



The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

Integration of SDGs in

- Institutional governance/strategic level
- SDGs in research
- SDGs in campus operations
- SDGs in curriculum development
- SDGs in student engagement activities
- SDGs into community activities
- SDGs at a whole-institution level

Focus on

- Goal 1 - No poverty
- Goal 2 - Zero hunger
- Goal 3 - Good health and wellbeing
- Goal 4 - Quality education
- Goal 5 - Gender equality
- Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 7 - Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Goal 10 - Reduced inequalities
- Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12 - Responsible consumption and production
- Goal 13 - Climate action
- Goal 14 - Life below water
- Goal 15 - Life on land
- Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
- Goal 17 - Partnerships for the goals

SDG Accord Reporting 2021 CASE STUDY

Norfolk Community Law Service and Citizens Advice

The UEA law clinic is a joint venture between UEA students and staff, members of the local legal profession, and external charities and organisations including Norfolk Community Law Service and Citizens Advice. The team which comprises of 50 student volunteers in addition to around 200 students involved in Law Clinic Activities provides free legal advice and representation to the Norwich community – meeting a significant local need as well as boosting the employability of our students’.

Projects of the Clinic include; The Justice Project – which works with people who have been convicted of serious crimes but maintain their innocence, to see if there are grounds to overturn their convictions, and Norfolk Community Law Service – which provides free legal advice. Services supported by our students include:

- Family Law Advice Service
- The Welfare Benefits Clinic
- The Migrant and Immigration Advice Service
- The Discrimination Law Service
- The Employment Law Service
- The Domestic Abuse Team
- The Debt Advice Service
- The Housing Rent Mediation Scheme
- Street Law – a community outreach programme that delivers a wide range of awareness-raising sessions on legal issues in local schools and community groups
- Citizens Advice Digital Hub

The work of the UEA Law Clinic has received national recognition. In 2014, the Clinic won the prestigious national LawWorks Best Partnership in Pro Bono Award, for our ground-breaking collaboration with Norfolk Community Law Service. The Clinic has also won three Runners-Up awards in the LawWorks & Attorney General Student Pro Bono Awards, and students from the Clinic have won three UEA Engagement Awards. The Clinic also won Best Partnership at the UEA Innovation and Engagement Awards 2020.

BENEFITS

1. It enables students to appreciate the complex interplay of legal rules and principles in real-life situations, to develop a critical awareness of the strengths and weaknesses of the law, and to acquire a wide range of transferable skills that enhance their employability. Working in the Law Clinic enriches our students, and helps to prepare them for life after University. It constitutes a powerful marketing tool for student recruitment.
2. The Law Clinic makes a real difference to people’s lives – giving people from the local community access to legal services which they could not otherwise have accessed.
3. The success of the Law Clinic raises the profile of the Law School and the University, both nationally and within the local community.

BARRIERS

1. Ensuring funding. We receive university support and donations and sponsors.
2. Ensuring our Clinic space is fit for purpose, accessible to our partners and used to the fullest possible capacity. In order to do this, we have a number of resource needs. These include: production and printing of Law Clinic brochure/annual report for promotion purposes, a travel budget for students to attend clinical legal education workshops, branding and signage, and some key practitioner textbooks and guides.
3. Covid restrictions have limited some of our recent activities and planned developments.

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CONCLUSIONS

We believe that as UEA is part of the local community the Law Clinic must serve the needs of that community in areas where there is currently little access to justice for those with modest means. We have plans to expand our provisions so we can continue to do this in the future.