

## Make My Money Matter: Analysis of Universities' Divestment Commitments and Banking Relationships

## October 2023

Make My Money Matter followed the below process to identify the banking choices of leading UK universities with divestment commitments:

- The universities analysed for this research is based on People and Planet's 'Divested Educational Institutions' lists, found <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>. Universities with 'new' divestment commitments announced since 3rd July have not been included.
- To identify the banking choices of those universities, Freedom of Information Requests were submitted during July and August 2023. These requests were supplemented with publicly available data from university websites and reports.
- Of the universities analysed, banking relationships were found for 95. Each of those 95 included at least one relationship with either Barclays, HSBC, Santander, Lloyds or NatWest.
- For the purposes of this release, 'banking relationship' refers to a current account or deposit account held with that bank. Other services – such as a loan, credit facility, money market or currency exchange – were excluded from this total.
- 9 universities confirmed the bank they were with, but did not provide specific information on the nature of their relationship with that bank (I.e., whether this was a current account, or other financing purposes). In these cases, it has been presumed that this relationship refers to a current or deposit account based on the data provided from the 85 universities that did specify the service provided by their banking provider.
- The FOI Requests covers a banking relationship held between the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

The additional results for this report came from polling conducted in partnership with <u>Students Organising for Sustainability UK</u>, focussing on students in higher education in the UK who are TOTUM student discount cardholders. A sample of 779 students taking undergraduate, postgraduate or PhD courses completed the survey in September 2023.