



## **EAUC Scotland Annual General Meeting**

**11 March 2016**

**Paper 02 – 2016/02**

### **Scotland Report (Mar 2015 – Feb 2016)**

EAUC-Scotland office has been working with the sector over the past 12 months to support the objectives of the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) and Scottish Government. Carbon remains a key focus on the Scottish Government's agenda; however learning for sustainability has remained a key output for Scotland activity.

It has been identified this is a challenging time for institutions with reduced capital expenditure while responding to increasing efficiency pressures in a growing economy. Collaborative working has been vital to ensure support and guidance is up to date for knowledge exchange and further progress.

EAUC-Scotland secured funding from the SFC for 2014-2017. Year 2 of the programme is almost complete and activity has been focused to support the Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland and wider added-value Scotland activity of the UK EAUC Programme (See Appendix A for a copy of the Scotland Outcome Agreement Paper 05-2016).

#### **Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland (UCCCfS)**

[www.eauc.org.uk/ucccfs](http://www.eauc.org.uk/ucccfs)

While the UCCCfS remains on target for delivery, changes and requirements on the sector continue to be challenging. In a time of austerity, there are additional pressures on institutions to do more with less and displaced skills and knowledge as the sector adjusts. With a three member team this ensures a much wider support programme is available through EAUC-Scotland. This has ensured increased engagement with key contacts and allowed us to deliver more targeted support. With only one year of funding remaining the team has focused on where support has been needed, particularly around new Scottish Government reporting requirements.

EAUC-Scotland has worked with the Sustainable Scotland Network and Resource Efficient Scotland (RES) to assist institutions with energy efficiency and carbon reduction activity as well as future planning and legislative compliance. Additional funding through RES has created a shared energy officer resource which will assist with improving energy efficiency and monitoring across the colleges. This project started in Nov 2015 and will extend to Aug 2016.

Partnership working with the Scottish University Directors of Estates (SAUDE) and Universities Scotland's (US) has ensured an alignment of agendas for carbon reduction in the university Sector. EAUC-Scotland undertook a review of the current university Carbon Management Plans and associated reduction targets looking forward to 2020. The project assessed what projects were implemented to date, which technologies will assist institutions in meeting these targets and provided recommendations to the SFC on where capital investment was required.

Ad-hoc visits to institutions have increased as the increased capacity of the team allowed. This remains a vital part of the Scotland programme and will be closely monitored to assess further impact over the remainder of the funding period.



## **Review of programme – Member survey**

During 2015, 18 months into the programme, EAUC-Scotland circulated a survey to gauge how the programme was being received by our members across Scotland. The responses collated covered a representative of 10 colleges and 15 universities. Key highlights of this review indicated **80%** of institutions either agreed or strongly agreed that *EAUC-Scotland was helping their team develop the skills and knowledge required* and additionally, **90%** agreed or strongly agreed *EAUC-Scotland are supporting the sector*.

The Topic Support Networks, email groups and newsletters were seen as the most beneficial and were accessed most commonly. It also flagged that many were unaware of our JISCmail lists and bespoke institution visits. This is a gap we are working on addressing for 2016.

Guidance and policy documents have been identified as an area institutions would like more support from by the EAUC, and will be built into future programme developments.

84% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed their institution was committed to increasing their environmental and social responsibility and 88% reported action on sustainability was apparent from various levels from within their institution.

## **Reporting**

During the past year, EAUC-Scotland represented the Scottish tertiary sector on the Scottish Government's Climate Leaders Officers Group and helped develop the reporting template for the public sector. This report superseded the UCCCfS progress reports to ensure there was no duplication of effort.

The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015 was passed before Scottish Parliament in October 15 and EAUC-Scotland has been working with the sector closely to ensure they are prepared for the first mandatory year of reporting on 30 November 2016. The trial year saw 66% of institutions submitted a report for 30 November 2015. The sector is at a slight disadvantage given almost all of the public sector reports on a financial year cycle where the sector uses the academic year. This means there is a shorter turnaround time to verify data. The Scotland team has prioritised working with institutions who did not submit in 2015 to ensure they are compliant in 2016.

## **Education for Sustainable Development Activity**

### *Learning for Sustainability Scotland*

Learning for Sustainability Scotland is the recognised UN Regional Centre of Expertise in Sustainable Development and is hosted at the University of Edinburgh. EAUC-Scotland has been working in partnership with LfS Scotland to connect activity with the College Development Network and Higher Education Academy.

EAUC-Scotland represents universities and colleges on the Steering Group and was also a Co-Vice Chair on the Executive Group, as well as supporting the LfS Scotland Communications task group. As a part of our links with LfS Scotland, we have joined our ESD TSNs with the LfS Scotland tertiary education task groups. For more information, visit:  
<http://learningforsustainabilityscotland.org/>



## Topic Support Networks (TSN)

The EAUC-S continues to provide secretariat support for the EAUC Scotland Topic Support Networks. Information of past and future TSNs is available on the TSN homepage.

There are currently eight active TSNs in operation:

- Community Engagement
- Education for Sustainable Development HE (linked to Learning for Sustainability Scotland)
- Education for Sustainable Development FE (linked to Learning for Sustainability Scotland)
- Energy (linked to the Advanced Procurement for Universities and Colleges Utilities User Intelligence Group)
- Sustainable ICT
- Sustainable Procurement (partnered with APUC)
- Travel and Transport (with ACT Travelwise: linked to NHS and Local Authorities)
- Waste Management

And one group for which we now need a new Convenor:

- Sustainable Construction

### *Delegate numbers at Topic Support Networks*

Year	Number of TSNs delivered	Number of delegates attended
2014-15	14	196
2015-16	8	131
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>327</b>

## Training and Events

Training and events delivered during 2015/16 were devised out for direct need and included:

- Waste Smart Advance Training (CIWM accredited) x 4
- Social Media Training
- Event Facilitation Training
- Writing Effective Funding Application Training
- Public Bodies Climate Change Reporting Training
- TSN Convenor Workshop

Where available there were some events run with partners which were free of charge due to the nature of it being a public sector benefit, but for training events requiring an external paid trainer EAUC-Scotland charged attendees in accordance with EAUC guidelines.

### *Delegate numbers at EAUC-Scotland training and events*

Year	Number of training events delivered	Number of delegates attended
2014-15	4	160
2015-16	9	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>243</b>



## Scotland Conference 2015

The Scotland Conference, 'A Shared Responsibility' took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at University of Edinburgh's John McIntyre Conference Centre. 111 delegates attended the event and comprised 16 Universities (15 Scottish) and 10 Colleges, with 13 exhibitors present on the day. Feedback indicated 93% rated the conference excellent/good, with the other 7% rating it adequate. This is the third Scotland Conference and the first pay-to-attend event. The next conference will be held in February 2017.

### *Delegate numbers at EAUC-Scotland Conferences*

Year	Number of delegates attended
2014	112
2015	111
Total	223

## Scottish Association for the Directors of Estates

EAUC-Scotland presented and updated members at the autumn and spring Conferences. Work has continued with SAUDE and their Executive members to strengthen relationships and partnership working. SAUDE were key partners of the university CMP review project and will continue to be involved phase 2 of the project in taking forward the identified recommendations. EAUC-Scotland meets with the SAUDE Chair regularly to ensure collaborative working.

## Learning in Future Environments (LiFE)

EAUC-Scotland has been working with a series of institutions to promote, demonstrate and assist in using the EAUC LiFE framework for performance improvement within their institution. We are currently aware of **6** institutions who are using tool.

## Communications and Social Media

20 Newsletters and Bulletins were sent to Scottish Educational and Strategic Partner Contacts from 2015-16 (7 in 2014-15). The EAUC-Scotland list currently has 1358 subscribers, a 145 (over 10%) increase from February 2015.

The UCCCfS JISCmail list used to communicate with those working in or with the sector in Scotland, currently has 338 members (this was 355 in February 2015, but the list data has since been cleaned).

The EAUC-Scotland Facebook page had a 20% increase in likes over the last year, although following Social Media Training a decision was made to focus on engagement through Twitter and Linked In where the majority of interactions with followers take place.

On average the tweets from the UCCCfS account are reaching 108 400 people a week. It now has 965 followers, typically gaining 6 new followers each week.



The EAUC-Scotland Group on Linked In has 66 members (up 10% from 55 a year ago), and is used to promote upcoming EAUC-S events and opportunities.

The EAUC Sustainability Exchange holds 529 resources for the Scotland region, approximately 196 of these are news articles, case studies and events from Scottish institutions.

## Key Facts and Figures

### *Current Membership Figures – Feb 15*

	Higher Education	Further Education
Scotland	84%	73%
UK	74%	19%

### *Returned Signed Commitments – 98%\**

	Higher Education	Further Education
Total	18*	25

*\*Open University climate activity is run from Milton Keynes campus, all Universities and Colleges based in Scotland have returned their commitments.*

## UCCCfS Budget

The UCCCfS budget 2014/2017 is on target and we are in a healthy position for entering Year 3 of the Programme (Apr 16 – Mar 17). The Scottish Funding Council awarded £400,000 over the 3-year period for added value to the EAUC UK Programme in Scotland.

Due to our reporting requirements for the grant aligning to the academic financial year the budget has been set out over 4 years. The grant is paid in quarterly instalments over each year and tapers off over the four years. Additionally, EAUC-Scotland has identified a shortfall of income from our initial bid of £54,194 which is to be generated in parallel to the finding period.

Income generation is a key part of our activity and outlined as a key objective in the EAUC-Scotland Outcome Agreement. To date, income generated to date (Apr 14 – Feb 16) has totaled £38,168 of a budgeted £27,097 (50%).

£61,267 was carried forward from year 2 in line with the project budget and did not include salary costs from last quarter.

	Year 2 Expenditure - to date	Year 2 & 3 Income - to date
	£198,186	£255,652
Balance	£57,466	

Underspend is in line with phased income reduced in yr4 budget



## Bespoke Institution Support

Beyond the scope of training and networking events, we also provide direct support and guidance to college and university practitioners and senior management teams, details of which are provided below:

Over the past year, we have directly engaged with 18 of the 19 universities and 19 of the 25 merged colleges to offer specific support or guidance where required. We continue to offer this service to ensure institutions receive added value benefit of the UK membership in accordance with our funding with SFC.

## Relationship Management

One of the underlying principles of the EAUC's success in Scotland is our ongoing commitment to effective relationship management, widening the scope of activity and our sphere of influence and broadening support networks for our members. Details of our networking activity are provided below:

### *Representative Groups*

Learning for Sustainability Scotland	Member of the steering group and co-vice chair of the group to provide a Scottish Tertiary Sector overview. Member of the Communications Task Group.
National Union for Students (NUS)	Partnership working in engaging students in sustainability, access to membership, Responsible Futures Steering Group, careers project discussions
Scottish Funding Council	Quarterly liaison meetings, guidance and support
College Development Network (CDN)	Partnership working with college subject groups, providing resource to include sustainability into the creation of National Progression Award Level 6 on Food Manufacturing
Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN)	Partnership working on the Public Bodies Duties and input into the Public Sector Portal. Representing the Scottish Tertiary education sector
Universities Scotland	Linking the UCCCfS programme with the Universities Scotland Efficiencies Taskforce.
Scottish Association for University Directors of Estates (SAUDE)	Partnership working and provide updates and reports to the SAUDE Exec and biannual conferences. Namely around estates efficiencies, reporting and carbon reduction
Estates and Facilities Management Forum	Providing guidance and support on estates related issues, UCCCfS and reporting to the college sector

Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS)	Relationship management and knowledge exchange Develop further partnerships
Association of the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)	Relationship management and knowledge exchange Develop further partnerships
Advanced Procurement for Universities and Colleges (APUC)	Partnership working through Procurement and Energy Topic Support Networks, Energy User Intelligence Group, SAUDE.
Cycling Scotland	Member of the Cycle Friendly Campus Initiative steering Group

*Other*

Scottish Government	Public Sector Sustainability Reporting (PSSR) group representing universities and colleges, relationship management with the Education and low carbon Scotland teams
Resource Efficient Scotland	A department of Zero Waste Scotland, partnership working to support resource efficient activity within universities and colleges.
Energy Saving Trust	Partnership working on travel activity and relationship management
SEPA	Input into the Scotland Environment web (SE web)
John Salter	Project consultant on the College ESD Project
Elaine Crawford	Project consultant on the College ESD Project
Skills Development Scotland	Ongoing contact around skills and employability, and specifically the careers project
Soil Association	Input into their developing programme and development of a common event around FHE food sustainability

**Other EAUC Scotland Activity**

Other activity that the EAUC Scotland office has undertaken in support of our aims and objectives is as follows:

- Business development;
- EAUC UK programmes i.e. Learning in Future Environment and Green Gown Awards;
- Development of a programme to support careers advice on sustainability in FHE; and
- Future setting of Scotland events.



## **Conclusion**

The EAUC Scotland office continues to work in partnership with and with the support of strategic contacts in Scotland, including the Office Bearer Group, to provide the sector with key services and support, adding value to the EAUC's core activity through the UCCCfS and Scottish-specific activities, services and support.

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29 February 2016