

EAUC-Scotland Forum Meeting Minutes University of Strathclyde Monday 26 June 2017, 10.30 – 12.30

Attendees

Alison Duffy	AD	University of Abertay
Amy Ritchie	AR	University of Strathclyde
Angus Allan	AA	South Lanarkshire College
Ben Ong	ВО	University of St Andrews
Caroline Overy	CO	University of Edinburgh
Christine Laing	CL	Fife College
David Beards	DB	Scottish Funding Council
David Charles	DC	University of Strathclyde
Dean Drobot	DD	University of Strathclyde
Gillian Gibson	GG	EAUC
Jackie Beresford	JB	Dundee & Angus College
Jamie Pearson	JP	Edinburgh Napier University (Convener)
Jenny Jamieson	JJ	Scottish Funding Council
John Thorne	JT	Glasgow School of Art
John Wincott	JW	Fife College
Lorraine Corbett	LC	Heriot-Watt University
Paulo Cruz	PC	Glasgow Caledonian University
Rebecca Petford	RP	EAUC
Spela Raposa	SR	University of Strathclyde
Stewart Miller	SM	University of Glasgow
Tom Kemsley	TK	Queen Margaret University
Trudy Cunningham	TC	University of Dundee

Item	Minutes		Action
1.	Welcome and Apolo	gies	
	the past two year ha	his time as Convenor. His guidance and advice over s been very much appreciated. r Bearer Group Convenor for the next 2 years.	
	Apologies Bill Grace Fraser Lovie Kate Thornback Michelle Brown Ray Walkinshaw	Dundee & Angus College University of Aberdeen SRUC University of Edinburgh Ayrshire College College Development Network	



2.	Introductions and Key Current Projects	
	RP – engaging professionals from different departments DC – sustainable active travel DD – district energy project and Living Labs SR – waste streams and business improvement teams AR – engagement projects for NUS Green Impact JT – Climate Psychology Alliance LC – circular economy and CCF CO – Sustainable Campus Fund for staff and students BO – biodiversity on campus SM – green ICT considering ThinClient JB – funded composter TC – public Sustainable Transport Hub AA – food waste incl. working with catering supplier and reusable cups CL – developing online sustainability unit for all courses PC – food waste for staff kitchens & getting rid of individual bins JW – student engagement & Climate Psychology Alliance TK – launching Climate Change Action Plan (especially recycling) JJ – environmental policy at the SFC JP – improving on-campus recycle rate Discussion on recycling rates: Recycling rate for institution can be reported as 100% by waste contractor as once they have taken it off-campus and recycled it all this will be the case. However on-campus rate will be different. Waste Topic Support Network will discuss this further – 18 July 2017, University of Dundee	
3.	Scotland Convenor's Update (JP) JP will represent Scotland on the EAUC UK Board. Pete Smith (Borders College) also attends EAUC-UK Board. Andrew Hewett. Director of Finance at the University of Dundee has decided to step down. Board Update EAUC-UK Conference — looking to improve variety of the attendees from country and departments. Next conference 19-21 June 2018 at Keele University Noted by forum that this falls during graduation weeks Suggestion to have students feed into organising the conference EAUC has been going through changes with its new strategy, a name change is upcoming and you can read the strategy here Following the success of Scotland Office the UK team are looking to expand regional provision to Ireland and Wales with the set up	EAUC-S: feed this back to UK Team



	T	
	of similar Office Bearer Groups and Forum structures	
	New three year programme has begun with EAUC-Scotland funded	
	through the Scottish Funding Council. Leadership in sustainability	
	is key at the moment and important to see especially including	
	cross-institutional approach to projects and knowledge share	
4.	Scotland Manager's Update (RP)	
	See Scotland Manager's Report <u>here</u> .	
	<u>Highlights</u>	
	 Planning and monitoring structures for the new programme 	
	 Evaluation project was really useful for forming new programme – 	
	thank you to those who completed the survey and interviews	
	 Samantha Hartley joining us as Programme Administrator 10/07 	
	Intern Michael Mackenzie will be working on department	
	engagement event and guides from 10/07	
	Finance Teams and Sustainability: Collaborative Resource	
	<u>Development Workshop</u> - 20 July, Edinburgh	All: forward to
	Marketing and Communications Teams and Sustainability:	relevant department
	<u>Collaborative Resource Development Workshop</u> – 25 July, Glasgow	in your institution for
	School of Art.	both events
	Please forward on information about these events to your	
	institution; all sustainability contacts are welcome also.	
	Partnership meetings with other strategic organisations	
5.	Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reporting (GG)	
	2016 Departs submitted last Nevember SSN public sector applysic report	
	2016 Reports submitted last November. SSN public sector analysis report can be found here. FHE analysis report to be circulated in the next week.	
	Presentation can be found here.	
	FHE represent 29% of public sector reporters	
	42/44 FHE institutions submitted	
	6 sections within the PBCCD reports plus 'recommended' section	
	<u>Highlights</u>	
	 Organisational profile – aligning metrics and reporting year to 	5440 6 4 5 5
	make analysis easier	EAUC-S: all CMPs to
	Governance, management and strategy - good to see how many	be collated and put on website/
	CMPs and strategies were mentioned, we will pull these together	Sustainability
	on our website. Lots on mitigation and less on adaptation	Exchange
	 Corporate emissions, projects and targets – 14% of public sector 	
	emissions overall. FHE sector did very well in terms of the number	



of projects

at relevant Local Authority

 Adaptation – the least reported section however the first year of reporting this for FHE sector. EAUC will work with Adaptation Scotland on training / guidance Request from Forum for a template for the Adaptation Strategy to make it easier to produce. JP mentioned that it also helps to look

EAUC-S: work with Adaptation Scotland on producing templates or guidance

- Procurement 40/42 had a policy in place most people worked with procurement departments or had the department complete this section of the report <u>APUC Sustain</u> tool useful but need suggestions for key suppliers to progress it further
- Validation 39/42 had some sort of validation process but confusion about terminology, internal validation by a team internally or senior management sign-off was most popular
- Recommended Section 11/42 completed this section which follows previous UCCCfS report. EAUC would like more people to complete this section in order to show wider scope of work completed by FHE Sector

Work going forward

Could years and metrics be lined?

- Should be easy enough for all FHE to be academic year reporting (August to July). CRC year is April to March
- Academic financial year is August to July, and aligns with HESA reporting and also easier to consider floor space etc.
- EAUC are working on template to make it easier to show how public bodies and HESA align positive feedback on this

Peer-to-peer validation style – could EAUC support a system?

- (PC) Guidance on what the different level of validation entails and how much data analysis would be required to allow auditors to understand what is required.
- (DD) Strathclyde University use internal team to audit CRC team, but they get their data directly from Spikes Cavell and don't question it much.
- (TC) Senior management doesn't consider it much and don't have the broad knowledge to assess.
- (JP) Doing this internally means you are considering improvements as well as raising sustainability profile
- (JW) Seems easy but what is the responsibility that the validator takes on and can it come back to them? Internal validation won't be acceptable for long.
- (PC) Local Authorities have from April to collect data and FHE sector have from start of September. APUC data not available until February so not accurate. Would there be proper external verification every 5 years or so from Scottish Government?

EAUC-S: discuss year alignment with those not reporting by academic finance year.



- (SM) Need additional time to allow for verification and then time to change things which is a tight turn around for FHE
- (GG) Fairly light touch to start with and not something auditors would be held to, but also to support institution to know the data is likely to be valid
- (JW) The fact that it is public domain means it is a reputational risk if someone finds an error down the road
- (PC) What are you going to validate? Emissions only or all the elements including strategies and plans and whether those documents are accurate? No clear answer

EAUC-S: Discuss enhancing clarity on validation options and responsibilities with SSN

Training request from forum?

- Adaptation Scotland has good resources including <u>EAUC webinars</u>
- (DD) International Sustainable Campus GRI system have some training courses for auditors which could be useful for the sector

EAUC-S: Recirculate training resources

6. Sustainability Committees Pilot Project (GG)

One of many arms of leadership work within the new EAUC-Scotland Programme, on the back of the Leadership Framework presented at the AGM from last programme.

Focused on sustainability networks, looking to build them to be effective and efficient, cross-departmental networks with action and outcomes. Either starting a new network or updating/improving an existing network.

ACT – audit of activity at the institution then report of what EAUC-S can support with going forward to strengthen the committee / set up an effective network.

LEAD – support package produced for institutions with one-to-one support, guidance, templates, training, engagement guidance and facilitating meetings if required.

ACT-LEAD-SUSTAIN Accreditation — annual buy-in package with discounted training, reporting annually through case studies and evidencing effective network activity. Accreditation shows that sustainability is embedded in strategy of the institution.

Developing now to roll out pilot to launch around September.

Comments

 (DD) Working out-with established committee structure sometimes useful
 (GG) Bring informal networks into view, can be any network from a committee to an action group





Potential regional events and tie into Fresher's Week so that sector can have a contribution?

This coincides with first teaching week and potentially Fresher's Lectures or seminars about sustainability – would look to assist with live streaming of the lecture if the speaker is happy.

Contact Rebecca if you are interested in participating

Recycle Week: 25th September - 1st October

Zero Waste Scotland looking to support and engage for this week.

<u>See slides</u> especially for 'Recycling Myths' Toolkit mentioned in ZWS slides

9. **AOCB**

JW - Dissertation by University of Strathclyde student

'An Examination of Contamination Rates in Source-Segregated Recycling Streams through Manipulation of Recycling Signage Features' Scott Bryson, 2014, MSc Sustainability and Environmental Studies

Talking with University of Strathclyde to see whether this is available. Contact Gillian if you would like to be updated on access.

DB - £20million Grant Scheme from SFC for HE

£20m grant scheme is being made available for carbon reduction projects in university estates.

Loans will have a 0% interest rate and payback will be negotiated with the contracts.

Contracts to be arranged by end of March and projects to be started by end of July.

Tendered for programme support at the moment.

No specific procurement framework attached to the projects.

Options are being explored for FE however this grant only applies to HE. More information will be circulated with the sector and key contact when it is made available.

EAUC: circulate more information as soon as it is ready

SM – EDF Offer for Renewable Energy Sources

Many public bodies have been approached by EDF with the offer of a Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) contract. Questions on:

- Legitimacy of the offer, could this be guaranteed?
- Would this push up prices elsewhere if whole of public sector agreed?
- Could this have a positive effect and create more demand?
- Would this be accepted for PBCCD reporting?

SSN have put a call out for information on who has been approached, and have fed this into the Scottish Government.



More guidance on renewables and scope 2 emissions would be needed and this should come from government. Contact Gillian if you are considering the EDF contract or have more questions.	EAUC: circulate more information as soon as it is ready
RP – EAUC-UK Team The UK team has had some staffing changes recently. Keep an eye on the Our Staff page on the website to keep updated.	
Closing Remarks (JP)	
Thank you everyone for coming, invaluable for everyone to come and give input so appreciate the attendee's commitment.	
Next Forum Wednesday 20 th September 10.30-12.30 It will be via VC with 'hubs' in a variety of locations (e.g. Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Aberdeen). If you are able to host one of the locations please get in touch.	All: get in touch with EAUC-S if you are able to host a VC for the next Forum
Sustainability Projects at University of Strathclyde – Tour	

Notes prepared by Gillian Gibson, Scotland Programme Coordinator, EAUC