

'Making a Mark'

Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

Cardiff Met Students' Union

Cardiff Met Students' Union exists to represent, support, inspire and involve every student at Cardiff Metropolitan University.

We're committed to providing a world-class student experience and provide many opportunities for students to make friends and gain skills and experiences that they can take with them when they graduate.

The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to provide 'social impact statements', which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives.



Below are examples of how **Cardiff Met Students' Union** is Making a Mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

Providing opportunities to increase employability

One of our core services is providing employability opportunities to students, to enhance their academic experience and increase their job opportunities when they leave University. This includes a job shop for part time and voluntary work, volunteering initiatives and placements,

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and also the development of our Cardiff Met award, which requires student to undertake either voluntary or paid work.

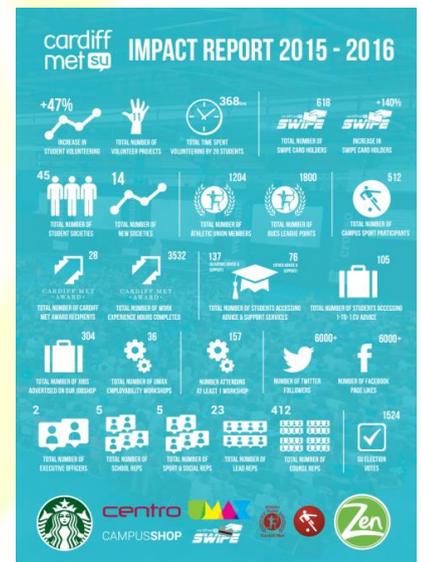
We have also identified the need to provide more support and opportunities for our student societies to make them more active within the academic environment, and to encourage them to integrate and make more of a contribution to the local community.

In providing these opportunities for our students, we believe that they will be able to make a greater contribution when they graduate, be more aware of the benefits of extra-curricular activity and make a greater contribution to the communities they settle in.

Representing the interests of our students

Each year we provide information to the Board of Governors of the University in the form of an Impact Report, providing statistics to highlight student engagement. However, as a student led organisation, we are very close to our members and thus much of the feedback we get is direct from them. They have the opportunity to influence our future direction and tell us what they need and what they want us to focus on.

To formalise this process and open it up to all our members, we have started a 'Tell Us' campaign where members can submit ideas on all areas of our activities and we have given an undertaking that a member of the senior team will provide a response and update to every submission.



Engaging with the local community

We took a lead on the application for Fairtrade Status, which we have achieved and we also work with the University on Go Green Week.

We also work closely with Cardiff City Council and their Cardiff Digs team, which involves community engagement issues with students and Keep Cardiff clean campaigns.

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