

Dear Prof Watkins,

On behalf of the undersigned, we call on ARU to declare a climate emergency, and to act in solidarity with the Youth Strike for Climate movement's demand for a Global Strike on Friday, 20th September.

Whilst we applaud the excellent work already happening across our university, particularly the ambitious plans set out in our proposed new Sustainability Strategy, the urgency of the situation we face requires a bold and decisive gesture; one that will make clear to staff and students that our institution is committed to tackling the climate and ecological crises.

The SU are already committed to supporting the Global Strike for Climate on Friday, 20th September.

Declare a climate emergency

We therefore call on the university to declare a climate and ecological emergency. This request builds on the demand from student and staff signatories of the SU-led climate emergency petition. It also aligns with declarations made by national government, local authorities, and universities across the UK.

To ensure widespread awareness, we ask that the declaration is included in your weekly email to staff at the start of September, and is accompanied by examples of how the university plans to respond to this emergency.

Support the Global Strike for Climate

In solidarity with the call for a Global Strike for Climate, we ask that you commit to supporting the following set of actions on Friday, 20th September:

- A one hour 'power down'
- Encouraging staff to attend the Global Strike for Climate
- Support for a platform to be set up on the Cambridge campus during the one hour power down, providing internal and external speakers with the opportunity to share their views on the climate emergency. We have already had confirmation that John Niland, Chief Executive of Provide, will join us on this platform.

We would also like to invite you to join us as a speaker on the platform during the one hour power down.

In recognition of the impacts that the climate and ecological crisis will have on our region as a whole, the demands we are making regarding the Global Strike on the 20th September mirror those being put to the University of Cambridge, and those that have already been put to the Cambridge Regional College. We stand united in our efforts to tackle the climate and ecological crises.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Hayes, President, ARU SU

Dr John Hogan, Chair of ARU UCU

Canon Nigel Cooper, ARU Chaplain

Chris Herbert, Chair of ARU Unison