**AUDE Sustainability Briefing Paper**

**June 2022**

# Purpose

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

# Summary

## [Legislation](#Legislation)

* [DEFRA announces new grant for domestic tree production](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-grant-to-boost-domestic-tree-production-opens?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=29e8d568-1996-4c18-b2f4-d695af56a16f&utm_content=immediately)
* [Scottish Central Government Energy Efficient Grant scheme to cut public body carbon footprints](https://www.gov.scot/news/public-bodies-emissions-reduce/)
* [DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainability-and-climate-change-strategy)
* [Scottish Government Resource Spending Review Framework supports three key priorities](file:///C:\Users\s3800407\Downloads\and_response_to_scottish_government_-_resource_spending_review_framework_consultation_march_2022.pdf)

## [Activities](#_Activities)

* [UK & Ireland Green Gown Awards 2022](https://www.greengownawards.org/green-gown-awards-uk-ireland)
* [International Green Gown Awards 2022](https://www.greengownawards.org/international-green-gown-awards)
* [Carbon Coalition](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_coalition_pilot)
* [NEIRF Funding granted to EAUC](https://www.eauc.org.uk/university_and_college_land_for_carbon_project_)
* [Salix Finance Funds Decarbonisation](https://www.salixfinance.co.uk/P3LCSF)

## [Events](#_Events)

* [YEA! Global Summit 2022](https://www.yeaglobalsummit.org/)
* [International Green Gown Awards Ceremony](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7982)
* [EAUC Annual Conference](https://www.eauc-conference.org/)
* [Carbon Literacy Training](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_literacy_training3)
* [EAUC Sustainability Leadership Programmes](https://www.eauc.org.uk/next_generation_sustainability_leadership_progr)
* [Full List of Forthcoming Webinars and Events](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_event_list.php)

# 

# Legislation

The EAUC provides legal updates on issues relating to the sector. The latest edition includes:

# DEFRA announces new grant for domestic tree production

# The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has announced [a new grant of almost £9m](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-grant-to-boost-domestic-tree-production-opens?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=29e8d568-1996-4c18-b2f4-d695af56a16f&utm_content=immediately) to support domestic tree production. Successful projects will be awarded up to £175,000 in grant funding to cover up to 50% of costs, with money coming from the Tree Production Capital Grant as part of the Government’s £750 million Nature for Climate Fund.

# Scottish Central Government Energy Efficient Grant Scheme to cut public body carbon footprints

# The Scottish Central Government [Energy Efficiency Grant scheme](https://www.gov.scot/news/public-bodies-emissions-reduce/) will make £100m available to cut the carbon footprint public bodies. This new funding is designed to help public bodies realise further investment in measures to improve energy efficiency and install low and zero carbon heat systems in building.

# DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy

# The Department for Education launched [a Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy](https://www.eauc.org.uk/uk_to_lead_the_way_in_climate_and_sustainabilit) for the education and children’s services systems today. This [Strategy](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainability-and-climate-change-strategy) impacts all education providers, including colleges and universities in England. EAUC has been part of the consultation process since its draft launched at COP26 in November 2021. We have had staff and Board members on each of the thematic groups, as well as the overall strategic group; we also had three of our student Climate Commissioners in the Youth Panel. EAUC will remain to be part of the strategic group, and we welcome its focus on skills and careers, and its greater support for teacher training and measures to improve estate biodiversity and resilience.

# Scottish Government Resource Spending Review Framework supports three key priorities

# EAUC Scotland supports the three key priorities addressed in the [Scottish Government Resource Spending Review Framework](C://Users/s3800407/Downloads/and_response_to_scottish_government_-_resource_spending_review_framework_consultation_march_2022.pdf). These are (1) supporting progress towards meeting child poverty targets; (2) addressing climate change; and (3) securing a stronger, fairer, greener economy. We recognise the interlinks between the three priorities when viewed through a sustainable development lens; from a Resource Spending perspective, Scotland needs to significantly accelerate the green skills development of the present workforce, alongside current and future students, to ensure the skills and knowledge to deliver national net zero targets are met.

# Activities

**Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Challenge launched to help UK tertiary education sector hit carbon net zero**  
An innovative new scheme has been launched by the Royal Anniversary Trust to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022, asking leading UK universities and further education colleges to work together to help their sector reduce carbon emissions to net zero.  
  
The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Challenge is open to the 21 winning institutions (15 universities, 6 further education colleges) from the most recent round (Round 14) of the Queen’s Anniversary Prizes, which is also run by the Trust. It will provide stimulus and challenge to leaders in UK tertiary education, with universities and further education colleges joining forces to help resolve one of the most important issues facing society.  
  
The EAUC has been commissioned by the Department for Education to develop a standardised carbon emissions reporting framework. This work is being overseen by a working group from the sector and the initial draft is being presented to the Challenge participants at the end of the month. Following the feedback, we will then have a further iteration which will be shared with the wider sector for feedback in the Autumn. Methodology guidance will accompany the framework. The final version of the Framework will be presented to the Department for Education in December 2022. This work does not include data collection as the DfE are in discussions with stakeholders on this. The DfE are also investigating if the reporting Framework will replace the carbon emission elements of the EMR.

We are also working with AUDE and BUFDG to develop a costings element to go alongside the Framework to provide guidance on carbon reduction activities and estimate costs to support institutions in developing a budget plan for the net-zero plans. It is aimed that this will be delivered in February 2023.

We have a steering group with the DfE that are overseeing this work which includes EAUC, AUDE, BUFDG, UUK, AoC, HESA and representatives.

**UK & Ireland Green Gown Awards 2022**  
The [Awards](https://www.greengownawards.org/green-gown-awards-uk-ireland) recognise the exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by universities and colleges across the UK and Ireland. Stage 1 applications were open till 6th June, after which our judging panel decides the finalists to go through to stage 2 – these will be announced on 14 July. This year, an additional category- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Sustainability - was introduced. The ceremony will take place at the [EAUC Annual Conference](https://www.eauc-conference.org/), on 8th November at Loughborough University.

**International Green Gown Awards 2022**The [International Green Gown Awards](https://www.greengownawards.org/international-green-gown-awards), in association with [Allianz Global Investors](https://www.allianzgi.com/), are supported by UN Environment and are open to universities and colleges across the world. The recently announced [finalists](https://www.greengownawards.org/2022-finalists) will be shortlisted further as to who the 2022 winners and highly commended will be at virtual Awards Ceremony on 6th July, as part of the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

**Carbon Coalition**  
In partnership with [LUPC](https://www.lupc.ac.uk/) and [TEC](https://www.tec.ac.uk/), on behalf of the [UKUPC](https://www.ukupc.ac.uk/), we are setting up a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) Framework for the [Carbon Coalition](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_coalition). This will ensure we are procurement compliant for institutions. A Prior Information Notice (PIN) has been issued and we will be inviting applications to tender in July. We hope to have everything completed by the end of August so institutions will be able to purchase through the Framework from September. If you would like to register your interest in taking part in the Carbon Coalition please complete this [form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdJBUt2XDWItq_3ReOzLHZSJjVTHz8wP1ydYAzjajuP9xbYRg/viewform?usp=sf_link). Further developments include our recent [memorandum of understanding with Storegga](https://www.eauc.org.uk/eauc_teams_up_with_storegga_for_carbon_capture_), the independent UK decarbonisation developer, to support a Direct Air Capture scheme in Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

**NEIRF Funding granted to EAUC**  
The EAUC has been [awarded funding](https://www.eauc.org.uk/university_and_college_land_for_carbon_project_) by the Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF) by the Environment Agency to pilot a project to create carbon credits using university and college land. The University and College Land for Carbon project aims to leverage the land held within institutional estates of approximately up to 52,000 hectares to develop Woodland Carbon Code (WCC) verified projects for institutions to achieve their net-zero targets. This comes thanks to the funding bid that we submitted to the [Environment Agency](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/50-projects-receive-up-to-100000-each-to-boost-investment-in-nature) earlier this year. Thank you to all who provided letters of support. If you are interested to take part in the pilot please complete this [form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/151atVprwg_HBTVmXcR1CPQz_9jrfxoiVZf3w_uzUGiQ/prefill).

**Salix Finance Funds Decarbonisation**  
The recently announced [Public Sector Low Carbon Skills Fund](https://www.salixfinance.co.uk/P3LCSF) by Salix Finance provides grants to boost decarbonisation skills and unlock decarbonisation in the public sector. Phase 3 LCSF builds on the successes of the first and second phase of decarbonisation skills funding, with a focus on supporting the public sector to take the step towards a low-carbon heating future. The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is providing £14 million of funding for Phase 3 LCSF, in grants for public sector organisations to engage the specialist and expert advice and skills required to put in place or improve an existing heat decarbonisation plan.

# Events

**YEA! Global Summit**

The [Youth and Education Alliance Global Summit](https://www.yeaglobalsummit.org/) takes place on 5th July 2022, as a virtual event. YEA! works with both higher education and youth networks from around the world to increase environmental awareness and education among students and young people to accelerate the environmental changes that urgently need to be made in this decade. This event is a partnership between [UNEP](https://www.unep.org/), [EAUC](https://www.eauc.org.uk/home) and [Tongji University](https://en.tongji.edu.cn/).

**International Green Gown Awards Ceremony**

The International Green Gown Awards Ceremony, in association with Allianz Global Investors, will be taking place virtually at the [UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf) on 6th July 2022 at 18:00 BST / 13:00 EST. Register [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7982).

**EAUC Annual Conference**

Taking place on 8-9th November 2022 at Loughborough University. The theme is [Conversations on Climate Action](https://www.eauc-conference.org/), so we have reduced the time spent in presentations and increased that of discussions and conversations, and we will take time to work with others to find some real solutions which can be used to support one another on our journey to a more sustainable world. The Conference will bring together the UK’s best university academics, leaders, and professionals to address the Climate and Ecological Emergency, and, furthermore, giving you opportunities to find solutions and ways forward together.Further details [here](https://www.eauc-conference.org/).

**Carbon Literacy Training by EAUC**

Our online [Carbon Literacy](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_literacy_training3) course is a blended learning experience, with self-study elements alongside 2 half days virtual training, and is relevant climate change learning for everyone. The course ensures an understanding of how climate change is affecting us now and into the future, opportunities to better communicate climate issues at work and at home and introduces social aspects such as climate justice.

Upcoming training dates:

* 3rd & 10th August 2022 – [click to book](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7937)
* 16th & 30th August 2022 (Scottish institutions only) – [click to book](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7983)
* 14th & 21st September 2022 – [click to book](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8001)
* 23rd & 30th November 2022 – [click to book](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8002)

**EAUC Sustainability Leadership Programmes**

With the wider education sector starting an active and committed fight against climate change, developing expertise and confidence as a strategic sustainability leader is crucial. We're inviting AUDE members to join our well-established [leadership programme](https://www.eauc.org.uk/next_generation_sustainability_leadership_progr) and gain a greater understanding of leadership practices with relevance to sustainability. More information [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/next_generation_sustainability_leadership_progr).

**EAUC Leadership Lab 2023**

The Leadership Lab will resume in person in 2023. This transformational leadership and personal development programme to develop expertise and confidence as a strategic sustainability leader involved in co-creating thriving, sustainable communities through your work in universities/colleges and wider societal contributions. The course focuses on leaders, future leaders and change agents to support the sustainable development of their own institution in a way that also contributes to delivery against the sustainable development goals. The focus is on personal and professional development to support strategic leadership. For more information, please [contact us](mailto:cmotte@eauc.org.uk).

## Full list of forthcoming webinars and events

#### [**Mathematics and Sustainability: Realigning Curricula for the Future**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7876)

22 June 2022 10:00 - 11:00

Online via Zoom

#### [**EAUC Scotland 2023+ Planning Workshop - Central and South Scotland**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8012)

22 June 2022 14:00 - 16:00

West Lothian College, Livingston

#### [**EAUC AGM**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7984)

23 June 2022 10:00 - 11:30

Virtual via Zoom

#### [**EAUC Scotland 2023+ Planning Workshop - Edinburgh**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8010)

23 June 2022 14:00 - 16:00

University of Edinburgh - Central Campus

#### [**EAUC Scotland 2023+ Planning Workshop - Open to all**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8015)

30 June 2022 10:00 - 12:00

Online via Zoom

#### [**YEA! Global Summit**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8022)

5 July 2022 10:00 - 16:00

Online

#### [**International Green Gown Awards Ceremony 2022**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7982)

6 July 2022 18:00 - 19:30

Virtual

#### [**Biodiversity Community of Practice (Virtual Meeting)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7943)

11 July 2022 10:00 - 11:00

Virtual via Zoom

#### [**Waste Community of Practice (Face to Face)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7959)

12 July 2022 10:30 - 13:30

Edge Hill University, St Helens Road, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 4QP

#### [**Midlands Sustainable Education Network (Virtual)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7963)

14 July 2022 14:00 - 16:00

Virtual via Zoom

#### [**Living Labs Community of Practice**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8053)

19 July 2022 11:00 - 12:00

Virtual via Zoom

#### [**Sustainability Communications Meeting (Virtual)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8036)

21 July 2022 11:00 - 12:00

Virtual via Zoom

#### [**Ireland Branch Meeting (Virtual)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8005)

6 September 2022 10:00 - 11:00

Virtual via Zoom

#### [**North East England Regional Meeting (Virtual)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8004)

7 September 2022 14:00 - 15:30

Virtual via Zoom

#### [**Health and Wellbeing Topic Support Network- Building Student Resilience, Emerging stories**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7978)

8 September 2022 10:00 - 12:00

Online via Zoom

#### [**South Central England Regional Meeting (Face to Face)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8003)

9 September 2022 10:00 - 13:00

Arts University Bournemouth

#### [**Fostering Individual and Community Resilience**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=7942)

11 October 2022 - 12 October 2022

Online via Zoom

*To keep up to date on the latest news and events ensure you contact us at**info@eauc.org.uk.**Your institution may already be an EAUC Member, enabling you to access all of the benefits of Membership.**Produced by EAUC for AUDE Members.*