

2181 Meat Free Mondays

Proposer: Rob Klim (Ethical Issues Officer)

Secunder: Callum Harling (Vegan Society)

Summary

This motion is the result of consultation with student leaders about introducing the "Meat Free Monday" campaign at UEA. The purpose of this motion is to trial the campaign in Unio Pizza and gather data as to whether students have taken up the opportunity to reduce their carbon footprint and live a more ethical life.

Union notes:

1. 'Meat Free Monday' is a not-for-profit campaign which aims to raise awareness of the detrimental environmental impact of eating meat, and to encourage people to help slow climate change, preserve precious natural resources and improve their health by having at least one meat free day each week.¹
2. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) estimates that livestock production is responsible for 14.5 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, while other organisations have estimated it could be as much as 51 per cent.²
3. World scientists on the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) agree that we need to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere by 80 per cent by 2050 in order to avoid catastrophic climate change.³
4. Student Unions such as UCLU, Bucks Student Union, and Bath Spar Student Union have run similar campaigns on their campuses.⁴

Union Believes:

1. We should encourage and give students the opportunity to reduce their individual environmental impact.
2. As a student's union we already have strong ethical policy and practices and should continue that legacy by encouraging students to join this campaign.
3. That we should set a positive example to the rest of the student movement and encourage other student unions to join us in this campaign.

Union Resolves:

1. To trial the campaign in Unio Pizza for a month, with a specifically designed menu and discounted vegetarian and vegan options for a

¹ <https://www.meatfreemondays.com/about/>

² <https://www.meatfreemondays.com/about/>

³ <https://www.meatfreemondays.com/about/>

⁴ <http://studentsunionucl.org/articles/meat-free-mondays-at-uclu;>

[https://www.bucksstudentsunion.org/ents/event/3001/;](https://www.bucksstudentsunion.org/ents/event/3001/)

<https://www.bathspasu.co.uk/events/9156/427/>

Monday without compromising the lifestyle choices of students consciously choosing meat.

2. To gather data during this month of how well the campaign has performed, and use this data to assess the next steps for the campaign.
3. To advertise this campaign through social media and other forms of communication available to UEASU.
4. To release a blog post in support of the campaign and detailing our plans in this regard.
5. To recommit to our long-term goal of maintaining a wide and varied selection of vegetarian and vegan food in our food outlets.
6. To mandate the Ethical Issues Officer to lobby the university to support the campaign in the same manner that we have.