

Date: Thursday 9th December 2021
Time: 10:00–12:00
Venue: Online via Zoom

Winter Forum Meeting 2021 - Minutes

Attendees:

Al Clark	AC	University of St Andrews
Amy Gove-Kaney	AG	University of Stirling
Amy Ledger	AL	APUC
Christine Calder	CC	Dundee and Angus College
Colin McLaren	CMcL	Edinburgh College
Claire Mitchell	CMi	EAUC
Claire McCulloch	CMcC	SRUC
Derek Cowie	DC	Inverness College
Deanne Holden	DH	Scottish Funding Council
Derek Mitchell	DM	University of Dundee
Eilidh Macphail	EM	University of Highlands and Islands
Ester Vasallo	EV	Forth Valley College
Fraser Lovie	FL	University of Aberdeen
Hazel Dalgard	HD	Scottish Funding Council
Iain Gordon	IG	Glasgow Kelvin College
Jill Burnett	JB	EAUC Scotland
John Clark	JC	Glasgow Clyde College
Joseph Hüttich	JH	University of Aberdeen
Jamie Pearson	JP	Edinburgh Napier University
Johannes Schamp	JS	University of Stirling
John Wincott	JWi	Fife College
John Walker	JWa	Queen Margaret University
Kath Harper	KH	Ayrshire College
Kate Murray	KM	Queen Margaret University
Lucy Patterson	LP	EAUC Scotland
Martin Webb	MW	Edinburgh College
Pete Smith	PS	North East Scotland College
Ricarda Bieke	RB	APUC
Rebecca Petford	RP	EAUC Scotland
Roddy Yarr	RY	University of Strathclyde
Sam Barnett	SB	Forth Environmental Resilience Array
Steven Giannandrea	SGia	City of Glasgow College
Sean Gillespie	SGil	SRUC
Severine Monvoisin	SM	Edinburgh College
Scott Strachan	SS	University of Strathclyde
Scott Thomson	ST	Cycling Scotland
Trudy Cunningham	TC	University of Dundee
Tom Harley	TH	University of Edinburgh

Apologies:

Robert Hewitt	Borders College
John Thorne	Glasgow School of Art
Paolo Cruz	Glasgow Caledonian University
Jenny Jamieson	Scottish Funding Council
Matthew Woodthorpe	EAUC Scotland

	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS	ACTIONS
1	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Introductions</p> <p><i>John Wincott, Fife College</i></p> <p>Everyone was welcomed to the event and invited to introduce themselves.</p>	
2	<p>EAUC- Scotland Programme Update</p> <p><i>Rebecca Petford, EAUC Scotland</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff Updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lucy Patterson appointed Sustainability in the Curriculum Project Officer- Networks and Communications Officer appointed- Sustainability Project Manager appointed for Central and South Scotland College Partnership (SSCP) which includes Borders, Forth Valley & West Lothian Colleges• Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Projects<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Proposing projects to QAA – Embedding ESD within internal reviews, work on monitoring and evaluation- Proposing projects to CDN – Staff induction module, Learning for sustainability Champions Training, research around roadmap positioning and next steps- Linking to sparqs to support students to demand more sustainability in the curriculum- Events including sharing series, ESD TSN on Getting Started with ESD, and presentation at Global Regional Centres of Expertise in ESD conference• Supporting Universities Scotland VP Internationals group on carbon and sustainability work. New recommendations:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Better business travel data- Improved Business Travel Policies- Acknowledging the impact of student travel- Use of properly verified offsetting schemes• Regional Meet Ups in Edinburgh and Glasgow• Carbon Literacy Training<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Online training for individuals – March session booking page- Groups from individual institutions – Please contact Scotland@eauc.org.uk	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COP26 attendance as observers • Equality and Diversity Staff Training • Advancing Sector Emissions Alignment project to develop a consistent approach to scope setting, measurement and reporting • Science Based Targets Guidance and Verification Framework project to develop a verified sectoral approach to developing Science Based Targets for the University and College sector • Scottish Green Gown Award winners <p>Winners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2030 Climate Action (Large Institution) - University of Edinburgh - Benefitting Society (Small Institution) - Dumfries and Galloway College - Campus of the Future - Dumfries and Galloway College - Student Engagement - University of St Andrews - SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTION OF THE YEAR - University of St Andrews <p>Highly Commended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next Generation Learning and Skills - University of Edinburgh 	
<p>3</p>	<p>New PBCCD Reporting Guidance for 2022 – Recording and briefing doc <i>Jill Burnett, EAUC-Scotland</i></p> <p>Jill ran through the updates to legislation around public bodies emissions reporting that took place last year, and outlined the new interim non-statutory guidance on public sector leadership on the climate emergency which EAUC helped develop before its official launch at the start of December.</p> <p>This focused on governance, finance, reporting and accountability needed to achieve the following key targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero direct emissions by 2045 at latest • Zero direct emissions from all estate building by 2038 • Net zero targets for indirect emissions • New fleet cars and light vehicles zero emission by 2025 and larger new vehicles by 2030 • No waste to landfill by 2030 • Air travel minimized and mainland UK air travel eliminated <p>The minimum reporting boundaries for the sector were outlined and compared to the current data reported which shows we still have some way to go, particularly around quality of reporting data.</p> <p>A manual outlining the expectations of reporting bodies in more detail is to be produced in the coming months.</p> <p>Questions</p> <p>MW: Is the manual different to statutory guidance?</p> <p>JB & JWi: Manual will go into more detail, with the statutory guidance due early to mid 2022.</p>	

	<p>RY: Is there any sense that science based targets will be mandated at some point?</p> <p>JB: That wasn't discussed in the working group but SBTs are a high reporting standard so it would be good.</p> <p>JWi: Are we doing more on improving estimates for home working?</p> <p>JB: No one in the sector has undertaken surveys and people struggle to get percentages from HR Department.</p> <p>MW: Last year was easier due to furlough, but hybrid estimates will be further from reality.</p> <p>MW: Has anyone considered including student hybrid learning effect?</p> <p>JB: This was discussed but the group felt strongly not to include home learning due to a lack of control and knowledge about student lives and equipment use. Home working estimates do not include students.</p>	
4	<p>Focus on Adaptation: Forth Environmental Resilience Array – Presentation Recording</p> <p><i>Sam Barnett, Programme Lead, Forth Environmental Resilience Array</i></p> <p>The Scotland Environment Centre is one of three strands of a £92 million investments in the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City region deal undertaken by University of Stirling. Over the next two years, three programs are being released in its first phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forth Environmental Resilience Array (ERA) - Scotland's International Environment Centre (SIEC) Data Centre - Low Carbon Accelerator <p>At the forum Sam explained more about the Forth ERA. It is the world's first green recovery platform, creating a regional living laboratory across the Forth Valley. It will provide communities, agencies, businesses, and organisations access to real-time environmental data which ensures the environment is at the heart of decision making.</p> <p>The Forth ERA will be designed and established to provide a state-of-the-art monitoring system, made possible through innovative digital fabric solutions, sensor technologies, satellite data and artificial intelligence to provide vital information on water quality and quantity, alongside a wide range of environmental monitoring data sets, informing decision making, helping businesses to adopt more sustainable practices, supporting policy and regulation and building community resilience. Within the two years there are three phases for achieving the Forth ERA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need and Value (starting May 2021) 2. Design and Buy (starting September 2021) 3. Build and Demand (starting mid 2022) <p>Questions</p> <p>RY: Is Uni of Stirling using your work to inform their sequestration strategy for operational CO₂ emissions?</p>	

	<p>SB: We've got to take leadership to use our data at SIEC to transform the campus, I was just in a meeting this morning discussing just what role SIEC can have to support the campus strategy as well.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>COP26 Debrief from EAUC-S Staff, Fellows and Board Members <i>Rebecca Petford, EAUC-Scotland</i></p> <p>A delegation from EAUC had access to the blue zone of COP26 as Observers and shared their experience.</p> <p>Panelists: Jill Burnett, Fraser Lovie, Lucy Patterson, Jamie Pearson, Rebecca Petford, Pete Smith, John Wincott</p> <p>Questions</p> <p>RP: What was the most interesting thing you saw at COP26? PS: Rolls Royce battery powered aircraft! FL: Senior members of IPCC panel on adapting to covid, and how going forward they will work mostly online, which is a message to bring back to the University of Aberdeen Board when discussing business travel. JW: Most moving moment was youth activist Clover Hogan talking about how young people and small island states feel disenfranchised by COP</p> <p>RP: Why was it important for EAUC to be there? JP: Opportunity to see how it actually works. Gained more from attending itself than anything I listened to or saw due to feeling of collaboration from discussion. PS: It's a hook to take back to work. In terms of wider impact I didn't get a lot, in future we should piggy back onto something else. FL: We were participants in a circus; I was entertained but not able to participate in a lot of dialogue JW: It was important we were there for the reputation of EAUC.</p> <p>MW: How much do you think students engaged with COP? JP: Not much at the official event but a lot at fringe events. At University of Strathclyde they held events and over 300 students engaged. This was very close to the time our sustainability strategy was agreed – the student interest in COP26 helped push it through. PS: Not much direct engagement but a good hook for activities. RY: Conference of Youth 16 took place at University of Strathclyde and former US president attended which attracted students. RP: Raised profile of sustainability which encouraged partner organisations such as sparqs to engage with us.</p> <p>SS: What plans do you have to translate what you've gained from COP into practical action that benefits the sector? JW: Drives energy for change FL: EAUC's reflections on the 4 asks at COP useful. COP allowed renewed vigour for climate action and our university agreed an institutional level business travel agreement.</p>	

	<p>JP: I texted my partner through the event that it was too busy and I felt disconnected. This reminded me we need to work collectively and collaboratively.</p> <p>FL: Institutions had a clear idea of what they wanted and may have achieved that.</p> <p>PS: When we got there we realized it wasn't the right place to ask the EAUC's 4 asks – the people who we could speak to weren't influencers in this way.</p> <p>Summary of Outcomes of COP26</p> <p>The Glasgow Climate Pact is a step forward, particularly around the phase down of coal use and phase out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, and commitment to doubling adaptation finance and requesting countries to present more ambitious climate pledges next year, but will not keep us below even 2 degrees of warming let alone 1.5C which was the aim of the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>A first for COP was the inclusion of Education Ministers, with a Ministers of Education and Environment Summit, chaired by the UK Secretary of State for Education and the Italian Minister of Education. At last, it has been recognised how critical education is in our climate actions. As part of that summit, over 25 countries pledged to increase climate education, integrate Education for Sustainable Development within their curricula, and to highlight good practices. This summit is now expected to be an annual event as part of COPs.</p> <p>EAUC COP26 Published Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EAUC at COP26 information • EAUC at COP26 daily updates • EAUC post COP26 reflections 	
<p>6</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p><i>John Wincott, EAUC-Scotland Convenor and Fife College</i></p> <p>MW: COP26 was a focal point for everyone with the CDN climate conference taking place in reaction to it. I would like to see that continue.</p> <p>JP: New Edinburgh Napier University Sustainability Strategy on their Edinburgh Napier website which JP would appreciate feedback on</p> <p>SS: COP catalysed action plan to increase profile given to climate education which exerts pressure on UK and Scottish Governments to mandate inclusion of ESD at all levels</p> <p>JW: Colleges are currently able to engage with the Scottish Green Public Sector Estate Decarbonisation Scheme. How prepared did you feel watching Jills presentation? Could we benefit from a workshop?</p> <p>JB: The scheme was discussed at the October Sustainable Construction Topic Support Network and including this as a topic at the next Energy Management TSN is currently being discussed with the Convenor</p>	<p>RP and JP to discuss a session around ENUs strategy</p> <p>JB to discuss a workshop on applying for GPSED funding with Energy TSN convenor.</p>

9	THANKS AND CLOSE <i>John Wincott, Fife College</i> Thank you to all speakers and attendees for your contributions. If anyone has any future agenda items please email scotland@eauc.org.uk .	
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Minutes prepared by Lucy Patterson, EAUC-Scotland, December 2021