# Student Project Brief

## Warwick Circular Economy Project Lead

**What is circular economy?**

It means keeping products and materials useful for as long as possible through sharing, reuse, repair, resale, refurbishment and recycling, while avoiding unnecessary purchases and waste.

If you want to contribute to making the campus more circular, this may be the opportunity for you.

## Project Title

Circular projects on campus

**What is This Project About?**
This project focuses on improving how we engage students with sustainable living through our circular economy projects. You'll help explore creative ways to make circular living on campus more achievable, and inspire others to join in.

There are 10 'Rs' often referred to under the theme circular economy; Refuse, Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Refurbish, Remanufacture, Repurpose, Recycle, and Recover, each representing strategies to minimise waste and maximize resource efficiency.

Focussing on just two of these 'Rs', we would like placements to deliver the projects below.

**Recycle**

1) Litter picking stations

We have recently worked with the Waste & Recycling team to develop **litter picking stations (link to website)** based across campus.

We would like a placement to run a project, running an online campaign to promote the litter picking stations, how to use them, record data on use & volumes of waste collected, measure impact, and anything else related to the project.

2) Hard to recycle

In our Sustainability hub, we have dedicated waste collection points including WEEE waste, batteries, vapes, recycling and general waste. We have also started a 'hard to recycle' collection point for items that cannot be put in with regular recycling such as; blister packs, cosmetics, soft plastics and more.

We are looking for a placement to deliver general promotion on these waste collection points. We would also like them to run a project when the hard to recycle bin is full, to count the different types of products in the collection, record data, create a report on the findings which we hope will result in creating a dedicated collection point for these specific items.

**Reuse**

3) Pre-loved tabletop sale

As part of our programme of events in the Sustainability Hub, we want to encourage the campus community to reuse items by running a range of 'swap shop' events that will include clothing, books, homeware, houseplant cuttings and anything else the campus community want to swap or share.

The placement will organise the entire event, to either run as a one-off event or to be set up as a permanent feature within the sustainability hub, depending on feedback and demand from the campus community. They will manage marketing, delivery, measure attendance and feedback, debrief post-event, as well as create a template for future events.

We will also consider other ideas for projects relating to one of the above mentioned 'Rs', please discuss any ideas you might have with us.

## What Will You Gain?

- Hands-on experience within sustainability field
- Opportunities to design & run events and campaigns related to circular economy
- Insight into how sustainability operations are planned and delivered at Warwick
- A chance to develop your organisational and project planning skills
- Experience contributing to Warwick’s wider sustainability strategy
- Enhanced teamwork and communication skills
- A meaningful opportunity to make sustainability more visible and relatable to students

## Time Commitment

Commitment dependant on the types of ideas you may have on circular living on campus. You can plan & deliver a one-off event or plan a project to run for the academic year.

## Who Can Take Part?

This opportunity is open to all students who have an interest in sustainability and would like to engage the campus community in circular living. It is particularly suited to students who are keen to develop skills in project planning, events, running campaigns, communications (social media etc).

## Support Provided

You will be supported throughout the project with:

- Named staff contact: Fran Nibbs (fran.nibbs@warwick.ac.uk)
- Introductory briefing session at the start of the project (in person or online, approx. 1 hour)
- Access to relevant University spaces and sustainability resources
- Ongoing support through weekly check-ins and flexible guidance where needed

## How to Apply or Express Interest

Fill in this online form by 14th January 2027.

Green Champions Express of Interest Form (Copy) – Fill in form

## Questions?

Contact Energy and Sustainability Team at **sustainability@warwick.ac.uk**