

AUDE Sustainability Briefing Paper - February 2024

The EAUC provides the AUDE Executive and AUDE Members with an update on the current and future activities taking place within the sector, relating to sustainability and estates.

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Legislation

The latest legal updates on issues relating to the sector include:

EAUC Scotland Quarterly Policy Briefs

EAUC Scotland has shared their first [Quarterly Policy Brief](#) of 2024, outlining the main policy changes that will impact Scottish institutions and related EAUC Scotland activity.

EAUC Responds to DESNZ UK Scope 3 Emissions Reporting Landscape

We have responded to the recent Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) [Call for Evidence](#) that gathered feedback on the benefits, costs, and practicalities of Scope 3 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reporting in the UK, including links to the government's Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) framework. You can read this [on our consultations page](#).

DfE Sustainability and climate change strategy first progress report

EAUC sit on the Department for Education's sustainability and climate change user group, through which we provide feedback on the five action areas within their strategy for the UK to have a 'world leading education sector in sustainability and climate change by 2030'. The team at DfE have recently published their first [progress report](#) since they were established.

ESOS have released new guidance on eligibility for universities

The Environment Agency have release new guidance on whether universities and colleges are exempt or eligible for the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS). Full guidance can be found at [here](#).

Activities

New: Community of Practice Group on Offsetting and Insetting

To further support members we have launched a new Community of Practice group to discuss offsetting and insetting. The group will share experiences and knowledge. The group has the first meeting on 4th March. If you wish to join the group or the meeting go to [this page](#). EAUC are also working with the Scottish Government on their latest draft of offsetting guidance. EAUC have also clarified that you cannot use the 2 UK offsetting projects (Woodland Carbon Code and Peatland Carbon Code) for any international activities including travel and supply chain. Full details on our [latest updates](#).

New: EAUC Shares Transparency Card as 2023 RACE Report Launches

Since 2022, [the EAUC has taken action](#) towards a greater diversity in the environmental sector by contributing to [The RACE Report](#) as a signatory. The RACE Report is a data transparency campaign aiming to increase the racial diversity across environmental organisations in the UK. You can see current data on the sector on the [RACE Report website](#), and [download EAUC's 2023 Transparency Card](#).

New: Sustainability Champions Learning Pack

EAUC Scotland has released a new member-only digital resource to facilitate self-guided sustainability learning for everyone, published as part of their current 'Step-Change for Sustainability' programme that is funded by the Scottish Funding Council. The [Sustainability Champions Learning Pack](#) is available to EAUC members via Miro, structured as three levels of learning across a variety of topical and specialised areas. Please log in to your EAUC account to access this.

EAUC Joins DfE and Partners on Climate Ambassadors Expansion Programme

The scheme is [an expansion of the Department for Education Climate Ambassadors programme](#), created by the University of Reading and STEM Learning as one outcome of the National Climate Education Action Plan, aiming for all 30,000 education settings in England to access the Climate Action Planning Sector Engagement and Support Service (SESS), and get help in producing unique Climate Action Plans. This will be co-led by the University of Reading and EAUC, in association with STEM Learning, and will sit alongside a digital support hub.



EAUC recently welcomed Jane Dickson to the staff team to lead our work on the Climate Ambassadors programme and SESS.

New: 2023 Sustainability Leadership Scorecard Annual Report

The [2023 Sustainability Leadership Scorecard Annual Report](#), released by EAUC and AUDE, shares insights into the current statistics and recent developments of the Sustainability Leadership Scorecard (SLS) and examines what these results suggest about the sector's strategic approach to sustainability. Recommendations are made to the SLS users and sector which encourage a shift towards more inclusive strategic action and emphasise the need for a whole-institution approach.

Update on EMR & SCEF

EAUC are leading on a meeting with the Department for Education and JISC to move forward discussions on the updating of the EMR. Key sector bodies are also attending, including AUDE, BUFDG, Universities UK, UKRI and many others. We will report back after the meeting on 1st March.

Green Gown Awards

The applications for the [2024 International Green Gown Awards](#), in association with Allianz Global Investors, will open on 28th February, inviting universities and colleges around the world to share their sustainability milestones, projects, and journeys. The deadline to apply is 29th April. We encourage you to promote this to your international partners to apply.

The [2023 UK & Ireland Green Gown Awards Ceremony](#), in association with UK Research and Innovation, was held in November 2023 in Liverpool, at which a diverse array of winners and highly commended were announced. The 2024 UK & Ireland Green Gown Awards will open on 3rd April 2024.

Events

Save the date: EAUC Annual Conference 2024

Our 2024 Annual Conference will be held on 25th-26th June 2024 at the University of Winchester, marking our 20th anniversary. Join us as we celebrate two decades of unwavering commitment to sustainability in education. This event is not just a conference; it's a historic moment, and we invite you to be part of it. To stay update on the programme and how to book tickets, [please see the event website](#).

Carbon Literacy Training

The EAUC works in partnership with the Carbon Literacy Organisation (CLO) to promote [Carbon Literacy Training](#) (CLT). Our online course blends self-study elements and 2 half days of virtual training; it is relevant to everyone learning about climate change. CLT ensures a fundamental understanding of the current and future impacts of climate change, the



opportunities to improve communications on climate issues at work and at home, and some of the socio-political aspects including climate justice.

Since we began, EAUC have delivered CLT to over 200 learners from more than 45 institutions across UK & Ireland, including 27 Universities, 9 Colleges and 9 related support organisations. We invite you to consider taking [an upcoming session](#).

Forthcoming EAUC events

[Engineering and Sustainability: Realigning Curricula for the Future - EAUC Scotland](#)

27 February 2024 12:00 - 13:00

[Midlands Regional Meeting \(Virtual\)](#)

27 February 2024 12:30 - 14:00

[Wales Branch Meeting \(Virtual\)](#)

29 February 2024 11:00 - 12:30

[Community of Practice: Offsetting and Insetting \(Virtual\)](#)

1 March 2024: 14:30 – 15:30

[Roundtable meeting for EAUC Key Contacts and Fellows](#)

5 March 2024 14:00 - 15:00

[North West England Regional Meeting \(Face to Face\)](#)

7 March 2024 10:00 - 12:00

[Sustainability & Support for Learning: Realigning Curricula for the Future – EAUC Scotland](#)

7 March 2024 13:00 - 14:00

[Ireland Branch Meeting \(in person\)](#)

14 March 2024 10:00 - 15:00 at Technical University Dublin

[South England Regional Meeting \(Virtual\)](#)

19 March 2024 11:00 - 12:30

[Carbon Literacy Training - March](#)

20 March 2024 - 27 March 2024

[Carbon Literacy Training \(Scotland\) - March 2024](#)

21 March 2024 - 28 March 2024

[Monitoring Education for Sustainable Development in Colleges - Workshop \(Virtual\)](#)

21 March 2024 13:00 - 15:00

[North East England Regional Meeting \(face to face\)](#)

16 April 2024 10:00 - 13:00

[EAUC Scotland Glasgow Regional Meet-Up](#)

24 April 2024 13:00 - 15:00 at the Glasgow School of Art



More upcoming events, including external events held by those in EAUC's network, are available to view and book via [our website](#).

To stay updated on the latest news, events and publications, please contact us at info@eauc.org.uk.

This briefing paper was produced by EAUC for AUDE Members.