Sustaining high-level engagement and leadership from the university

Sheffield Hallam University’s approach

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Sem 1
- Leads established for each of the strategic themes
- Mental Health and Stress Audit gathered data from group members

Sem 2
- Academic Board approved new Student Support Framework
- University Wellbeing Working Group established
- Started to develop strategic themes and lobby for University Steering Group
- Mark Swales, Director of Estates and Facilities agreed to act as Executive sponsor
- Started to raise profile of the work around wellbeing at Boards and University Conference

Timeline

Sem 1
- University Executive Group endorsed Terms of Reference
- Action Plan being developed

Sem 2
- University Healthy University Steering Group established
February 2013 Academic Board approved new Student Support Framework for the University.
It was co-developed by Head of Student Services and Faculty Head of Professional Services. The framework described the model of student support and included 4 priorities:

• develop a student communications plan

• establish a professional development framework for staff providing student support

• accredit student support services against an appropriate nationally recognised standard

• prioritise the health and sustainability agenda in the student experience by aligning the Students Union Health and Sustainability Strategic Vision with an aspiration to become a Healthy University.

Semester 2, 2012-13
Initiation phase
Priority established within Corporate Policy Framework
Semester 2, 2012-13

University Wellbeing Working Group established Forum for staff and students working in this field

Covers both staff and student issues.

Started to develop strategic themes:

- Connecting with others
- Making Healthy Choices
- Curriculum and Personal Development
- Developing our Staff
- Participating in Social and Community Life
Semester 2, 2013/14

May 2014 - 1st meeting
Considered Terms of Reference and emerging strategic themes from Wellbeing Working Group

June 2014 - 2nd meeting
Used Healthy University self-review tool

Oct 2014 - 3rd meeting
Chair reported on feedback from University Executive Group
Considered draft Action Plan for 2014/15 based on outcome of self review
Feedback from University Executive Group.

The Healthy University Steering Group was asked to:

• ensure that Healthy Universities did not add to or duplicate existing work but acted as a catalyst for working better together across the institution and with key external stakeholders.

• focus on using the framework to support additional employability opportunities for our students through placements and project work.

• report directly to the University Executive to demonstrate corporate oversight. The question was asked if this group should be a task and finish group.
Key feature of our approach - partnership with students

University and Students Union signed Time to Change pledges