**Motion title – Motion to a) support Oxford University’s Environmental Sustainability Strategy and b) appeal to [college name] to bring their target into alignment with the new University strategy**

**Proposed by […] and seconded by […]**

**The JCR/MCR notes that:**

1. Oxford Sustainability Department is developing an ambitious Environmental Sustainability Strategy with a target to achieve **achieve net zero carbon and biodiversity net gain by 2035.**
2. If ratified, this strategy would replace the existing University target of reducing carbon emissions by 50% from their peak of 2009/10 by 2035.
3. Consultation on the strategy is open to all students and staff until 6 December. The draft strategy along with the online consultation is available at this link: <https://sustainability.admin.ox.ac.uk/consultation>
4. Through consultation with the Oxford Student Union, six areas of improvement to the 2020 Environmental Sustainability Strategy have been identified:

* **Research:** The University must commit to no longer carry out research into the extraction of fossil fuels.
* **Sponsorship:** The University should commit to no longer take research grants, donations or sponsorships from any fossil fuel company.
* **Careers:** The Career Service should be prohibited from advertising positions on behalf of any fossil fuel company that does not have a credible net zero plan as defined within the [Oxford Martin Principles.](https://www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk/publications/oxford-martin-principles-for-climate-conscious-investment/)
* **Climate Justice:** Centre climate justice in all sections of the strategy and research the ways that Oxford – both currently and historically – participates in colonial processes of exploitation and extraction, to the cost of indigenous peoples and frontline communities. Integrate sustainability and anti-racism policy throughout the University.
* **Climate Education:** Prioritise climate education in the curriculum across the University, including experiences of frontline communities and indigenous peoples, so all students have access to climate education.
* **Historic emissions:** Calculate and include historic emissions including scope 1 and 2 within the sustainability strategy and develop equitable solutions to reflect Oxford’s historic and continuing impact.

1. While this new target (if ratified) will bring the University closer into alignment with the Paris Agreement, **it does not formally apply to individual colleges which are independent**.

**The JCR/MCR believes that:**

1. Oxford University has a responsibility to lead the way in responding to the impending dangers of climate change.
2. The University’s proposed target of net zero carbon and biodiversity net gain by 2035 is an important milestone for responding to the climate emergency at Oxford.
3. It is essential to the success of the planned strategy to get as many students involved in the consultation as possible.
4. Individual colleges have a responsibility to their students, the public, and the wider University to align their own actions with the new University strategy.

**The JCR/MCR resolves to:**

1. Support the Sustainability Department’s proposed target of achieving net zero carbon and biodiversity net gain by 2035.
2. Give support for the 6 concerns about the sustainability strategy raised by the Student Union, Oxford Climate Justice Campaign and Oxford Climate Society.
3. Share information about the new sustainability strategy with its members and encourage members to participate in the consultation.
4. Mandate the JCR/MCR President to lobby and write a letter to the head of house/Principal that [college name] aligns its own target with that of the wider University, alongside developing the necessary sustainability strategy to achieve that target.