

## ECO FRIENDLY MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS MOTION

### This Union Notes:

1. The issues surrounding menstrual products affect multiple areas of society including environmental issues, student health and workers' health.
2. Each year 1.5-2 billion menstrual products are flushed down Britain's toilets and in the UK tampons, pads and panty liners along with their packaging generate more than 200,000 tonnes of waste per year, and they all contain plastic, for example, pads are around 90% plastic.
3. Non-organic menstrual products are made from cotton sprayed with chemical pesticides which destroy biodiversity and causes potentially lethal pesticide poisoning in cotton workers.
4. Conventional menstrual products are potentially harmful to people who menstruate as they are bleached white, and this process creates the chemical dioxin, a known endocrine disruptor. Many conventional menstrual product users have reported adverse allergic reactions to the synthetic ingredients, fragrances and plastics in disposable menstrual products and to new cover sheets used in sanitary towels.
5. According to the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, two of the most common contact allergens are preservative and fragrance. Just as in cosmetics, fragrances can be comprised of allergens, sensitisers and phthalates (a class of chemicals that has been linked to hormone disruption), which can affect development and fertility.

### This Union Believes:

1. Providing and promoting the options for eco friendly and organic menstrual product products is a necessary step we can take to be environmentally conscious and offer students the choice and information needed to make an informed decision.

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2. We are ethically required to consider the environmental and health implications of both our students and those outside of our local community as an institution.

## This Union Resolves:

1. To stock eco friendly and organic menstrual products and take appropriate action to make them as affordable as possible including finding a competitive supplier and approaching potential partners about the possibility of subsidizing access to these products. A choice of such products should be provided which can include menstrual cups, organic cotton and plastic free tampons and pads that are biodegradable, washable pads or reusable period underwear.
2. To promote the availability of eco friendly menstrual products.
3. To have accurate signage in bathrooms to encourage users to only flush the 3Ps: Poo, Pee and Paper.

## This Union Mandates:

1. **[INSERT RELEVANT FULL TIME OFFICER HERE]** to learn about eco friendly menstrual products and promote their availability on campus.