

18th July, 2022.

The Association for the Advancement of
Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE),
STARS Programme,
2401 Walnut Street,
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U.S.A.

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Dear AASHE STARS Reviewers,

I am delighted to present University College Cork's second submission to the STARS Programme. As the first University outside of the U.S. and Canada to receive a Gold Rating in 2018, UCC are proud and committed members of the AASHE Community.

In the time since our last submission, we have undertaken some exciting and ambitious sustainability projects, such as our SDG Teaching Toolkit and our decision to manage our green space for biodiversity. We have also worked hard to promote higher education sustainability and were delighted to publish an academic paper on our experience with the STARS programme, in collaboration with the STARS manager Chris Pelton.

The Covid-19 pandemic presented many challenges for our programme, including in achieving our our plastic free UCC ambitions. However, I am happy to report that we are back on track and will be single-use plastic free across our catering outlets by January 2023.

In spite of the challenging landscape, I am delighted to see that our submission sees UCC improving its scoring significantly across the broad range of credits. We are committed to achieving a platinum rating in 2025.

We look forward to receiving feedback from the STARS review process and to continue working with you to drive forward the sustainability agenda in higher education and beyond.

With best wishes,



Professor John O'Halloran,
President.

An tOllamh John O'Halloran PhD, DSc
An tUachtarán

Professor John O'Halloran PhD, DSc
President

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