Programme 11

Food and drink

LOCATION OF FOOD AND DRINK ON CAMPUS

1 Water for sale
2 Eat your lunch
3 Cafés
4 Pub/Bars

No New Plastic

TAKE ME OUT
Annually, the UK generates nearly 5 million tonnes of plastic waste. To help, bring your own lunch to work, or bring a reusable container next time you eat out.

TOTE COUNTERS
Roughly one trillion plastic bags get thrown out every year, and less than 1% get recycled. Remember to always have a tote or reusable bag on hand.

REUSE IT UP
It is estimated that 8.5 billion plastic straws consumed on the fast food market are thrown away each year in the UK. Opt for no straw or buy a reusable metal one!

BRING A SPOON
Plastic can take up to 500 years to decompose. Say no to single use plastic and bring your own reusable cutlery.

WASH IT UP
Most sponges and brushes contain plastic, and aren't recyclable. Alternatively, buy reusable dishcloths, natural fiber brushes, or biodegradable sponges for less wasteful cleaning.

BUY IT UP
Plastic packaging is the single largest culprit for plastic waste. 15.1 tonnes is produced every year globally. Solutions? Bring empty containers for bulk items like oats, grains and nuts. Buy groceries from a farmers' market. Buy cloth bags to purchase loose veggies/fruit whenever possible.

WASH IT UP
Bar soap is old-school but there's no plastic, no water weight and so there's less waste. If it isn't for you, try bulk buying products or try making your own products.

Created by EVERLANE

LSE Student Shadowing: Making Use of Keep-Cups

As many as 2.5 billion paper cups are thrown away in the UK each year, with only 1 in 400 being recycled. To make the cups waterproof, they are often lined with polyethylene, which cannot be separated from the cups in a standard recycling mill. Around 500 cups are thrown away each second in the UK!

All participants in LSE Student Shadowing are able to take advantage of a free reusable keep-cup. These keep-cups are sustainably produced, free of harmful chemicals and completely recyclable at the end of their life. By presenting the keep-cup at many retailers, it is often possible to get a discount on the cost of a hot drink. (Top tip: A refillable filter coffee can be bought for as little as 49p at Pret a Manger!)

Keep-Cups are sold and accepted in:

- LSE Garrick
- 4th Floor Café Bar
- Café 54
- Mezzanine Café
- The Bean Counter
- The Shaw Café
- SDR Café Bar (members only)

Use your blue LSE Catering vouchers to claim one free regular size drink with each keep-cup.

“NO” TO SINGLE USE PLASTIC

It takes 500 years for plastic to decompose; and in 2018, it was estimated that the UK used **16.5 billion pieces of plastic cutlery** and **4.1 billion cups and lids**.

Ways you can help? Use your own reusable cutlery and mug, use tote bags, bring your own lunch, buy less packaged foods.



Engaging Future LSE Students
Student Marketing and Recruitment



A sample of the ways we have advertised sustainable practice

Gold winner

Plastic Free Under the Tree

Dep of Management

The Problem

The holiday season is a prime time of year where the acquisition of plastic packaging, wrapping and gifts goes into overdrive. The DoM Green Impact team want to encourage Staff and Students to consider an alternative way to shop this year and to give the gift of a plastic free Christmas.

Project Overview

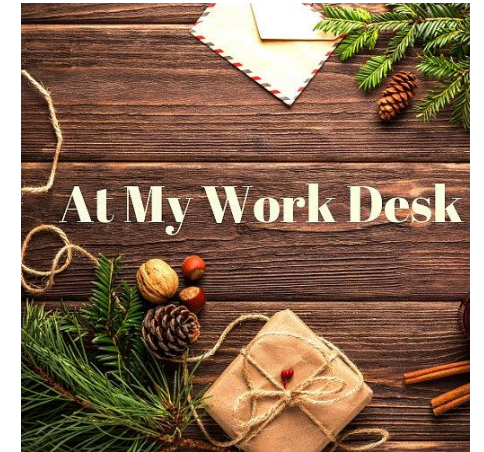
We **partnered with The Weekly Shop – a zero disposable plastics shop** created by LSE Alum Diana Szpotowicz to offer **an exclusive discount and collection on campus** to LSE staff and students. This avoided P&P and gave them the chance to engage with alternative, plastic free products.

The Team worked with Diana to produce hampers specifically aimed at Staff and Students 'The Academic' and 'At Your Work Desk' to focus on reusable cutlery, food containers and straws.

We also tied the promotion in with the department Secret Santa – encouraging a Plastic Free Secret Santa for 2018.

All LSE Staff and Students were targeted via newsletters, posters and FB groups.

On collection day food was provided by DayOldEats – another start-up focused on curbing food waste. Diana was there as were members of the GI team to discuss Plastic Free Living with staff and students collecting orders.

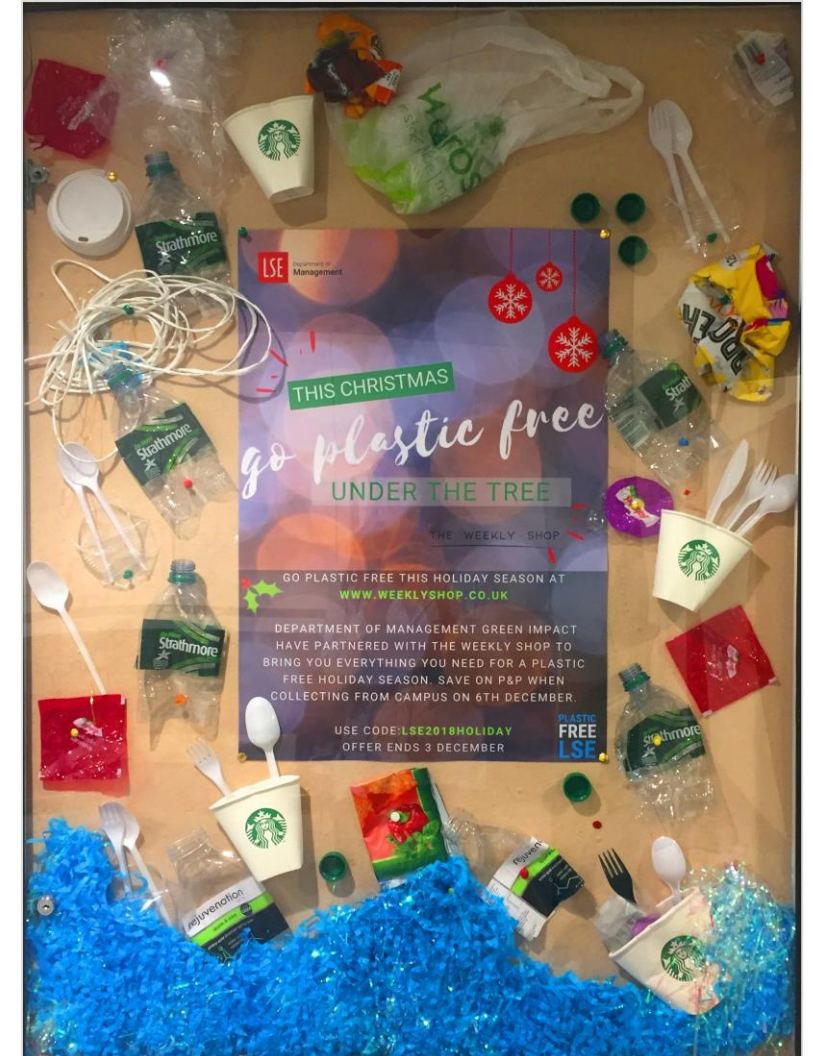


Impact

- **25 orders from across the School** - this could have been improved with a longer window to generate orders (we had just over 2 weeks).
- Many people engaged with new products via the Plastic Free Secret Santa and there was **lots of discussion in the department about products people had tried**.
- We ran the campaign a 2nd time generating a further **15 orders during LSE Green Week**, an even shorter amount of time with **many repeat orders**.
- It would be interesting to track how much repeat business is generated via The Weekly Shop via the 2 campaigns or perhaps to set up an ongoing arrangement with people able to collect orders from Campus.

Learnings

- As a team we worked really well especially during the creative aspects such as designing posters and newsletters and writing copy.
- **Many of us picked up new skills** using programmes such as CANVA and POPULO
- Over the 2 campaigns, plus other activities the Green Impact team have run throughout the year many new people have gotten involved with GI as members could fit activities in throughout the year and around their work schedules.
- For next time it would be good to do a complete week of Waste Audits perhaps in shifts to get a better idea of the plastic items that need targeting most.
- There is still **a lot of scope for improving catering practices** in the department and challenges such as how to cater to large groups of students without using plastic.





THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE

*Plastic Free Under the
Tree by Department of
Management*



Gold winner

Ditch the Disposable

Garrick

The Problem

Many customers simply opt for their hot beverage in a single-use plastic cup. To raise awareness of the need to reduce reliance on plastics, we wanted to achieve this by focusing in on reducing the number of single use hot cups used in the LSE Catering Department.

The LSE is the home to students from across the world and we need to inform all students of the importance of reducing single use plastics and that this involves them and why. Through a simple action of adopting a reusable cup our students and staff can help have a positive effect on the environment.

Project Overview

- Since Welcome Week September 2018, we ran awareness raising campaigns targeting students and staff and promoted Keep Cups in all our units across campus.
- At the start of the new academic year we **introduced a 10p levy on disposable hot drinks cups**, increased the discount to reusable cup holders to 25p and with funding from LSE Sustainable Futures Fund, offered Keep Cups at the discounted price of £5.00.
- Our project is specifically targeted at reducing single use plastic hot drink cups.



Impact

- Before this project, the percentage of sales in a reusable cup was **0.03%** and this project has **increased reuse rates to 18%**.
- 49, 375 single-use cups have been saved** as a result!
- The figures collected have been taken from till data so we have been able to monitor and measure the effectiveness of our project and campaigns.

Learnings

We have learnt that our staff can send out a positive message to students and staff which can help alter behaviours and encourage customers to adopt the regular use of a Keep Cup/reusable cup.

KEEP CUP SALES, DISCOUNTS AND % REUSABLE CUPS SALES.

MONTH	Keep Cup Sales	10p Tax	25p Dcount	Total Drink Sold	% Reusable	China Cups	COMMENTS
SEPTEMBER 2018	422	3367	592	5433	11%	1052	
OCTOBER 2018	653	26768	7854	41804	18.8%	6597	
NOVEMBER 2018	326	21502	6611	37753	17.5%	7510	
DECEMBER 2018	105	10805	3469	17733	19.6%	4217	
TOTAL	1506	62,442	18,526	102,723	18%	19,376	
							Cost of providing 25p discount £5,947.00
JANUARY 2019	308	16679	5262	28152	18.7%	6211	
							Total single use cups saved (China and reusable) 49,375
TOTAL	1814	79121	23,788	130875	18.2%	25587	



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE

Ditch the Disposable by the Garrick



Gold winner

Say No to Plastic!

Carr-Saunders Hall

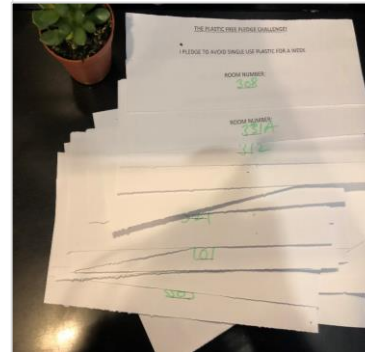
The Problem

Carr-Saunders and Passfield decided to team up to tackle many plastic bottles which are bought and disposed. The project aims to visually show the students how easy it is to accumulate plastic bottle waste. By purchasing water or drink bottles on a regular basis all accumulates on a large scale thus leading to plastic waste and harming the environment. The project aims to inform and have an impact on students/staff to reduce the use of plastic bottles.

Project Overview

There are three sections to the project we are running:

1. The first is to place cardboard boxes on all 5 floors and reception lobby where students/staff will dispose of all their plastic bottles for a week.
2. The following week we will hold a craft workshop where instead of recycling the plastic bottles because it takes years for it to decompose, we will instead upcycle the plastic bottles and make plant succulents, pen cups etc.
3. Encourage students/staff to join our one week no plastic challenge where they will avoid the use and purchase of plastic bottles. They will sign a 'pledge' and leave their room numbers and email addresses with us which we will then chase up at the end of the week to see if they were successful or not.



HOW SUCCESSFUL WERE YOU IN AVOIDING YOUR PLASTIC WASTE HABITS?

From: Monday 11th March till Friday 15th March.

THE PLASTICS DEBATE

ROOM NUMBER	VERY SUCCESSFUL (totally avoided it)	Slipped up once or twice	Not successful at all	Other? (please explain)
226	✓			
304		X		
127		X		
401		✓		
111		X		
227			X	
301			X	
412			✓	
510		✓		
230	✓ YES!	✓		
521		✓		
316			✓	
311	✓			
526			X	
424		✓		
223		✓		
116			✓	
127			✓	
224	✓			

Impact

- We believe that our project did have an impact on the students as **39 students signed up to our one week challenge** showing that they are determined to change their behaviour and their plastic habits, thus contributing to our SMART target.
- Although only **7 students were fully successful in avoiding all plastic bottles**, we still had 16 other students who slipped up once or twice. This shows that there was a willingness from those students trying to abandon their plastic habits.
- In order to measure the project those who attended the workshop were encouraged to sign up to our one week no plastic waste challenge. We had about 39 students sign up, leaving their emails and room numbers with us. We then created a 'tick sheet survey' with all the students' room numbers who signed up and we pinned it in the reception lobby whiteboard. We decided to opt for the 'tick sheet' method as this made it easier for the students to relay their results.

Learnings

- The project allowed us all to learn how easy it is to accumulate plastic bottle waste, and how we can change our habits by simply purchasing a reusable bottle.



Gold winner

100 Green Ideas

LSE 100

Project Statement

- Why are single-use plastics still used so frequently by LSE staff and students, and how can we incentivize them to reduce their consumption and change their choices?
- How can we support staff and students in achieving more sustainable lunchtime routines, with specific focus on reducing single-use plastics?

Project Overview

Two parts of the project:

- STAFF ENGAGEMENT PROJECT: 'How can you make your lunch sustainable?' – a four-week project for LSE100 staff that focused on all five 'Plastic Free LSE' targets
- RESEARCH SURVEY on single use plastic. Targeting wider LSE community (staff and students). Focused on all 3 Plastic Free LSE targets (disposable bottles, coffee-cups, cutlery).



Part 1: How can you make your lunch more sustainable?



1: STAFF ENGAGEMENT

Impact:

- **Almost 2/3 of the LSE100 team (19 of 30) took part!** This includes the LSE100 Director, Deputy Directors, Fellows, Guest Teachers and Professional Services Staff.
- Our staff found 67 ways of making LSE100 lunch sustainable and delicious.
- We recommended 14 places within an easy reach to LSE where it is possible to get a “green” lunch (without disposable coffee cups, plastic drinks bottles, plastic cutlery, or plastic cups, which allows us to reduce general waste).
- The project lasted for four weeks. We counted submissions by Twitter (#100GreenIdeas) and pictures/suggestions sent by email, with prizes on offer for those who contributed the most.
- Prizes were sustainable too! We offered the three winners vouchers for a vegetarian and vegan restaurant near LSE (Vanilla Black) and two sustainable lunch boxes (Black and Blum).

Findings:

- There are many ways to make lunch sustainable...and 14 places around LSE to choose environmentally friendly take-away lunch (Pod, Leon, Wahaca, Lincoln's Inn Fields Kitchen, Shaw Café, Soho Coffee Café, Hibba, Farmstand, By Chloe, Bill's and many others).
- During the course of a month, 19 members of our team actively reduced their use of single-use plastic coffee cups, water bottles, containers and cutlery and looked for ways to make their lunch plastic-free, sustainable and to reduce food waste. This changed habits and raised awareness of the need to reduce waste.
- There are apps that make unused food from restaurants available (for a small charge) – e.g., TooGoodToGo app.

Part 1: STAFF ENGAGEMENT



#100GreenIdeas - our LSE100 Green Impact Competition

by **Joseph Lane** - Tuesday, 5 February 2019, 10:58 AM

Hello team!

As we announced in the refresher yesterday, LSE100 is participating in Green Impact this term and will be submitting a portfolio based on our research project and competition.

Here are all the details you need to join the competition - we really hope as many people as possible across the team are involved!

Is your lunch sustainable?

The competition will run throughout February and is focused on how we can make our food and beverage purchases in and around LSE campus more sustainable. Particular emphasis is placed on reducing our consumption of single-use plastics (packaging, containers, bags, straws etc.).

To participate just take a photo and email us at LSE100@lse.ac.uk or tweet [#100GreenIdeas](https://twitter.com/100GreenIdeas)

Each week the LSE100 Green Impact team will collate all the submissions and award points, updating you all through Moodle and the Monday refresher sessions. Points are allocated as shown below. These are just examples and we're keen to get creative and spread the net as wide as possible.

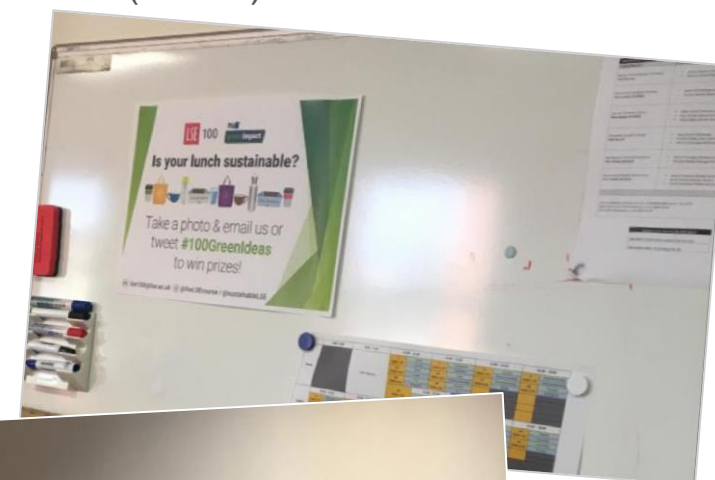
1 point = examples of reducing single-use plastic (keepcup; kitchen or wooden cutlery; sustainable food wrap or lunchboxes for your own lunch etc.)

2 points = recommending a local eatery/outlet that helps make your lunch sustainable, i.e. through providing wooden cutlery, allowing you to bring your own container/cup. The first person to recommend each outlet will be awarded the prizes

Remember: Points mean Prizes!

We'll be following the hashtag on twitter so any twitter submissions, please use [#100GreenIdeas](https://twitter.com/100GreenIdeas) so we can easily find it and award your points!

Competition announcement on Staff Moodle (left) and via posters available in the common areas (below)



Part 1: STAFF ENGAGEMENT

Lessons for our team:

- Bring our own reusable water-bottles/coffee cups
- Use non-disposable cutlery/cups in the office
- Bring our own lunches to minimize waste
- Use paper straws rather than plastic
- Use non-disposable lunch containers/wraps
- Consider choosing vegetarian/vegan dishes
- Choose sustainable alternatives to disposable plastic cutlery
- Consider supporting sustainable lunch places around LSE



Part 2: Why do we choose single-use plastic? How can we use less?



Part 2: RESEARCH SURVEY

Impact:

- **199 members of the LSE community responded to the survey**, including 136 students and 63 members of staff.
- This survey reached students and staff across the School (via emails to 1750 LSE100 students and all departments), and the results will be shared on our website and Moodle.

Findings:

- A majority of the respondents try to avoid buying water in single-use plastic (29% never buy it, 43% buy it once a month or less). Those who do buy it more often would change if there were more water fountains at the campus (39%), subsidised reusable bottles to purchase at the campus (25%) and places to wash the bottle at the campus (24%)
- There is more work to be done with single-use coffee cups. 32% respondents buy them a few time a month, 15% at least once a week and 9% every day! Almost half of respondents (44%) actually own a reusable cup but forget to bring it. 39% responded that a min 50p discount on beverages purchased at LSE in a reusablecup would make them less forgetful.
- Majority of the respondents never or rarely use single-use cutlery (e.g. with take-away lunches). Those who do pointed out availability of green alternatives in lunch places around LSE (42%) and availability of cutlery to use with own lunch on campus (35%) as arrangements that would incentivise them to change.

Tweets from our team about the survey



LSE100 @TheLSECourse

As part of this year's #GreenImpact initiative to reduce single-use plastic, we are launching our #100GreenIdeas research project! Please take part in our survey and help to better understand how LSE students and staff use...



Marta Wojciechowska @wojciechowa · Feb 25

One more week to go to take part in the @TheLSECourse #100GreenIdeas survey on how to reduce single-use plastic! If you haven't had a chance yet to send us your answers, go straight ➡ bit.ly/LSE_100GreenId... Project is a part of LSE #GreenImpact @SustainableLSE 🌱🌱🌱

Lighter reusable cups!! I already carry around a metal water bottle (amongst my laptop and all my uni work) so a reusable cup as well just makes my bag too full and too heavy!!

Reusable bottles that we can borrow by paying a deposit or cups available for use at campus restaurants

Have the option to not get in plastic if you are staying in the café

Possibility of drying own cups as well as washing at LSE

I'm happy with my reusable cup usage because I rarely use single use cups. To encourage more people to do the same, I think there should always be a charge for a single use cup - in the same way as there is for plastic bags.

Voices from the survey: what would incentivise you to change?

Free hot water at LSE

Lockers on campus to leave bottles and other personal stuff

Keep cups that can be exchanged and given back to coffee shops at different LSE places

Part 2: RESEARCH SURVEY

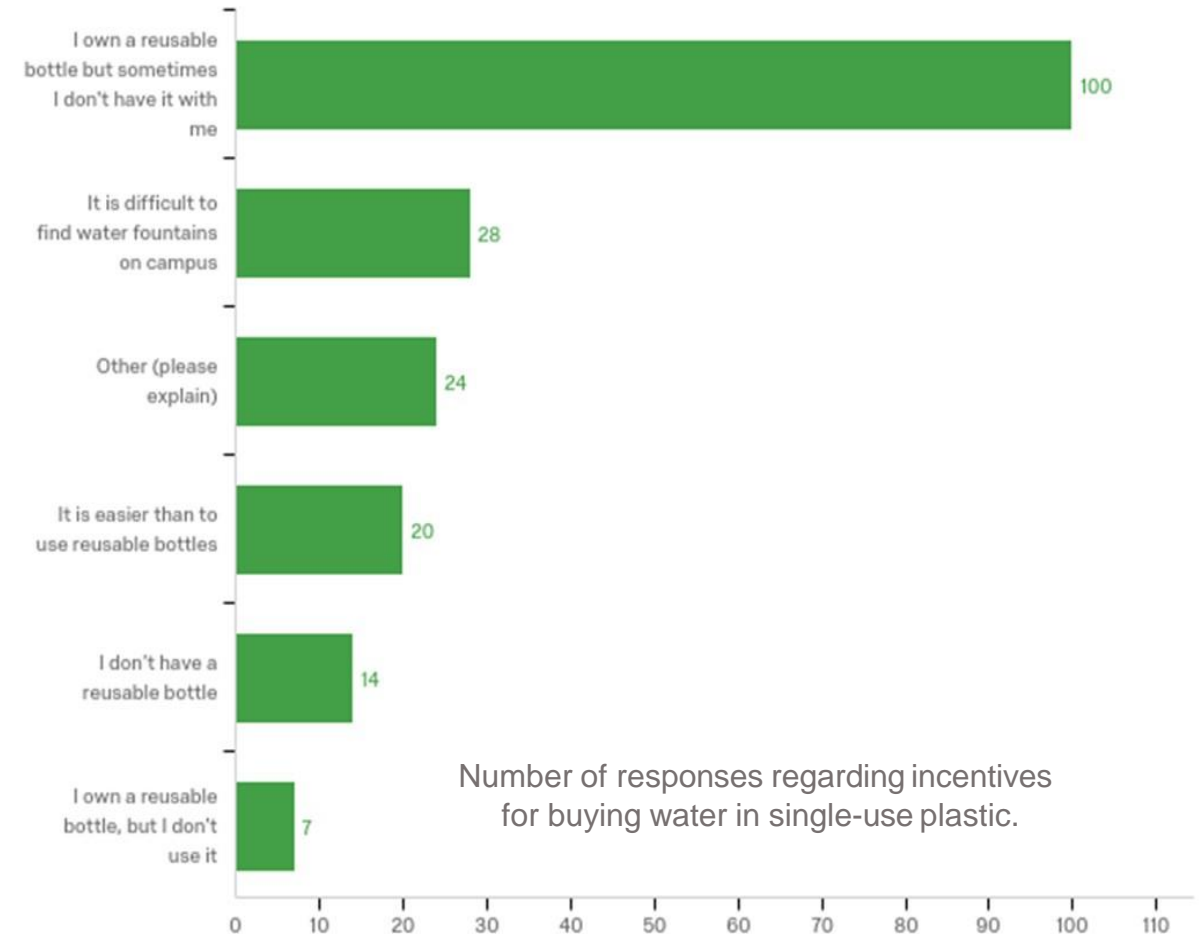
Suggestions for action at School level:

1. It would be helpful to install more water fountains around campus
2. Do more to highlight existing discounts for beverages purchased at LSE with reusable cups
3. LSE catering outlets should offer more re-usable cutlery
4. Make facilities available for students to wash their own cutlery/cups

Such actions will incentivise LSE staff and students to use fewer single-use plastic products!

Demographics of the survey respondents:

Answer	%	Count
Student	68.34%	136
Staff	31.16%	62
Other (please clarify)	0.50%	1
Total	100%	199



Impact

We believe that the project was a success as the turn out to the workshop was a great success. A lot of students turned up to take part in recycling and making something out of the plastic bottles. Which was a lot of fun!

We were also able to measure the project through a tick box survey. We had 28 students participate in the survey which wasn't enough to gain firm conclusions, however there was enough evidence to see the impact that was implemented on the students. The vast majority had felt that they were not as knowledgeable about how much plastic they were wasting. But they did say that through this project they understood how much they can actually waste on a daily basis.

Learnings

The project was not just knowledgeable to the students, we as a team also benefited and realised how much we tend to waste. It also allowed us to learn how easy it is to simply buy a bottle and reuse it, rather than wasting so much money on buying plastic bottles.



HOW SUCCESSFUL WERE YOU IN AVOIDING YOUR PLASTIC WASTE HABITS?

ROOM NUMBER	VERY SUCCESSFUL (totally avoided it)	Slipped up once or twice	Not successful at all	Other? (please explain)
E102			✓	
G08	✓			
120		✓		
11.0503			✓	
321	✓			
301		✓		
G25			✓	
T202				
E302		✓		
T101			✓	
210	✓			
311			✓	
224		✓		
G08		✓		
G11			✓	





THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Silver winner
Save the Bag!
Butler's Wharf Hall



The Problem

Plastic is everywhere and we depend on it. Whilst many alternatives to plastic products have been developed, it will still take us time to completely replace it with something more environmentally friendly. Until then, we need to look at how we can reduce the consumption of plastics we use in our daily operations.

Project Overview

As a part of our staff and student engagement program, we run focus groups with staff and students at Butler's Wharf. Some residents suggested that we could reduce the frequency of bin bag collections from the student kitchens. There are 47 kitchens where recycling bins were emptied on a daily basis.



Project

For the month of February 2019, Housekeeping team was briefed and students were informed of the new scheme. Cleaners will assess whether a bag needs replacing or not and maintained a log for all replaced bags.

Impact

- In one month, we **saved 630 plastic bin bags** by reducing changing the bins when required rather than every day! This was a huge saving on single-use plastic bags and also reduced our costs.
- Due to the success of the project in February, this process change will be continued and as a results, save 630 plastic bags each month. That's an estimated **7,560 bin bags saved each year!**
- We thanked the students for their cooperation and as it was their own idea, the result has a bigger impact on them.

Learnings

- We need to **involve all stakeholders** in our sustainability projects. Apart from providing a resource for ideas and participation, it increases its acceptability and hence has bigger impact.
- **Small savings add up.** If implemented across all halls, this scheme could save thousands of single use plastic bags.



630 bin bags were saved in February by simply changing them when needed, not everyday.



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Silver winner

Plastic-free Week

Dep of Government



The Problem

We use single-use plastics every day. The Department has already taken action to reduce what we use and we want to extend this as much as possible. To do that, we need to raise awareness and make it as easy as possible for busy colleagues to make plastic-free choices during Green Week and beyond. We will also run a social-media takeover raising staff and student awareness of 'hidden' plastics using our social media channels. This complemented our longer-running poster campaign on changes made in the Department.

Project Overview

- Over Green Week, we hoped to raise awareness of changes the Department has made this year and promote changes staff and students could make themselves to support the reduction of single-use plastics.
- We did this with a **social media campaign** on hidden plastics and a **single-use, plastic-free shared lunch** for staff.
- Our project tied in to all of the Plastic Free LSE targets.



"I learnt that there is plastic in chewing gum and tea bags."

"I have purchased a keep cup for my caffeine addiction..."



"It hopefully encourages everyone to make the small changes that will add up to a big impact."

Impact

60 second interviews:

- **100% of surveyed colleagues learned something from the week** and thought that getting involved was a positive thing for the department.
- Three of our colleagues bought a keep cup or bottle as a result of the campaigns.
- 100% of our interviewees had ideas for making the Department even greener.

Waste audit:

- The waste audit showed an overall **reduction of disposable cups in our bins** over the 2 months that our campaign was running.

Social media:

- We can also see that our 10 posts were liked, viewed and shared a total of 584 times. A cosmetics company and a student also shared comments on our posts.

Orders:

- We have reduced our orders **from 288 small bottles in 5 months to 0** in February and **150 large bottles per year to 0**.



Between Michaelmas Term and February, we ordered 288 plastic bottles of water .



We've now replaced bottled water with glasses and jugs of water for meetings.



Be part of the campaign to cut single use plastics at LSE

"We don't need to ask for the bottles of water again."

"I was prompted to look at what could be recycled and am now recycling my soft contact lenses."



"By promoting this on Social Media we are publishing that we're a Green Department."

We have changed our departmental behaviour and encouraged behavioural changes in our colleagues...



“The foldable bottle my colleague showed me proved I could carry a bottle in my bag without it being bulky.
I ordered one.”

Learnings

We have enjoyed working with colleagues in different ways and shared knowledge about School processes and purchasing, photography and film and vegan, gluten free recipes!

Our 60-second interview respondents all told us they had learned that chewing gum and tea bags contain tiny amounts of plastic.

We’ve seen that we can make differences and are excited to see what we can do next year.



...and we’ve had fun and learned new things as a team.



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Silver winner

Sustainability Pub Quiz

Dep of Geography and Environment



Project Overview

Using the pub quiz format to engage and inform students on the topic of sustainability, with a specific focus on plastics:

- We held a pub quiz style event with students
- It engaged with students from G&E, but also beyond our Department via liaison with LSESU Societies
- The event itself was led by student project assistants
- The project was relevant to all of the Plastic Free LSE targets, in that the questions (and answers) dealt with issues of plastic consumption and waste.

Impact

- We engaged students beyond our core cohort
- Students learned about the problems associated with plastics via the interactive event

Learnings

Scheduling of events needs to be done very carefully, as unfortunately this event clashed with a number of student Society events, which negatively impacted turnout.

The Problem

Although sustainable living and, in particular, the reduction of plastic usage is very much in the public consciousness we want to provide information and promote easy ways in which staff and faculty can live more sustainably with the goal of embedding more sustainable practices in everyday life.

Project Overview

- We ran a social media campaign to ask students to make green pledges for the chance to win a 'Green on the Go' pack, and to raise awareness of our Living Sustainably Everyday Stall.
- Our Living Sustainably Everyday Stall was situated in the LSESU for half a day to promote plastic free living with an installation to raise awareness of how many single use plastic products are still being used.
- Our project engaged with the whole LSE community and was relevant to all of the Plastic Free LSE targets.





The Problem

People's daily consumption habits and then disposal choices affect the environment. Often the products we buy and dispose of daily are single-use plastics and it can be challenging to source alternatives.

Project Overview

We held a **stall outside the LSESU during lunchtime**, engaging LSE students to think about their recycling habits and consumption choices through interactive games with 'grow-your-own sunflower pots' and 'naked' bars as prizes.

Students could take part in:

- The **'Plastic Fishing' game**: against the clock students fished waste out of the tub of water and divided the waste into recyclable or non-recyclables!
- The **'Daily Habits Sustainability Quiz Sheet'**: students answered several questions about their daily habits to find out if they were a 'beginner' 'semi-pro' or 'expert' to sustainability!

SMART goal: to engage 20 students in conversations about responsible consumption and recycling habits during the lunchtime stall to reduce consumption and improve waste disposal.



15 students engaged in fun games and interesting conversation about sustainable habits – many of them carried their own reusable cutlery around!

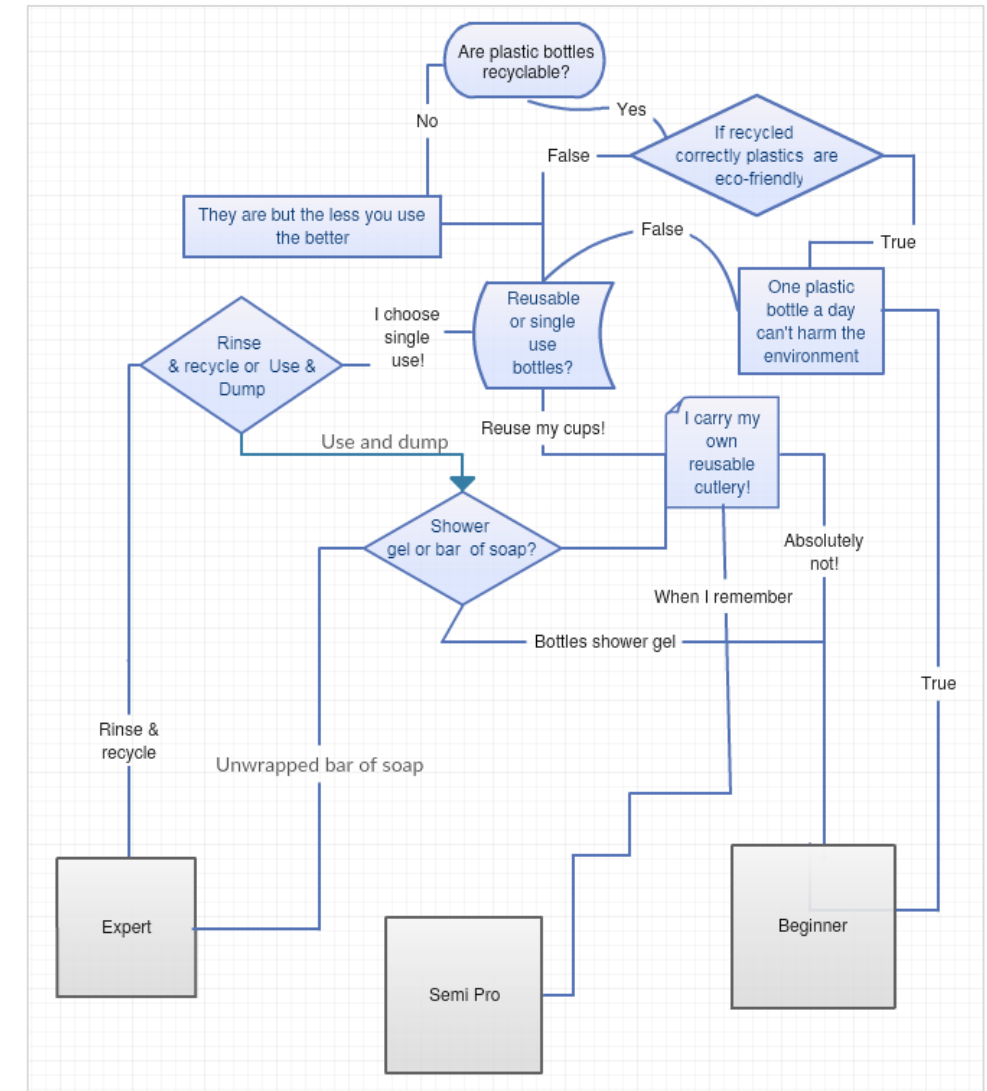
Daily Habit Sustainability Quiz Sheet

Impact

- Over our lunchtime stall of just 90minutes, **15 students took part** in the games on the stall. (We reduced the stall time from 2 hours to 90 minutes due to other commitments which came up.)
- We had interesting and friendly conversation with all the students who engaged, learning about what they were doing in their daily lives to reduce waste and giving them further ideas.
- The **sustainable prizes** encouraged students to grow their own food and plants, and choose a vegan diet.

Learnings

- It was great to learn that **many of the students who engaged carried their own reusable cutlery and water bottles**. Many hadn't yet thought about their toiletries e.g. buying a bar of soap rather than shower gel.
- Lunchtime outside the SU is a good time to get engagement, and prizes are a good incentive.
- It worked well having 2 different activities to engage students, appealing to different types of people.
- More thought could have been given to measuring qualitative impact.
- If we had had more planning time, we would have created 'top tips' cards for students to takeaway with them.





THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE

Silver winner Paperless Applications

Graduate Admissions Office



The Problem

Prior to the 2018/9 academic year, graduate applications were submitted online but printed for admin and sent in individual plastic wallets to departments for evaluation. As well as the quantities of materials used (paper, A4 plastic wallets, treasury tags, staples), files would often go missing in transit, or be difficult to locate (eg if one member of staff had the file on their desk and another needed to consult it).

Project Overview

First planned in 2012, the first stage involved collaborating with ARD Systems to produce our own online application form (this was previously outsourced). Since then, we have worked to create an electronic version of the form that can be seen by academic departments and selectors, accessed from a central database so multiple people in different places can see the form at the same time if required. Additional documents supplied by applicants are scanned (if received as hard copies) and uploaded to the application file. Alongside the digital application file, staff and selectors record each stage in the decision process before returning it to Graduate Admissions, who inform the applicant of the outcome. In addition to the printer paper saved, the individual plastic wallets which were sent to the departments in are no longer needed. We are looking to give our existing supplies to a local school or library.

Review History

05/02/2019, 09:39

Admin - Processing

GAO Admin)

Decision: SITS updated with decision

Choice: 1

Programme: L7UD - MSc in Environmental Economics and Climate Change

28/01/2019, 15:14

Blue Sheet

Decision: Reject

Choice: 1

Programme: L7UD - MSc in Environmental Economics and Climate Change

28/01/2019, 15:12

Central Selector

Decision: Reject

Choice: 1

Programme: L7UD - MSc in Environmental Economics and Climate Change

There are no reviews currently available for you to complete.

Page: 1 of 18

Automatic Zoom

Application form for 2019 entry

LSE Graduate admissions

The London School of Economics and Political Science

PO Box No 15425, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, United Kingdom

1st choice: programme code

2nd choice: programme code

Title of programme

Title of programme

Contact

Student Code

2019/

Previous Institution

Previous institution

University of

Country of previous institution

Click here and paste an image to attach

Post

Share an update...

Share

Sort by:

Most Recent Act

Search this f...

Chatter posts and updates will appear here...

Impact

Although this has been a lot of hard work as all staff have had to learn the process while keeping applications moving, the first signs are that significant amounts of time and materials have been saved. Final figures for application turnaround times will be calculated at the end of the cycle, but are thought to have improved as a result of the time saved through not having to search for missing files or wait for internal mail deliveries.

As of March 2019, we have received **37,146 applications**, which is around 88% of the total forecast for the academic year. Each paperless application represents a saving of one plastic document wallet and one treasury tag. Applications generally contain a minimum of 10 sheets of paper, so we've saved at least **440,000 sheets** (the actual figure is likely to be much higher, as most applicants support their applications with additional documents, and PhD applicants include research proposals and writing samples that can run to as much as 50 additional sheets).

Learnings

Our main takeaway was that a project of this size must be carefully planned. We wanted to launch in several previous cycle years, but needed to be totally confident that everything would hold together once it was up and running.



These crates contain approximately **40,000 plastic wallets** from last year's applications, which were not required this year as a result of the project. We are looking to donate them to a school or library.



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Silver winner

Less Plastic, More Cooking

Northumberland, High Holborn and Grosvenor House



The Problem

The project aims to reduce the number of single use plastics in general, disposable coffee cups; take away containers and single use shopping bags used and therefore thrown away. It contributes to UN SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, and also supports the wide movement of plastic free planet, shifting to encourage reusable merchandise.

Project Overview

We also would like to have cooking workshops to introduce students to basic and simple cooking, hence reducing take away meals and single use plastic containers.

- We decided to hold a demonstrative cooking class to show students and staff how to prepare simple meals instead of ordering takeaway food.
- We engaged with students and staff.
- Our project is relevant to 'waste' in #PlasticFreeLSE targets.

Impact

We wanted to target takeaways which very often come packaged in single use plastic. Many students in halls order lots of takeaways and we wanted to show them how to prepare their own food and in turn reduce the amount of single use plastic.

- We organised a lunchtime cooking class demonstrating how to prepare homemade falafel and vegetable wraps. 20 students and staff members attended.
- As we prepared the food, we spoke about the impact of single use plastic and LSE's commitment to reducing this. We gave suggestions on how students can further reduce waste.
- We also encouraged students to purchase discounted keep cups from Reception to further reduce single use cups.
- In order to measure the impact of our cooking class, we asked each participant to complete an evaluation form.
- More students now cook more and order less takeaways. They have reported that they have also saved money. They also cook together which creates a more sociable environment.



Learnings

- It was great to learn how to cook tasty and nutritious food fairly easily. Many of the students said the same thing, and felt more confident in preparing their own food.
- Quite a few of the students had already purchased their own keep cups, and so it was good to see that they were already thinking about reducing waste.
- Interactive sessions with students generates far more engagement than sending emails and putting up posters.
- With more time, we would have created recipe cards for students to take away with them.

Silver winner Single-Use Plastic Free Office Secretary's Division

Project Overview

A brief summary of the project including:

- Collected single use plastic to better understand the scale of the problem and to understand what the main single use plastics were. Following this we increased comms and messages and provided opportunities to go plastic free e.g. plastic free lunches together.
- We then completed another audit which showed a significant reduction in single use plastics – although not across all the different types.
- We engaged staff across the division. We also worked with neighbouring division (RACU) and a student ambassador.

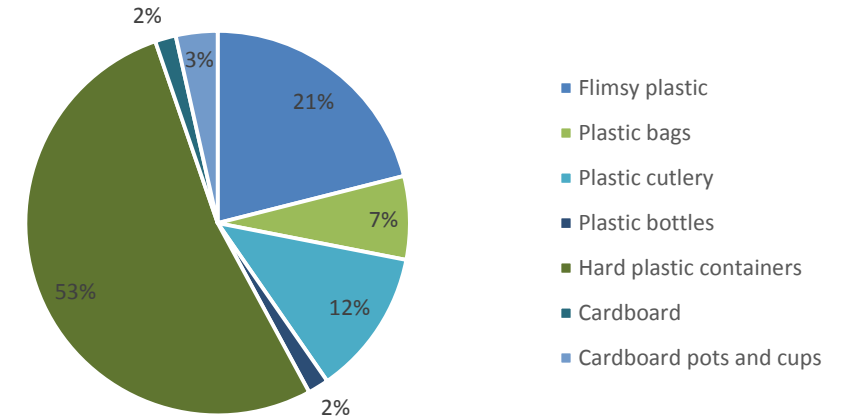


Impact

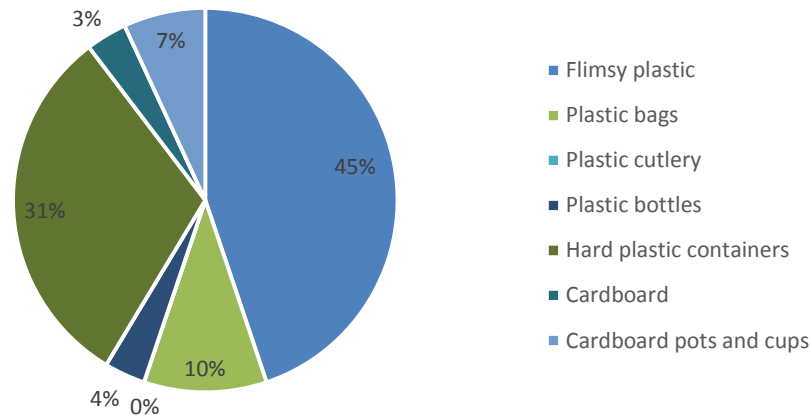
- A significant reduction in the use of hard plastic containers (from 30 down to 9; a 67% reduction).
- Elimination of the use plastic cutlery (from 7 to 0; a 100% reduction).
- An overall reduction in the amount of single use plastic generated.
- Assuming that the division was producing 57 items over 50 weeks = 2850 items of plastic.
- Assuming that the division continues to produce the lower amount of 29 items over 50 weeks = 1450 items of plastic.
- Therefore if the lower levels of single plastic use by the Division are sustained over a year there would be 1,400 fewer items of single use plastic generated.

Item	Audit 1	Audit 2
Flimsy plastic	12	13
Plastic bags	4	3
Plastic cutlery	7	0
Plastic bottles	1	1
Hard plastic containers	30	9
Cardboard	1	1
Cardboard pots and cups	2	2
Total	57	29

Audit 1



Audit 2



Learning

Successes:

Building on our first year of Green Impact last year
Increasing membership of the Green Impact team

Challenges:

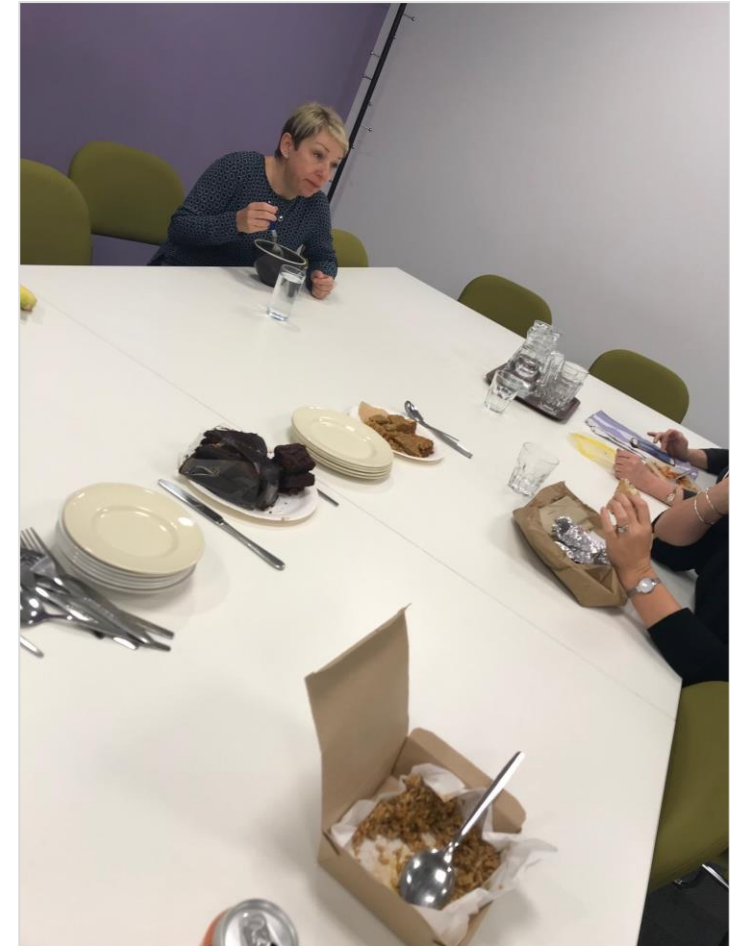
As with last year it was challenging to extend the impact of a small division in the School especially given time limitations.
Would have liked to link with an academic department through student volunteer but this was not possible.

Learnt:

To timetable monthly Green Impact Team meetings in order to ensure time for actions.

In order to improve the project next year we will need to consider more carefully:

Engagement involving the wider student body
Engagement with external organisations
Both of these will also allow greater ability to demonstrate wider change beyond the School and more visible impact from the Green Impact project.



Plastic free lunch

Silver winner

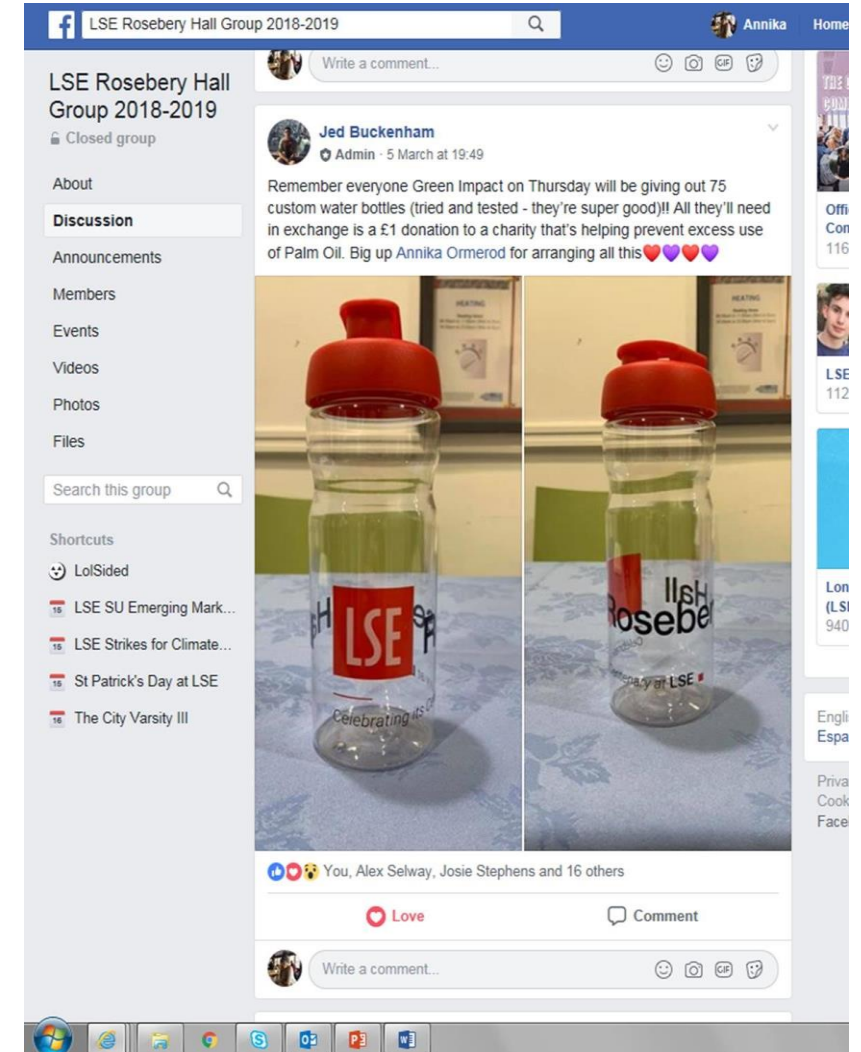
LSE Rosebery Water Bottles

Rosebery Hall

Project Overview

We are encouraging students of Rosebery Hall to stop using disposable plastic water bottles and cups!

Our project centred around students not using disposable plastic in terms of water bottles and cups and encouraging donations for the orangutan project which is a charity that takes action against excessive use of palm oil production. We combined these two issues by creating a water bottle with Rosebery Hall on it and giving them to students if they make a donation to the charity. We held an event coinciding with a committee organised event open mic night and provided beers to encourage students to come and talk to us about plastics and palm oil.



Impact

- The success of the project is we managed to **raise at least £60** for the palm oil charity
- – this is still rolling now as we will continue with donation giving until the end of the term.
- Our engagement in one evening was very successful with **55 people getting water bottles** – for those who couldn't make the event we have bottles behind the reception and are accepting donations.
- The project tackled two aspects of single-use plastics with encouraging the use of disposable plastic water bottles and cups. This was seen when an open bar was held the next day and the committee not providing any plastic cups and people used their bottles instead.
- We measured the impact with the amount of donations and bottles handed out.

Learnings

Our learnings as a team was to engage with students on as many platforms as possible by putting information out on facebook, word of mouth and emails so people were aware of the green impact event and came.

It also made the project a lot more successful when we worked together with the Rosebery Hall committee as they could advertise the events by word of mouth more since they are students.

This also gave me (the project leader) more available help because the staff team was hard to reach as people work different shifts at different times.



LSE
Rosebery
Hall Water
Bottles
by Rosebery
Hall



**Congratulations to all 25 teams that took part in
2018-19!**

**Thank you for your hard work and the impact that you
have made to reducing single-use plastics.**



Special Award winners (left), Silver Team winners (right)
Photos by Dan Reeves