# Green Futures Student Solutions – Predefined Projects

### Context

The University of Exeter is looking to support the progression of innovative sustainability initiatives that are seen as high priority by our students. The University is looking to fund projects across our campuses that improve our sustainability and reduce the environmental impact of university activity, and has therefore defined a number of projects to be delivered by students before July-end 2022.

**All project funding must be spent before 31/07/2022.**

To submit a proposal for a pre-defined project, please review the projects below and identify which you’d be best suited for. Please fill out the below proforma and return to [climateemergency@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:climateemergency@exeter.ac.uk) alongside a current CV before 29/04/2022 using the subject heading “*Student Initiatives Fund Predefined Projects”*.

The candidates will be reviewed by our review panel, made up of members of the E&CE team, our Academic Climate Taskforce, and the Student Guild. Winners will be contacted at the end of April for a meeting with the staff lead to determine the delivery programme.

### Challenges Faced

The challenges that we experience as part of the journey to Net Zero can be found in the accompanying documents at the back of this proforma:

* Environment and Climate Emergency 5-Step Journey
* Environment and Climate Emergency Policy Statement

### Project Summary

The following table describes the predefined projects to be led by suitable student candidates. Support will be provided by the E&CE team in line with the below personnel.

| Project Name | Description | Staff Lead(s) | Skills Expected |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Market Analysis: Engagement platforms for student engagement | Carry out in-depth market analysis on engagement platforms that can be used to drive behavioural changes across the University, within both the staff and student communities. This will include stakeholder engagement to identify what requirements the platform requires to deliver behavioural change, and review of our existing Green Rewards platform to identify shortfalls. The output of this project will be a written report of length tbc, dependant on your existing study commitments. | **Andy Seaman –** Energy Manager  **Victoria Patch –** E&CE Comms and Engagement Lead | * Market Research and Business Intelligence * Understanding of online technologies to determine feasibility * Strong organisational skills * Excellent written communication |
| Strategy Development: Develop a comprehensive communications strategy for large student populations | Communication with our stakeholders is a major challenge for our Environment and Climate Emergency response. Communication is a vital method of driving behavioural change, and so effective methods of communications with key stakeholders must be identified if we’re to meet our targets. This project will develop, in written form, an evidence-based strategy for communicating with our student body, inclusive of justification for all elements of the strategy. | **Fraser Browning** – E&CE Technical Evaluator  **Andy Seaman –** Energy Manager  **Victoria Patch –** E&CE Comms and Engagement Lead | * Comms and marketing knowledge and/or experience * Excellent written communication |
| Artificial Intelligence: develop an algorithm that can categorise purchasing item descriptions | The embodied carbon emissions of our purchases account for 55% of our total carbon footprint, and is therefore a real focus for operational carbon reduction. Efficient data management is vital to understand which areas of our supply chain are the largest contributors to carbon, and to inform strategy for impact reduction.  Artificial Intelligence (AI) can vastly improve data processing. It is proposed that AI could provide us with more accurate, and more granular insights of our procurement data, but an algorithm to categorise our spend data is yet to be developed. This project intends to design, test and document a suitable algorithm that will then be included within our carbon accounting development in the following year. This project offers an excellent opportunity to develop project definition and management skills, as the successful candidate will be expected to define the scope of the project, as well as deliver the solution. | **Fraser Browning** – E&CE Technical Evaluator  **Chris Guggiari-Peel** – E&CE Scope 3 Data Analyst | * Analytical approach to problem solving * Algorithm development, preferably in a mathematical or computational setting * Knowledge of digital solutions, preferably in the context of data management and analysis * Demonstrated ability to communicate technical concepts to non-technical stakeholders |

In 500 words or less, please detail why you feel you are the ideal candidate to deliver your chosen project.

If you are successful, please describe what your initial steps would be to deliver the key outcomes described in the project summary above. Please use less than 500 words to do this.