

Edinburgh Regional Network Meeting
Edinburgh College, Tuesday 12th May 2015, 14.30 – 16.30

Attendees

Alan Peddie	University of Edinburgh
David Somervell	University of Edinburgh
George Currie	Newbattle Abbey College
Gillian Gibson	EAUC
Jackie Robertson	Newbattle Abbey College
Kate Thornback	SRUC
Lorraine Corbett	Transition Heriot-Watt
Martin Webb	Edinburgh College (Chair)
Matthew Lawson	University of Edinburgh
Rebecca Petford	EAUC

Apologies

Alex Henderson	NUS
Chris Larkin	Heriot-Watt University
Craig Cathcart	Queen Margaret University
Dave Gorman	University of Edinburgh (Chair)
Jamie Person	Edinburgh Napier University
Kasia Janik	Edinburgh Napier University
Kate Fitzpatrick	SRUC
Mike Pretious	Queen Margaret University

Item	Minutes	Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>Welcome from MW to the first external event he has hosted at Edinburgh College, and the second meeting of this group. Special welcome to Newbattle Abbey attending the network for the first time.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Updates from each institution</u></p> <p><u>Edinburgh College (MW)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMP ongoing • Finance is a struggle • Waste projects are a big issue – 4 campuses, all different • Student engagement planned through Fresher’s week • Travel a main priority with electric bikes/racks/Sustrans • Interested in Responsible Futures and SRUC’s extra curricular education programme • Community garden is really successful – potentially working with Edinburgh Napier due to proximity 	

	<p><u>Heriot-Watt University (LC)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling on campus has been a priority (eg increase rate in halls) • Looking at WARPiT • Funding for active travel through Transition Heriot Watt with the cycle pool scheme which is very popular • ‘Cycling Bothy’ hub for training and meetings about travel and bike repairs • Moving the raised beds on campus <p><u>Newbattle Abbey College (JR/JC)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smallest college in Scotland with 30 staff in total • Community garden is focus at the college • Looking at implementing a sustainability into college’s strategy – lots going on • CMP to be reviewed this year, currently doing 10 year business plan • Engaging student and staff • The college was built in the 16th century so the buildings are not purpose built and challenging to improve because of regulations. Funding available now for the first time to update very old buildings <p><u>SRUC (KT)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NUS Responsible Futures – recently had student audit which went well. Encouraged projects to be moved along. • ‘Seed’ grants for student projects through extra curricular education programme – 18 teams and 80 participants in year 2 • Electric bikes • CMP should be published in next couple of months • Approached by Changeworks about workshops for students through ZWS Grant (more information to come) which should create additional capacity <p><u>University of Edinburgh (ML)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have decreased the estates utility spend and working on estates community outreach • Developing a tool for carbon forecasting • Circular Economy work with ZWS – report due soon • CMP review and looking at forecasting tool • Moving away from EE fund, looking at revolving funding • NUS Responsible Futures pilot • Sustainable labs (waste, procurement, development of staff) • Ethical investment status announced morning of meeting • SWAP and REUSE hub has been recruiting for 5 positions and has funding until March 2016 <p><u>EAUC (RP/GG)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSNs are nearly done for the summer period • Conference planning is underway with plans submitted to the steering group • RP and GG attended SSN Climate Change Action Tool training • EAUC-S Forum took place 11th May with a focus on Scottish Government Required Reporting Template Consultation. 	
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<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Electric bike scheme update</u></p> <p>The ‘e-cycle’ electric bike scheme was launched at Calton Hill on 31st March 2015. SRUC, Edinburgh College, Edinburgh Napier University, Transition Heriot-Watt, University of Edinburgh and Queen Margaret University were all involved in the purchasing of 28 electric bikes.</p> <p>Launch went well but some hurdles so far with the schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRUC found that healthy and safety was a key issue whereby hi-vis jackets may need to be worn as a requirement. • Some institutions have been providing helmets, others not because of insurance. • University of Edinburgh gave them to specific departments that had requested them previously. This means that department are in charge of safety/training/maintenance. • Edinburgh College finding they aren’t used like a pool car, as intended, but for trips • Pool bike schemes are high maintenance! • Trying to engage staff is a problem • Joe at University of Edinburgh created website for booking and distance tracking – could be used elsewhere to measure impact • Electric bikes address the concern that cycling to meetings makes you sweaty! 	
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>WARPIT – Alan Peddie, University of Edinburgh, Social Responsibility and Sustainability Team</u></p> <p>See slides from Alan Peddie here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Edinburgh (UoE) is challenging for waste disposal as it has 42,000 people in departments, there is a constant focus on academic freedom, and there are different entities and structures in different places • WARPIT system is easy-to-use, similar to eBay, and well-supported by founder Daniel O’Connor. It tells you your savings in CO2, time, kg, money and money to charity. Easy to add stuff and customisable for institutions. • UoE have been using it for a year and a half so far, but didn’t put furniture on it as it can’t be delivered and restricted electrical items to non-data items and PAT tested only, so show slightly less savings than some institutions. An agreement for transport with cost is in place but is rarely used. It was piloted with 25 people but now has around 300 staff using it, promoted by internal emails and the waste website. Aim is to be cost-effective. • UoE work exclusively with British Heart Foundation to rehome items not wanted internally • Now started looking for a way to cascade PCs within the university, trying to lower both the purchase and disposal of PCs, which shows a trend of spiking when new Windows upgrades are released • PCs have to be within 5 years of purchase and not held too much data (not from finance or HR, generally), and are wiped to a reasonable standard. They need to be required for individual use, and requested by a computer rep within a department who has the skills to set them up. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 of the 40 PCs were recovered, and 6 have been salvaged so far, with PC Cascading officially launched yesterday. • Also donating non-data devices (PCs without hard drive, keyboards and mice) to REMADE in Edinburgh for them to rehome – aim is to first promote a longer life for staff, then pass to third parties 	
5.	<p><u>Further Ideas for Group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding opportunities - suggested the EAUC host a list on the website of funding that is available for the sector. A variety of ways this could be done – it would rely on members feeding into the list when they hear of opportunities. • Create “Edinburgh Regional Group” tag on Sustainability Exchange for resources coming out of these meetings or relevant to members, and provide a small training session on how to use the Sustainability Exchange • Invite someone from the council to give a talk on council activities and funding available. • Suggestion to include a run through of key tools on the EAUC website that would benefit the group at the next meeting • Discussions on strategies and legislation required to be met when writing a strategic plan 	<p>EAUC-S to discuss this with the UK team.</p> <p>ALL - Suggestions of speakers to GG.</p>
6.	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>George Currie and Jackie Robertson offered to host the next meeting at Newbattle Abbey College.</p> <p>Gillian will circulate another Doodle poll in the next month to organise the next date for September.</p>	GG