**AUDE Sustainability Briefing Paper**

**September 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)

* [EAUC-Scotland Quarterly Policy Briefs](https://www.eauc.org.uk/quarterly_policy_briefs)
* [EAUC-Scotland PBCCD Reporting Guidance for 2022](https://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/pbccd_reporting_update_2021)
* [Update on ‘Education for Sustainable Development Guidance, by Prof Simon Kemp](https://www.eauc.org.uk/why_updating_subject_benchmarks_to_include_esd_)

## [Activities](#_Activities)

* [Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges](https://www.educationracetozero.org/home)
* SDG Accord Annual Report 2022
* [Carbon Emissions Alignment & Science-Based Targets](https://www.eauc.org.uk/standardised_carbon_emissions_framework_update)
* [Salix Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme](https://www.salixfinance.co.uk/Phase3bPSDS)
* [Carbon Coalition](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_coalition)
* [Sustainability Leadership Scorecard Update](http://www.eauc.org.uk/sustainability_leadership_scorecard)
* [UNEP YEA! Global Summit 2022](https://www.yeaglobalsummit.org/)
* [Green Gown Awards](https://www.greengownawards.org/)
* [EAUC Welcomes New Fellows and Honorary Fellows](https://www.eauc.org.uk/eauc_welcomes_new_fellows_and_honorary_fellows)
* [COP27 Observer Badge Holders](https://www.eauc.org.uk/eauc_receives_ecosoc_status)

## [Events](#_Events)

* [EAUC](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_literacy_training3) Annual Conference 2022
* UK & Ireland Green Gown Awards Ceremony
* [Carbon Literacy Training](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_literacy_training3)
* [EAUC Leadership Labs](https://www.eauc.org.uk/next_generation_sustainability_leadership_progr)
* [Accessibility at Virtual Events](https://www.eauc.org.uk/equality_and_inclusion)
* [Full list of forthcoming webinars and events](https://www.eauc.org.uk/events)

# Legislation

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

**EAUC-Scotland Quarterly Policy Briefs**

EAUC-Scotland has produced their most recent [Quarterly Policy Briefs](https://www.eauc.org.uk/quarterly_policy_briefs), outlining the main policy changes that will impact Scottish institutions and related EAUC-Scotland activity. For the first time, we have made these available via our [website](https://www.eauc.org.uk/quarterly_policy_briefs).

**EAUC-Scotland PBCCD Reporting Guidance for 2022**

The Scottish Government recently launched guidance on Public Sector Leadership on the Global Climate Emergency, which aims to engage the leaders of Scotland’s public bodies in their key roles during this pivotal time period to 2030. EAUC-Scotland was part of the working group that developed the guidance and we have prepared a briefing paper on how it impacts the HE Sector, which you may download from [here](https://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/pbccd_reporting_update_2021).

**Update on ‘Education for Sustainable Development Guidance’ by Prof Simon Kemp**

Last year, the QAA and Advance HE published the ‘Education for Sustainable Development Guidance' document for the HE sector. In this [new blog article](https://www.eauc.org.uk/why_updating_subject_benchmarks_to_include_esd_) for the EAUC website, Professor Simon Kemp reflects on the importance of updating subject benchmarks to include ESD sector-wide, noting also the significance of new changes to Subject Benchmark Statements.

# Activities

[**Race**](https://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/sustainability_leadership_scorecard_annual_repo) **to Zero for Universities and Colleges**

Powered by the UN Environment Programme, EAUC and Second Nature, Race to Zero for Universities and College is a global campaign rallying leadership and action in the education sector. This campaign is an official partner to the Race to Zero.

To date, 1114 universities and colleges have signed, 149 of which being UK-based. By joining the Race to Zero, you will help demonstrate the higher education’s commitment to the net zero agenda as well as your institution’s global leadership at COP27 in November. Find out more [here](https://www.educationracetozero.org/home).

**SDG Accord Annual Report 2022**

Published in June and launched at the [UN High Level Political Forum](https://hlpf.un.org/2022) (virtual event), *the SDG Accord Report 2022: Progress towards the Global Goals in the University and College sector* is now [available to access](https://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/sdg_accord_report_2022_progress_towards_the_glo). It presents findings and case studies of SDG Accord Signatories who reported their outcomes in 2022. This year, the SDG Accord has seen a breadth of newly reporting institutions, as well as many returning institutions. You can also read SDG Accord case studies [here](https://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/sdg_accord_report_2022_case_studies).

**Carbon Emissions Alignment and Science-Based Targets**

EAUC are working with the sector to develop a draft proposal to have sector clarity and consensus on carbon targets, forms of reporting, and the language on carbon targets. This will provide a guide for institutions and have examples of how different institutions report on their data. The draft proposal will go to consultation with the wider EAUC membership, AUDE members and Universities UK (UUK) members. We are working closely with the Department of Education to ensure this aligns with the Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy and have recently onboarded a new member of staff Jenny Nguyen, in a role funded by DfE, to lead this work. More information can be found [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/advancing_sector_emissions_alignment_project).

During June and July, we formed a draft Framework that was shared with the QJC 21 institutions, from which feedback was gained. In August, a new iteration of the Framework was developed and in September we will seek wider feedback from the sector, with partners such as UUK, Association of Colleges, AUDE, British Universities Finance Directors Group (BUFDG) and the EAUC.

This feeds into our Science-Based Targets framework development, for which we are in contact with sector leaders already following SBT approaches. The EAUC is currently developing guidance and verification processes to ensure universities who have used science-based targets (SBTs) to track and report their progress in reducing emissions can apply methodologies that are appropriate to higher education. Our work with the SBT initiative ensures universities have a consistent methodology and have a framework against which to reference standards, best practice, reporting and a route to verification. You can find more information [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/eauc-led_science-based_target_guidance_and_veri).

**Salix Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme**

Salix Finance has launched Phase 3b of its Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, in partnership with the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Overall, £1.425 billion is due to be allocated through PSDS Phase 3 over three years until 2025, building on the £1.075 billion already available to the public sector through Phases 1 and 2. We are pleased to note that 3b PSDS includes specific sector caps including one for education, something which we have pushed for in partnership with DfE, BEIS and Salix, to ensure colleges and universities have a fairer chance to obtain the necessary funding. Read more [here](https://www.salixfinance.co.uk/Phase3bPSDS).

**Carbon Coalition**

The EAUC Carbon Coalition is a consortium of UK and Ireland HE and FE institutions that have joined to offset their emissions by leveraging their combined buying power and knowledge. The pilot has now ended, and we are finishing its evaluation. EAUC works alongside The Energy Consortium (TEC) to go through the required purchasing frameworks to meet all university and college procurement rules, which also allows the Carbon Coalition to open to the wider sector next academic year.

The Carbon Coalition now has Principles on Offsetting and an education presentation to explain carbon credits. All details of the pilot and all supporting documents are available [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_coalition).

We submitted a funding bid to the Environment Agency to set up a framework and pilot for using university and college land for carbon credits. In May, we were delighted learn that this bid was successful and awarded to us by the Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF) by the Environment Agency. This will go towards the University and College Land for Carbon project, to leverage the institutional estates of approximately up to 52,000 hectares to develop Woodland Carbon Code (WCC) verified projects. Full details [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/university_and_college_land_for_carbon_project_).

**Sustainability Leadership Scorecard**

EAUC and AUDE are working with a new host partner for the [Sustainability Leadership Scorecard](http://www.eauc.org.uk/sustainability_leadership_scorecard). During August, we ran a webinar to take EAUC members through the improved features and user guidance. The SLS remains available to use and all data will be moved across and we will let you know when the new platform is available. We thank those members who have helped to trial this new format.

**UNEP YEA! Global Summit 2022**

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Youth and Education Alliance (YEA!) is the global network of higher education sustainability networks committed to partnering UNEP and it’s For People and Planet Strategy. The [2022 Global Summit](https://www.yeaglobalsummit.org/) was held online on 5th July, in partnership between UNEP, EAUC and Tongji University, and attended by over 800 people worldwide. The day featured a blend of plenaries and breakout sessions.

Speakers included:

* Tim Carter, Second Nature CEO
* Dr Sachihiko Harashina, President of China University of Commerce,
* Fiona Goodwin, EAUC CEO (Interim)
* Durga Kamat Project Executive of Project Smart Campus Cloud Network at TERRE Policy Centre, Pune
* Carina Mütschele, Youth, Education and Advocacy Officer at UNEP

See the event agenda and full list of speakers [here](https://www.yeaglobalsummit.org/), and visit the UNEP YEA! page [here](https://www.unep.org/events/online-event/yea-global-summit).

**Green Gown Awards**

The 2022 UK & Ireland Green Gown Awards, in partnership with UKRI, closed its applications on 6th June. The Finalists of these Awards have since been announced and the prize recipients will be presented during the in-person ceremony on 8th November at Loughborough University. This Ceremony takes place within the EAUC Annual Conference. See the full list of 2022 Finalists [here](https://www.greengownawards.org/2022-finalists1xx) and the UK & Ireland page [here](https://www.greengownawards.org/green-gown-awards-uk-ireland).

The Winning and Highly Commended institutions of the 2022 International Green Gown Awards, in partnership with Allianz Global Investors, were presented 5th July at the UN High-Level Political Forum and Awards Ceremony. Full results [here](https://www.greengownawards.org/2022-finalists1xx).

The Australasian Green Gown Awards, which are managed by ACTS and governed by a cross-sector steering group, announced their 2022 Finalists during August. Virtual Awards take place 17th November. More details [here](https://ggaa.acts.asn.au/).

**EAUC Welcomes New Fellows and Honorary Fellows**

We recently welcomed new Fellows and Honorary Fellows to the EAUC, rewarding their dedication to the sector and the deepening of partnerships within the EAUC. The Award is also an opportunity for those who are enthusiastic to contribute more closely to our projects, as a means increase the EAUC’s impact on universities and colleges. This year we introduced a Life Honorary Fellow title for those who have retired from the sector but were closely involved with the EAUC. This new list reflects the efforts by so many who have made the EAUC what it is today. Read the news release [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/eauc_welcomes_new_fellows_and_honorary_fellows).

**COP27 Observer Badge Holders**

# The EAUC, since January 2022, has held Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). This enabled us to attend [COP26](https://www.eauc.org.uk/cop26) as Observers and invites us to do the same at COP27 this November. We strive to maintain a representative and inclusive voice for the HE sector whilst keeping our carbon footprint minimal, hence the EAUC has decided to offer our badges to young people who are more geographically, socially, and culturally appropriate to fully engage with the agenda and format of COP27 in Egypt.

This selection process has already begun, and we will provide updates on who receives these numerous badges in the coming weeks.

# Events

**EAUC Annual Conference 2022**

Our Annual Conference, *Conversations on Climate Action*, will be held at Loughborough University on 8th-9th November 2022. This invites our members, sector leaders, academics, and EAUC partners to join for two days of informative, enlightening sessions that will inspire a sustainable transformation for FE and HE. Booking has [now opened](https://www.eauc-conference.org/), and we invite you to explore our [agenda](https://www.eauc-conference.org/agenda) and the event [speakers](https://www.eauc-conference.org/speaker).

**UK & Ireland Green Gown Awards Ceremony**

The Awards Ceremony will take place on 8th November, within the EAUC’s Annual Conference held at Loughborough University. We are delighted to deliver this in person again and invite you to [book now](https://www.eauc-conference.org/greengownawards).

**Carbon Literacy Training**

EAUC is pleased to work in partnership with the Carbon Literacy Organisation (CLO) to promote [Carbon Literacy Training](https://www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_literacy_training3) (CLT). Our online course is a blended learning experience, with self-study elements alongside 2 half days virtual training, and is relevant to everyone’s learning about climate change. The course ensures a fundamental understanding of climate change impacts, now and into the future, the opportunities to improve communications on climate issues at work and at home, and it introduces socio-political aspects including climate justice.   
  
We continue to deliver CLT to members, overseeing their certification and fundamental understanding of climate change. CLO recently held their [Annual Awards](https://carbonliteracy.com/clo-awards-2022/), in person, at which our Platinum Certification was acknowledged.

To date, the EAUC has provided this to over 175 people from over 50 institutions across UK & Ireland, including 40 Universities, 8 Colleges and 5 related organisations. Our colleagues Claire de la Motte & Claire Mitchell are Certified Trainers, whose dedication and support ensures EAUC members have access to this training! We invite you to book a place below:

14 September and 21 September - [Book here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8001)

20 October 2022 - 27 October 2022 – [Book here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8100)

23 November and 30 November - [Book here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8002)

24 November 2022 - 8 December 2022 – [Book here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8074)

**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.

EAUC Leadership Labs

The Leadership Labs resume in person in 2022. This transformational leadership and personal development programme develops individuals’ expertise and confidence as strategic sustainability leaders who are involved in co-creating thriving, sustainable communities within the universities and colleges sector.

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.

EAUC Leadership Lab 2023 is scheduled to take place in January 2023 in Cambridge, 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 chair will be Professor Wendy M. Purcell of Harvard University. Find more information [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/next_generation_sustainability_leadership_progr) or by [contacting us](mailto:cmotte@eauc.org.uk?subject=Leadership%20Lab%20Interest).

**Accessibility at Virtual Events**

As our online events are all hosted via Zoom, we have set up all sessions to now incorporate **virtual closed captioning (cc),** providing all attendees with subtitles. Upon booking any online event, attendees have always been invited to voluntarily disclose accessibility needs, and we find that this recent step to make the digital space more inclusive will only serve to improve the experience. To find out more on accessibility, please see our [Equality, Diversity & Inclusion page](https://www.eauc.org.uk/equality_and_inclusion) and our [events page](https://www.eauc.org.uk/events).

## Full list of forthcoming webinars and events

[**Waste Community of Practice - Clinical Waste Collections (virtual)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8075)

5 September 2022 11:00 - 12:00  
  
[**Ireland Branch Meeting (Virtual)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8005)

6 September 2022 10:00 - 11:00

[**Decarbonising your campus (Webinar)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8131)

6 September 2022 15:00 - 16:30

[**Heat decarbonisation: planning for action (Virtual)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8094)

7 September 2022 12:00 - 13:00  
  
[**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  
[**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 at Arts University Bournemouth  
  
[**EAUC Scotland Autumn Forum Meeting**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8128)

13 September 2022 09:30 - 11:30

[**Carbon Literacy Training - September**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8001)

*14 September 2022 - 21 September 2022*

[**AUDE and EAUC SFC Climate Collaboration 2022 (Webinar)**](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_single_event.php?event_id=8102)

22 September 2022 11:00 - 12:30

For events later in the calendar, see [here](https://www.eauc.org.uk/shop/mms_event_list.php).

*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.*