



# **EAUC-Scotland Annual Report**

April 2020 – March 2021

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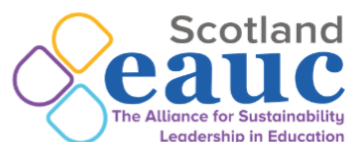
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# EAUC-Scotland Programme

## Year 1: April 2020 - March 2021



Delivered by our team in Scotland and funded by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC), this programme supports all Scottish FHE institutions to develop a skilled and informed, holistic approach to sustainability within governance, operations, learning and teaching, and engagement activities.

### Leadership at all levels

498 attendees joined 26 EAUC-Scotland events

Launched Sector Briefings resources

3 new SDG Accord and 4 Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges signatories

Supported creation of the Scottish Colleges' Statement of Commitment on the Climate Emergency

### Skills, Knowledge & Data

Published 2018/19 FHE, FE and HE sector reports for PBCCD Reporting

Expanded SISM's PBCCD Peer Review to 12 institutions

Supported APUC to develop resources on sustainable procurement of energy

Published report on Current FHE SDG Reporting Frameworks and Use in Scotland

### Partnerships and Collaborations

Launched new Student Leaders Network and Health & Wellbeing TSN

Launched Peer-Mentoring Pilot

Engaged with 54 non-FHE organisations

Directly engaged with 10 partner network steering/working groups

Developing COP26 event webpage

### Teaching, Research and Engagement

6 ESD & Community Engagement TSNs held

Delivered Learning for Sustainability Champions course to 2 colleges

New Student Leaders Network launched and 3 resources published

100 free student places at EAUC-Scotland Conference

### Supporting Wider Stakeholders

Supported SFC through development of internal Net Zero strategy; developing funding criteria for infrastructure loans; and quarterly environmental policy briefings

Responded to six Scottish Government/Partner Consultations

EAUC-Scotland took part in one grants panel and one awards panel

## Introduction

The EAUC-Scotland programme **Accelerating action and leadership in Scotland's universities and colleges in order to respond to the climate emergency**, running from April 2020 until March 2023, builds upon previous EAUC-Scotland projects to further support Scotland's colleges and universities to develop a skilled and informed, whole-institutional and collaborative approach to leadership around carbon and resource management, social responsibility and environmental sustainability.

The Programme consists of five key outcomes:

- 1) The sector is delivering dynamic and coordinated leadership and action in response to the climate emergency at all levels of Scottish further and higher education institutions
- 2) The further and higher education sector is able to provide the right data, skills, and knowledge to contribute towards national climate targets
- 3) Universities and colleges in Scotland are able to respond collectively at a sector-based, local and national level to the climate emergency and collaborate effectively within and beyond the sector.
- 4) Students develop the knowledge, skills, values and resilience required to lead and transform Scotland's future carbon-neutral, sustainable and inclusive economy.
- 5) EAUC Scotland's expertise and knowledge on sustainability within the FHE sector is accessed and utilised by wider stakeholders, including SFC

This Annual Report, covering the period April 2020 – March 2021, reports on the work of the EAUC-Scotland team under these five outcomes, highlighting progress towards the milestones and targets expected at this point in the Programme.

The Report was prepared by the EAUC-Scotland Team in April 2021.

## Data Collection

Data and quotes used within this report have been gathered through a survey sent out to all EAUC-Scotland contacts in February and March 2021 (20 responses) and ongoing event and email monitoring by the EAUC-Scotland Staff Team.

Statistics reporting progress since the programme began in April 2020 utilises data submitted within the EAUC-Scotland 2019-20 Annual Report and 2017-2020 Programme Performance Review.

## EAUC-Scotland Staff and Governance

The EAUC-Scotland Team deliver the Scottish Funding Council funded Programme for the EAUC. The team are based at Queen Margaret University, just outside of Edinburgh.

The EAUC team in Scotland over the past year has gone through no major staffing changes. Staff members over the year have included:

- Rebecca Petford, Scotland Programme Manager (returned from maternity leave 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 to Job Share with Matt Woodthorpe)
- Matt Woodthorpe, Scotland Programme Manager (Maternity Cover then Job Share)
- Jill Burnett, Carbon and Estates Project Officer
- Scott Thomson, Scotland Programme Networks and Communications Coordinator

The staff team are supported by an Office Bearer Group (OBG) of representatives from the sector who help steer their work, two from a university and two from a college. OBG members this year included:

Present members:

- John Wincott (Fife College) – Convenor
- Dr Eilidh Macphail (University of Highlands and Islands)
- Christine Calder (Dundee and Angus College)
- Dr Roddy Yarr (University of Strathclyde)

Previous members:

- Michelle Brown (University of Edinburgh) - Convenor
- Billy Grace (Dundee and Angus College)

An OBG skills and representation audit was performed in late 2020 to identify any skills or experience areas to request in applicants for the OBG when Billy Grace and Michelle Brown stepped down as representatives in October 2020 and January 2021, respectively. It was decided that a) additional teaching and curriculum development experience from a FE perspective; and b) policy and estates experience from a HE perspective were required within the group, and applications were opened with that request.

The successful OBG applicants were Christine Calder (Academic Development Lead at Dundee & Angus College) and Roddy Yarr (Assistant Director, Sustainability and Environmental Management at University of Strathclyde). John Wincott was nominated OBG Convenor by the group in January 2021.

## Outcome 1: Dynamic and Coordinated Leadership at all Levels

The Leadership Outcome has two core activity areas:

- 1) supporting staff working in different support and academic roles to feel engaged and empowered to take action, and to increase individual capacity and leadership;
- 2) encouraging senior-level commitment to address climate change and sustainability issues.

### Engaging and Empowering Professional Services and Teaching Staff

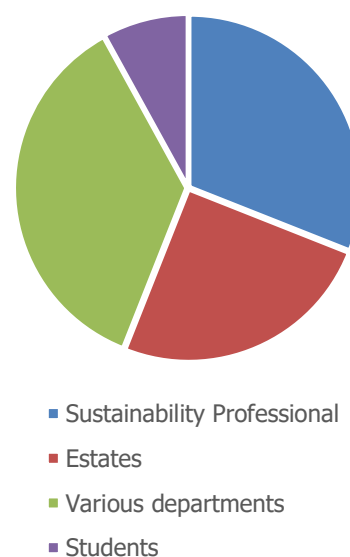
#### Key Stats:

- **9% increase in educational contacts since March 2020**
- **498 attendees joined 26 EAUC-Scotland events over the past 12 months**
- **Partnered to deliver 5 external events to over 150 attendees**
- **44% of attendees came from non-Sustainability Professionals/Estates backgrounds, including 8% student attendees**
- **95% of survey respondents engage with institutional colleagues outside their own department about sustainability**
- **On a scale of 1-10, people reported an empowerment level of 7.8/10 in terms of ability to change their own behaviour, and 7/10 on changing other people's behaviour or wider processes**

EAUC-Scotland's Forum Meetings, Smaller Institutions for Sustainability Meeting (SISM) group, eight Topic Support Networks (TSNs), training sessions and dedicated Jiscmail lists are our main vehicles for sector staff to share experiences and best practice, develop resources, and set mutual sector expectations and leadership. Through these, EAUC-Scotland supports sector staff to feel engaged and empowered to take action on climate change and sustainability.

EAUC-Scotland events increasingly attract a wide range of attendees - 31% of attendees at events organised by the team over the past year of the programme have been Sustainability Professionals and 25% Estates, **36% of attendees are drawn from a wide variety of departments within universities and colleges**, including Teaching and Research, Finance, Procurement, Catering, Policy, IT, Management and Student Support; **8% were students** (up from 5% in 2017-2020 Programme).

EAUC-Scotland Event Attendee Job Roles



EAUC-Scotland have ran 26 events with 498 attendees over the last 12 months. There have also been 5 external events that EAUC-Scotland have partnered on and delivered to 150 attendees.

EAUC-Scotland continues to widen its network and is well on track to meet its 2020-23 programme aim of increasing educational contacts of all types by 10%. **Since April 2020, our educational contacts have increased by 9%** (from 1,257 to 1,371). Increasing our contact numbers mean more people will be receiving our bulletins and remaining up to date on sector news, but also that more people within Scotland's colleges and universities are engaging with sustainability, and with the EAUC.

According to the Annual Review Survey, **95% of respondents engage with institutional colleagues outside their own department about sustainability** – an increase from the 94% reported in the 2017-20 Programme Review Survey.

"EAUC Scotland continues to provide first class and hugely valuable sustainability support to the sector - it's hard to overstate the importance of their role in facilitating change."

*Annual Review Survey Respondent*

EAUC-Scotland use the Annual Review Survey to establish how empowered our contacts feel to take action to support sustainability in their institution. On a scale of 1-10, people reported an **empowerment level of 7.8/10 in terms of ability to change their own behaviour** (compared to a 7.2 2017-20 Programme average), and **7/10 on changing other people's behaviour or wider processes** (compared to a 6.1 2017-20 Programme average). We are pleased in the increase in both scores, and hope they will continue to increase as we continue to offer training and guidance.

When asked **what would enable them to feel more empowered** to change their own and other people's behaviour, 60% said more buy in and leadership from senior management, 20% said better internal communication and links with different departments, and several mentioned training. 20% said more financial and staff resources, which is strongly tied to the elements above.

Increasing understanding of sustainability throughout campus communities is crucial for holistic leadership and actions across institutions. Over the past year EAUC-Scotland has been developing its [Sector Briefings Series](#), which aims to introduce sustainability terms, practices and trends in an accessible way. Each briefing includes a **two-minute sketch video with an accompanying two-page text brief**, with links to additional resources. The **target audience for these are for sustainability professionals (as refreshers), engaged sustainability champions, and Students' Union Officers**. The Sector Briefings have been shared via newsletters and social media, and are hosted on the EAUC website.

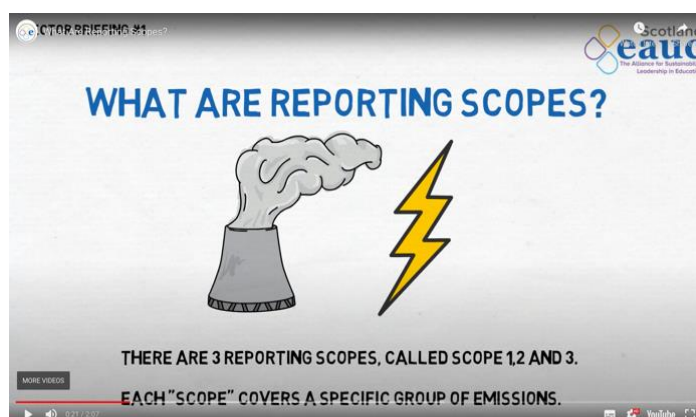


Figure 1: Example of EAUC-Scotland Sector Briefing Videos

In January 2021, **EAUC-Scotland launched its peer-mentoring pilot project** and received 14 expressions of interest (7 mentors and 7 mentees). The aim of the scheme is to increase leadership capacity of sustainability professionals, whilst also sharing experiences between institutions and seniority levels. From April 2021 mentoring sessions are expected to start for each of the mentees, with mentoring expected to cover four sessions over the period of a year.

In the previous programme (2017-20), EAUC-Scotland developed or supported development of a number of resources focussed on gaining buy-in for sustainability at different levels, including the [Engaging Professional Services Departments with Sustainability Guides](#), [Business Case Guide](#), [Adaptation Guide](#) and [Governors' Guide](#). These continue to be promoted through various routes including:

- Climate Commission [FE Climate Action Roadmap](#) (College Education for Sustainable Development Workbooks)
- Climate Commission [HE Climate Action Toolkit](#) (Sustainability Guide for Governors; Business Case Guide; Travel Better Package; Adaptation Guide)
- EAUC-Scotland Forums & TSNs and EAUC-UK CoPs and regional meetings (Engaging Professional Services Departments Guides; Business Case Guide; Governors' Guide)
- University Business and FE News newsletters (Business Case Guide; Governors' Guide)

## Senior Leader Engagement and Action

### Key Stats:

- **Updated Senior Management Engagement Strategy**
- **3 new SDG Accord signatories**
- **4 new Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges signatories**
- **Supported creation of the Scottish Colleges' Statement of Commitment on the Climate Emergency**
- **Providing support to the newly created Universities Scotland VP Internationals for Sustainability Working Group**
- **Increase in whether respondents report commitment to and engagement with climate change and sustainability action is evident at a senior level (7.8/10 compared to 6.7/10 for 2017-20 Programme)**
- **Increase in percentage of sector staff who believe their institution incorporates concepts of sustainability into its policies and strategies (95% compared to 89% for 2017-20 Programme)**

According to the Annual Survey, there has been an **increase of the level to which respondents report commitment to and engagement with climate change and sustainability action is evident at a senior level**, from 6.7/10 for the previous programme to 7.8/10 found in this year's findings. We will continue to develop and implement our Senior Leadership Engagement Strategy to attempt to raise this further.

According to the Annual Survey, **the percentage of respondents who believe their institution incorporates concepts of sustainability into its policies and strategies has increased from the previous programmes 89% to 95% this year**. EAUC-Scotland will continue to work with senior leaders and other sector staff developing policies and strategies to increase this further going forward.

An updated **Senior Management Engagement Strategy** was produced for the period of the Outcome Agreement, covering direct contact with sector senior management, influencing strategic systems, increasing engagement through partner organisations, and supporting the EAUC's 2017-2021 Strategy. This Strategy continues to be in action, pulling together and providing structure for the elements outlined below.

## Direct Contact with FHE Senior Management

Due to Covid-19 impacts, EAUC-Scotland has had reduced direct contact with institutional Senior Management staff over the past year. In previous years this has predominantly been through engaging with Sustainability Committees, of which many were paused throughout 2020.

**8** members of Senior Management attended EAUC-Scotland events over the year, including the Scotland Conference, and **4** have spoken at EAUC Scotland events.

Aware of the pressures Senior Management were under due to the challenges of the pandemic which were preventing them engaging with our work, **EAUC-Scotland undertook a communications exercise to engage with each college and university Vice Chancellor/Principal on social media**, enabling senior leaders a new level of engagement with EAUC-Scotland.

EAUC-Scotland has also engaged directly with senior leaders through annual institutional engagement calls and when providing support for enquires from the sector.

EAUC-Scotland will continue to **develop individual relationships with senior leaders** when possible through meetings or sector events, opportunities to link senior leaders with EAUC-UK activities, and ensure they are kept informed about new resources, policies or opportunities which may be of relevance to them or their wider teams.

## Engaging through Partnership Organisations

Over the past year working in collaboration with partner organisations has been a key area of development.

EAUC-Scotland has strengthened its relationship with **Universities Scotland**, with actions including:

- Continuing to support and promote the work of the **Responsible University Group Scotland**, including engaging members of the group for a **Peer Review of the new Net Zero Public Sector Buildings Standard**, and profiling the group as a question sponsor to Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform at our Degrees of Change 2021 Conference.
- Supporting the creation of the **VP Internationals for Sustainability Working Group** within Universities Scotland, with a commitment to support the group going forward. This group has been tasked to explore the relationships that exist between internationalisation and sustainability, and how the Scottish HE sector can reduce the environmental impacts of internationalisation. Initial outcomes from the group are expected in June 2021.

Due to Covid-19, there has been limited engagement since February 2020 between EAUC-Scotland and **Scottish Association of University Directors of Estates (SAUDE)**; however, we expect this relationship to strengthen going forward with newly elected OBG Member Dr Roddy Yarr also being SAUDE's Environment Lead.

Within the FE sector, EAUC-Scotland has worked closely with College Development Network (CDN) through their **Climate Emergency Expert Group**. Primary actions taken forward through the group with EAUC-Scotland support include:

- **Drafting of Scottish Colleges Principals Letter of the FE's role and commitment on the climate emergency, within- and post-Covid19 and aligning with the build back better agenda** – this includes a commitment for colleges to reach net zero by 2040 at the latest.
- **Drafting of FE sector single-use plastics stance** – this sets out the removal of all single-use plastics from campus catering across all colleges, with a view to expand the removal of other single-use plastic sources over time.
- Feedback to EAUC-Scotland for inclusion in **Scottish Government's Single Use Plastics Consultation sector response**.
- Feedback to EAUC-Scotland for inclusion in **Scottish Government's Call for Views on the Climate Change Plan Update sector response**.

EAUC-Scotland also **continue to develop our relationships with senior staff members within partner organisations** such as the Scottish Funding Council, Universities Scotland, College Development Network, Keep Scotland Beautiful, the Sustainable Scotland Network, APUC and Learning for Sustainability Scotland, to highlight the importance of leadership and ensure we are working collaboratively to address shared issues.

## Influencing Strategic Systems

EAUC-Scotland **have responded or contributed to feedback-gathering events for six Scottish Government and Partner Consultations / Activities over the last year** in collaboration with members of the sector or partner organisations. These included:

- Introducing Market Restrictions on Single-use Plastic Items in Scotland Consultation and Focus Group
- Heat Networks (Scotland) Consultation
- Climate Change Plan Update Call for Views
- Climate Change – Net Zero Nation: Draft Public Engagement Strategy Consultation
- Net Zero Public Sector Buildings Standard Peer Review
- QAA and Advance HE Education for Sustainable Development Guidance Consultation

Several other consultation opportunities of less broad relevance have been shared with relevant sector members to prompt an individual response.

**11 Scottish Institutions have now endorsed the [Race To Zero for Universities and Colleges](#)** (formally Global Climate Letter), committing to going net zero, an increase of 3 over the last year. The letter is now part of the UNEP Race to Zero Campaign, and the EAUC-Scotland Team are planning to promote the letter more widely over the next few months.

**15 FHE institutions engaged with a discussion on their COP26 plans** at the EAUC-Scotland Forum Meeting in March 2021. The Team have worked with Scotland's Tech Army to develop a platform to promote the events being hosted by FHE institutions across Scotland related to COP26, which we hope will encourage institutions to plan additional events, increase the engagement with events, and clearly show the Scottish FHE sector's commitment to climate change. This platform will be launched in early summer.

## Supporting the EAUC-UK 2017-2021 Strategy

EAUC-Scotland continue to support the EAUC-UK's Strategy, which also aims to raise sustainability up the agenda for senior management. Over the last year this has included:

- Promotion of the **SDG Accord** to senior management and their colleagues, encouraging commitment to both action and reporting. So far **11 Scottish Institutions and 3 Students' Unions have signed up** (up from 9 and 2 last year, respectively), along with many individual signatories;
- Promoting opportunities to showcase best practice, such as the Green Gown Awards. For the **2020 Green Gown Awards 14 Scottish entries were finalists** (19% of finalists) and **7 entries were category winners or highly commended**;
- Promotion of the **Sustainability Leadership Scorecard** to encourage wider sustainability reporting. So far **7 institutions have signed up** (up from 4 last year).
- Promoting the work of the Climate Commission of which EAUC-UK is secretariat. **13 Scottish senior leaders** (4 FE and 9 HE) **have engaged with the Climate Commission as institutional members**, including during evidence gathering sessions and resource creation.
- EAUC-UK supports the **COP26 Universities Research Group** which **includes 9 Scottish Universities** and of which **University of Glasgow is secretariat**.
- Engaging **2 Scottish sector leaders as webinar speakers and student mentors** for an EAUC-UK project with the British Council in Algeria and Turkey.

## Outcome 2: The Skills, Knowledge and Data

The Skills and Knowledge Outcome has three outcome areas:

- 1) high quality reporting on FHE institutional sustainability progress;
- 2) strengthening individual skills and knowledge on reducing scope 3 emissions;
- 3) strengthening individual skills and knowledge on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

### Reporting on FHE Sustainability Progress

#### Key Stats:

- **Published 2018/19 FHE, FE and HE sector progress reports for PBCCD**
- **Smaller Institution Sustainability Meeting's PBCCD Peer Review expanded to 12 institutions**
- **12 institutions expanded reporting this year and 68% of institutions completing the "Recommended" Wider Influence section**
- **Published briefing on Revising and Communicating Emissions Baselines**
- **Published briefing on current FHE SDG reporting frameworks and use**

In June 2020 EAUC-Scotland published a [Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Overview Report](#) on the 2018/19 FHE sector submissions for the Scottish Funding Council, and **individual HE and FE sector reports** for Universities Scotland and the College Development Network. The knowledge gained from production of these reports has been used to identify priorities for sector support going forward, to enhance both climate change mitigation and adaptation activity and the quality of data management and reporting.

"The staff and wider network is the most effective such sectoral network I have been involved in - there is always someone to help with an answer."

*Annual Review Survey Respondent*

PBCCD reporting for 2019/2020 faced technical challenges, with the previous reporting platform ProcXed not available. In communication with Scottish Government, the Carbon and Estates Project Officer provided **regular updates to all key reporting contacts** within the sector. **Feedback was also provided to the Scottish Government regarding functionality issues with the provided reporting templates.** The Carbon and Estates Project Officer also provided **training sessions to institutions on how to enhance the quality of their reporting.** In addition, EAUC-Scotland facilitated a further **successful iteration and expansion of the PBCCD Reporting Peer Review** through EAUC-Scotland's Sustainability for Smaller Institutions Meeting (SISM) group.

Consistent PBCCD reporting methodology and a shared sector best practice minimum reporting boundary are key to ensuring quality and comparable data for measuring institutional and sector progress against targets, as well as demonstrating leadership in addressing significant emission sources beyond traditional 'estate emission sources'. EAUC-Scotland has engaged with our networks, individual institutions, and with partner organisations including College Development Network and Universities Scotland, to **advocate for a shared best practice minimum reporting standard.** This includes the following emission sources:

**Scope 1**

F-gases  
Fleet vehicles  
Fuel combustion (heating)

**Scope 2**

Purchases grid electricity  
Purchase heat & steam

**Scope 3**

Electrical transmission & distribution  
Heat transmission & distribution  
Waste  
Water  
Business Travel (all modes)

To promote embedding of this, **EAUC-Scotland will endorse updated Net Zero Strategies that align to these minimum reporting expectations and include targets for each emissions scope.** However, the **public sector is expecting guidance from the Scottish Government in April 2021** following changes the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020. EAUC-Scotland's minimum reporting expectations will expand as required once the guidance is published.

Due to multiple factors, including lapsed Carbon Management Plans, institutional emission target setting, Covid-19 and the updating of the procurement tool HESCET, some institutions are seeking support on how to account for and communicate these changes. A **briefing report on [Revising and Communicating Emissions Baselines](#) was published** in March 2021, outlining when it is appropriate for institutions to revise baselines, how to communicate these to stakeholders, and providing links to examples and further resources. This resource will be updated with further case studies and links to examples when these are made available.

EAUC-Scotland **published a report** on current **[reporting of activities supporting the UN SDGs](#)** within Scottish Higher and Further Education in March 2021. The report a) highlights the external and internal reporting frameworks universities and colleges can currently use to report institutional actions supporting the UN SDGs; and b) provides an overview of current reporting mechanisms being used by each institution. **Report findings will be used as an EAUC-Scotland programme benchmark for improved institutional engagement with regards to SDG reporting.** Alongside the report, EAUC-Scotland produced resources for the sector detailing how to engage with each of the available external reporting frameworks.

"The EAUC is the only organisation supporting universities and colleges in Scotland and the UK in lowering campus environmental impacts, and assisting us with positive changes within our curriculum."

*Member feedback after the EAUC-Scotland 2021 Conference*

## Strengthening Skills and Knowledge around Scope 3 Emissions

### Key Stats:

- **6 TSN events facilitated for scope 3 emission areas**
- **Supported the APUC Climate Emergency Procurement Working Group to develop resources for the sustainable procurement of energy**
- **Providing ongoing support to the newly created Universities Scotland VP Internationals for Sustainability Working Group**
- **EAUC-Scotland Travel Better Package promoted at events, including the EAUC-UK 2020 Conference, and HE Climate Action Toolkit**
- **Supported review of APUC SUSTAIN Code of Conduct to strengthen framework for supply chain sustainability.**

Scope 3 emissions are being increasingly recognised by institutions as an area that requires leadership, quality data and strong action given they're significant contribution to an institution's overall emissions footprint. **EAUC-Scotland has hosted 6 TSN events which focus wholly, or in-part, on Scope 3 emissions**, (Sustainable Procurement, Waste Management, Energy and Water, and Sustainable Construction), supporting knowledge sharing and best practice both within and out-with the FHE sector.

Following the **publication of the [Travel Better Package](#)**, which reviewed the context, trends, impacts and potential alternatives to carbon-intensive business travel, the **resource has been shared with the sector** through numerous routes, including:

- referenced at the EAUC-UK 2020 Conference
- referenced in the Climate Commission's [HE Climate Action Toolkit](#)
- shared with the US's VP Internationals for Sustainability Working Group
- referenced in the [University of Glasgow's guidance document](#) following its commitment to reduce business travel emissions by 60% by 2030.
- referenced in the [ExPlane campaign resource page](#)
- presented at EAUC-UK Communities of Practice events.

**EAUC-Scotland has continued to collaborate with APUC and wider stakeholders** to increase awareness of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with procurement. EAUC-Scotland **supported APUC's SUSTAIN Code of Conduct working group**, which resulted in the strengthening of language around how supply chains are expected to respond to the climate emergency and support institutional targets. EAUC-Scotland also joined APUC's Climate Emergency Procurement Working Group and **helped to develop resources to support the sustainable procurement of energy.**

Following an invitation from US's VP Internationals Group to co-facilitate a workshop on sustainability and internationalisation, EAUC-Scotland has **helped support the creation of the VP Internationals for Sustainability Working Group**. This group will seek ways to:

- improve Scottish HE sector methodology constancy and data quality, particularly for business travel and international student flight emissions
- advocate for net zero strategies that align to the COP26 Universities Research Group's Network Briefing on Offsetting Principles
- improve institutional alignment of sustainability and internationalisation strategies and objectives.

EAUC-Scotland look forward to seeing how this year's scope 3 support affects the quality of carbon reporting submitted in November 2020 and 2021, once this data becomes available.

## Strengthening Skills and Knowledge more broadly

### Key Stats:

- **78% of FHE institutions have attended EAUC-Scotland events**
- **26 EAUC-Scotland events held with 498 attendees**
- **88% of attendees believe EAUC-Scotland is helping them develop their skills and knowledge**
- **94% of attendees rate knowledge sharing events as Valuable or Very Valuable**

**Representatives from 78% of Scottish FHE institutions have attended at least one training or knowledge sharing event over the past year of the programme** (compared to 82% last year) with a target of 80% set for the 2020-2023 Programme as a whole. This year has been difficult for many institutions, with staff furloughed, covering for furloughed colleagues, or also having to take on caring responsibilities at home while working. EAUC-Scotland will continue to encourage engagement from more remote and smaller institutions to ensure all colleges and universities benefit from the support available.

**EAUC-Scotland have held 26 events in total over the last year with 498 attendees**, under the following categories:

	Training	Knowledge Sharing Events	EAUC-Scotland Forum Meetings	EAUC-Scotland Conference	External Events (Partner)
<b>Number of Events</b>	2	19	4	1	5
<b>Number of Attendees</b>	4	286	71	137	150+

Feedback from EAUC-Scotland events over the past year has been excellent, with event feedback showing **88% of attendees believe EAUC-Scotland are helping them to develop their skills and knowledge.**

Within the Annual Survey, respondents were asked how valuable they had found different EAUC-Scotland networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities over the last year. As shown in the table below, **over 94% of those who had engaged with each knowledge-sharing opportunity rated them as Valuable or Very Valuable.**

"The Scottish EAUC conference provides vital feedback and sharing of best practice to make our organisations global leaders in sustainability."

*Member feedback on EAUC-S Conference*

<b>Networking/Knowledge-Sharing Opportunity</b>	<b>% Respondents Engaged (/19)</b>	<b>% Engaged Responding Valuable or Very Valuable</b>
Topic Support Networks	79% ↑	100%
Regional Groups	53%	100%
Smaller Institutions for Sustainability Meeting	39%	86%
EAUC-S UCCCCs JiscMail Email List	100% ↑	75%

EAUC-Scotland 2021 Conference	48%	95%
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The seventh **EAUC-Scotland Conference** took place virtually on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Themed '**Degrees of Change**', the day actively addressed the unique role FHE institutions play in contributing to local and national climate targets, supporting and empowering minority voices, as well developing the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to tackle the climate emergency within current and future learners. The conference had an **exceptional range of speakers**, including Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, FHE Principals and Senior Leaders and Experts, as well as three student speakers.

30 Scottish FHE institutions (compared to 28 in 2019) and 11 non-Scottish FHE institutions were represented in the **137 Conference attendees** (including 1 international delegate and 35 student delegates), and 92% of attendees who responded to the post-event survey rated the event as good or excellent (8% rated it as adequate). Recordings from each plenary and workshop were made available to all attendees after the conference. Following feedback, EAUC-Scotland are now considering whether to continue to hold virtual conferences in future, potentially in rotation with in-person conferences, and/or facilitate half-day virtual conferences on specific subject areas.

The EAUC-Scotland **Smaller Institutions Sustainability Meeting (SISM)**, which allows colleges and small universities to share questions and ideas suitable for institutions with limited capacity and small sustainability budgets, has met quarterly for the last three years. The group is very well attended, with several attendees commenting that this is one of the most useful groups they are part in terms of supporting their sustainability activities. The group was referenced as a key mechanism for support by Dundee and Angus College's Principal during an EAUC-Scotland Conference plenary session. **SISM's Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Peer Review** process has again been identified as being particularly valuable and this year was expanded to include 12 institutions. In February 2021 SISM members agreed to take forward a **working group to support the development of shared sector resources and metrics for supporting the creation of net zero strategies and action plans**. We will be supporting this working group and look forward to seeing what they produce.

"Thank you for this morning's session. It was a great introduction to the [SISM] group, who all seem to be very open, friendly and collaborative and I look forward to engaging further. Like many others, the Net Zero process is very new to me but, hopefully, I can make a contribution to the discussions, from my experiences so far in relation to energy management. I would be more than happy to join a working group."

*Email feedback from a new SISM member (February 2021)*

EAUC-Scotland has produced or collated and circulated 10 Guidance Documents, 7 Support Tools and Reports (excluding event recordings), 7 Blogs and 3 News Items over the last year. **These 27 new sustainability support resources are now available on the Sustainability Exchange or EAUC-UK website** for anyone to access to support their own institution's sustainability journey.

EAUC-Scotland set up a formal **Sector Helpline** in Autumn 2017, and this was relaunched in April 2021. Over the past year the Sector Helpline has received 89 requests for information or support (compared to 63 last year).

EAUC-Scotland have continued to deliver the **Annual Institutional Engagement Programme**, with the key contact for universities and colleges in Scotland not engaged with in the previous year's engagement programme contacted to ask about sustainability progress and offer tailored support. The programme creates a very useful opportunity for the team to hear in depth individual institutional journeys and needs, and key contacts report the calls are a useful mechanism for internal institutional reflection. Unfortunately, due to a team member requiring leave and reduced hours following a non-work-related accident during the engagement period, not all institutions that were planned to be contacted were engaged with; missed institutions will be included in the next round of engagement calls and visits in autumn 2021.

EAUC-Scotland aim to be responsive to the needs of the sector. The programme target is to average above 85% over the Programme on a direct question about how well we are supporting the sector. Feedback on whether EAUC-Scotland are supporting the sector from events has been excellent, showing **98% of event attendees believe EAUC-Scotland are supporting the sector** (compared to 96% last year). Responses from the Annual Survey (which includes people who don't actively engage with EAUC-Scotland as well as those who regularly engage) showed 95% agreement (100% last year).

**EAUC-Scotland has held quarterly Forum Meetings over the last year.** These events offer the opportunity for members of the sector to hear about the work of EAUC-Scotland and relevant partners, provide feedback and suggestions for improvement, and share knowledge or requests for support with others within the sector.

## Outcome 3: Partnerships and Collaborations at Scale

The Partnerships and Representation at Scale Outcome has three activity areas:

- 1) facilitating sharing of knowledge and experience within and beyond the FHE sector;
- 2) improving the capacity of institutions to access EAUC-Scotland and other support organisations on a city/regional basis;
- 3) supporting Scotland's FHE sector to develop a reputation for leadership in carbon management and sustainability.

### Facilitating Knowledge Sharing

#### Key Stats:

- **TSN Review completed - new Student Leaders Network and Health & Wellbeing TSN launched**
- **54 non-FHE organisations engaged through participation in EAUC-Scotland events or direct dialogue**
- **Launched sector Peer-Mentoring Pilot with 14 participants**
- **1.1 million content views on Twitter**
- **140 new subscribers signed up to the EAUC-Scotland Newsletter**

EAUC-Scotland Topic Support Networks (TSNs) are reviewed regularly. **The latest TSN review took place in June 2020** and considered convenor roles and responsibilities, themes, frequency and attendances through discussions with TSN Convenors and the Office Bearers Group. As a result of this review, over the past year EAUC-Scotland has:

- Circulated the Convenor Role Description and Responsibilities to all Convenors;
- Encouraged Convenors to step down from TSNs which are inactive due to the Convenor having a lack of time to facilitate the network;
- Successfully recruited a new Energy and Water Management Convenor leading to renewed group activity;
- Successfully revived the Sustainable Construction TSN;
- Created two new TSNs – the Student Leaders Network and Health & Wellbeing TSN.

Over the past year, EAUC-Scotland has facilitated 13 TSN events, with 248 attendees, including 187 FHE attendees and 61 external non-FHE speakers and attendees. Overall, this year's event feedback shows **88% of attendees believe EAUC-Scotland are helping them to develop their skills and knowledge** (compared to 96% last year). Responses from the Annual Survey (which goes out to people who don't actively engage with EAUC-Scotland) showed 85% agreement (compared to 83% last year). We will seek further feedback on why the first statistic has reduced to ensure members are still getting the development they need from our events.

"The conference was great! Especially enjoyed the Climate Justice, Accessibility and Inclusion session. A lot to think about and action. Thank you for organising everything. As a participant it was absolutely seamless and the sessions were very easy to access."

*Member feedback on EAUC-S Conference*

More widely, 54 non-FHE organisations have engaged with EAUC-Scotland through attending events (e.g. EAUC-Scotland Conference) as participants or speakers, or through direct engagement with the EAUC-Scotland team. This wider engagement ensures sharing of ideas and best practice across multiple sectors.

As mentioned above, EAUC-Scotland has produced or collated and circulated 10 Guidance Documents, 7 Support Tools and Reports (excluding event recordings), 7 Blogs and 3 News Items over the last year. **These 27 new sustainability support resources are now available on the Sustainability Exchange or EAUC-UK website** for anyone to access to support their own institution's sustainability journey.

In January 2021, **EAUC-Scotland launched its peer-mentoring pilot project** and received 14 expressions of interest from 7 mentors and 7 mentees. The aim of the scheme is to increase leadership capacity of sustainability professionals, whilst also sharing experiences between institutions and seniority levels. Mentoring sessions are expected to start in April 2021, with the pairs expected to cover four sessions over the period of a year. A review of the success of the programme so far will take place in early 2022.

To provide sector-wide updates of sustainable news EAUC-Scotland uses **three main communication channels**:

- Fortnightly Scotland-focused Newsletters are sent using Mailchimp, sharing news and opportunities from the sector. After an initial decrease earlier in subscriptions in 2018 due to changes in subscription requirements through implementation of GDPR, subscriptions have increased for another year to 2016 individual subscriptions (from 1,876 in March 2020 and 1,258 in March 2019).
- Twitter is used as our main social media presence. Over the last year our following has increased by 15%, from 2,222 to 2,558 followers, with 1.1 million Twitter impressions (views) over the last year (up from 614.9k 2019/20).
- The EAUC-Scotland JISCMail List (UCCCFs) has 214 subscribers, decreasing from 225 last year. This list is used by the EAUC-Scotland team to share information with the sector, and by individuals within the sector to share information and questions with each other.

## Supporting a Place-Based Response to the Climate Emergency

### Key Stats:

- **Opportunities for institutions to engage with regional initiatives promoted**
- **Mapping exercise completed to explore regional engagement to date**
- **Review of regionalised support from EAUC-Scotland to date completed**
- **Action plan created to deliver added-value to the network on a regional basis**

EAUC-Scotland has **supported efforts for institutions to engage with regional initiatives** over the last year. This has included linking the University of the Highlands and Islands with the wider **Highland Adapts Programme** developed by the Highland Council and Adaptation Scotland. We are also seeking to support the **Climate Ready Clyde** programme to expand the number of institutions engaged with the programme. EAUC-Scotland is also exploring routes for how we can best advocate for institutions on City Deal groups, Community Planning groups and Edinburgh's Place-Based Climate Action Network (PCAN).

Building on this work, the **Localised Sustainability Support for Scotland's Further and Higher Education Institutions scoping report** was completed in March 2021. This included: a **mapping exercise to explore regional engagement with EAUC-Scotland** to date and how institutions are supported and support each other due to their location; a **review of regionalised support from EAUC-Scotland** to date; and an **action plan for delivering added value to the EAUC-Scotland network on a regional basis** over the next year. The initial actions to develop existing regional networks and investigate the potential of now local partnerships have been allocated and scheduled within the team.

## Developing a Reputation for Scottish Sustainability Leadership

### Key Stats:

- **Updated Relationships and Communications Strategy**
- **14 Scottish Green Gown Award Finalists and 7 Winners / Highly Commended**
- **3 new SDG Accord signatories**
- **3 new Global Climate Letter signatories**
- **70 non-Scottish FHE attendees and 74 non-FHE sector attendees at EAUC-Scotland events**
- **Responded to six Scottish Government/Partner Consultations**
- **Development of COP26 Scottish FHE event map webpage**

In April 2020, **EAUC-Scotland updated its Relationships and Communications Strategy**. The strategy is designed to promote the sustainability work of Scottish institutions within the UK and beyond, and aligned with wider EAUC UK-wide strategies. This Strategy covers three areas:

- sharing Scottish successes;
- attracting UK and international delegates to Scottish events;
- partnerships with and participation in global FHE sustainability networks.

Through this strategy, EAUC-Scotland continue to **promote national and international sustainability initiatives for institutions to engage with to demonstrate leadership and best practice**.

Figure 2 explains some of the methods use to do this.

**Green Gown Award applications from Scotland made up 20% of the total in 2020** (up from 18% over the 2017-2020 EAUC-Scotland Programme and above the current

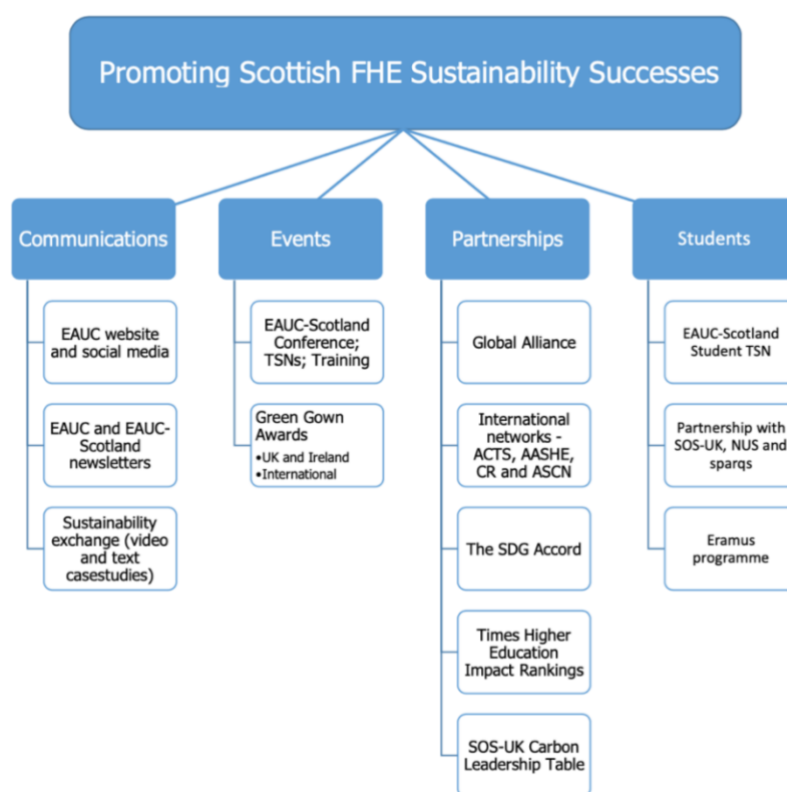


Figure 2: The ways EAUC-Scotland promotes FHE successes

programme target of more than 15% of applications). 14 of the 15 applicants made the final (19% of finalists), with seven overall Winners / Highly Commended:

- **Benefiting Society Award** – University of St Andrews – Learning from Loss: Climate Change, coastal heritage and community action (*Highly Commended*)
- **Campus Health, Food and Drink** – University of St Andrews – Small changes for significant impact on sustainability (*Winner*)
- **Campus of the Future** – University of Edinburgh – Greening our Campus and City (*Winner*)
- **Next Generation Learning and Skills** – North East Scotland College – Girls in Energy – A catalyst for change (*Winner*)
- **Sustainability Institution of the Year Award** – Dumfries and Galloway College – D&G – A green region (*Winner*)
- **Sustainability Champion: Student** – Charlotte Evans and Millicent Sutton, University of St Andrews (*Winner*), Emma Kidd, Glasgow Caledonian University (*Highly Commended*)

EAUC-Scotland will continue to encourage Scottish institutions to submit projects to the Green Gown Awards, and share the projects submitted by Finalists at Forum and Network Meetings to encourage good practice within the Sector.

In addition to success at the Green Gown Awards, there have been **3 new SDG Accord signatories; 3 new Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges signatories; and 3 new institutions using the Sustainability Leadership Scorecard**. The SDG Accord commitment was developed by the Global Alliance for adoption by tertiary education institutions worldwide, with an annual reporting requirement which feeds into the United Nations High Level Political Forum. In addition, the Global Climate Letter has been formally recognised by the United Nations Environment Programme in its Race To Zero campaign for COP26. EAUC-Scotland also facilitated a **bespoke workshop on the newly created SOS-UK Carbon Leadership Table** to ensure Scottish institutions were best-placed to submit data for the table and demonstrate leadership to current and prospective students.

This year EAUC-Scotland events have welcomed **70 educational attendees from England, Wales and Ireland over the last year**. In addition, **74 individuals have attended EAUC-Scotland events from partner organisations or the private sector**, as either delegates or speakers (including at the EAUC-Scotland Conference).

The **EAUC-Scotland Programme Manager joined the EAUC-UK Ireland Branch Meeting** to share with the network EAUC-Scotland's Outcome Agreement framework and experiences engaging with the Scottish FHE sector. The Ireland Branch Convenor has communicated with the Irish Government to begin discussions about the Ireland Branch's **ambitions to set up a programme of support similar to that in Scotland**, due to the recognised success of the Scotland Programme. EAUC-Scotland will continue to support the Ireland Branch Convenor with funding applications and evidencing impact when needed.

COP26 represents a significant opportunity to further develop Scottish FHE sustainability leadership and action, and promote this to a global audience. In February 2020, **EAUC-Scotland facilitated a COP26 network launch event** in Glasgow to stimulate discussions and institutional planning for COP26, with 33 attendees joining. With the postponement of COP26 to November 2021, EAUC-Scotland used its AGM in March 2021 to restart these discussions. Alongside these, EAUC-Scotland successfully submitted a proposal for support from the Scottish Tech Army to develop a new **webpage that will map the Scottish FHE sectors activities for COP26** and signpost audiences for further

information and joining instructions. EAUC-Scotland also **supported the submission of an EAUC-UK Expression of Interest to the UK Government for an official 12-day exhibition space in the COP26 Green Zone**. The proposal would allow EAUC-Scotland to promote 6 Scottish FHE sustainability initiatives such as the Learning for Sustainability Champions Course. The outcome of the EOI is expected to be confirmed in May 2021.

EAUC-Scotland **have also responded or contributed to feedback-gathering events for six Scottish Government and Partner Consultations/Activities over the last year** in collaboration with members of the sector or partner organisations. These included:

- Introducing Market Restrictions on Single-use Plastic Items in Scotland Consultation
- Heat Networks (Scotland) Consultation and Focus Group
- Climate Change Plan Update Call for Views
- Climate Change – Net Zero Nation: Draft Public Engagement Strategy Consultation
- Net Zero Public Sector Buildings Standard Peer Review
- QAA and Advance HE ESD Guidance Consultation

Several other consultation opportunities of less broad relevance have been shared with relevant sector members to prompt a response.

## Outcome 4: Teaching, Research and Engagement

The Teaching, Research and Engagement Outcome has two activity areas:

- 1) facilitating sharing of knowledge and experience on embedding sustainability in teaching, research and engagement;
- 2) and supporting students to develop their sustainability knowledge and skills, and further interest in working in sustainability-related roles following graduation.

### Facilitating Teaching, Research and Engagement Knowledge Sharing

#### Key Stats:

- **3 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) TSN events hosted**
- **ESD TSN members submitted response to ESD Guidance Consultation**
- **100% of ESD event attendees believe EAUC-Scotland is helping them develop their skills and knowledge**
- **Partnered with Learning for Sustainability Scotland to deliver the Learning for Sustainability Champions Course to 2 FE institutions**
- **69% of Annual Review Survey respondents either Agree or Agree Strongly that their institution tries to embed the concept of sustainability within its learning and teaching activities**

As outlined above, EAUC-Scotland Topic Support Networks (TSNs) are reviewed on a regular basis. The **Education for Sustainable Development TSN is performing well**, with regular meetings and good engagement. The TSN members developed and submitted a **sector response to a consultation** run by QAA and Advance HE on developing new guidance for education for sustainable development. to Scottish Government / partner consultations.

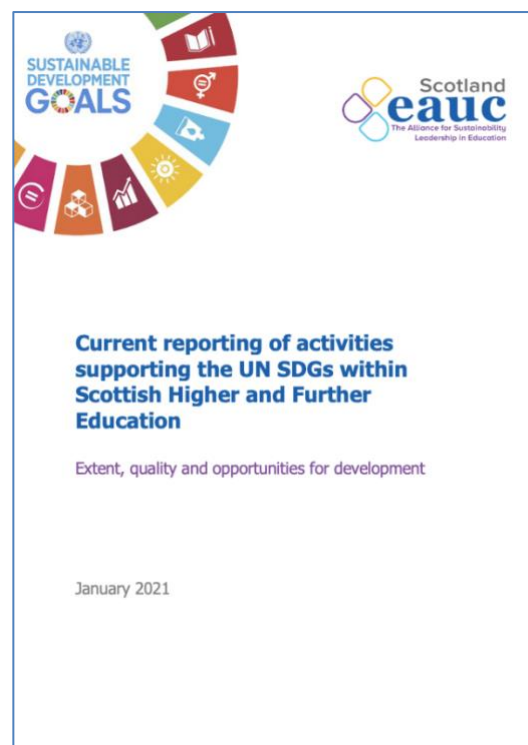
Feedback from only the teaching, research and engagement events shows **100% of attendees believe EAUC-Scotland are helping them to develop their skills and knowledge** (compared to 87% last year).

Following last programme's work to **develop an Education for Sustainable Development training programme with Learning for Sustainability Scotland**, and a pilot programme at Dundee and Angus College to develop Learning for Sustainability Champions in every department of the College, the College Development Network provided funded to Learning for Sustainability Scotland and EAUC-Scotland to **co-deliver two further training programmes with West Lothian College and Forth Valley College**. Initial training was delivered to both colleges and access to the supported online learning made available. Unfortunately, the delivery of the training coincided with the start of Covid-19 restrictions, and as result the training was unable to be formally completed. LfSS and EAUC-Scotland are awaiting engagement from college staff and senior academic leads to determine next steps for continuing the training.

EAUC-Scotland published it's a **report on Current reporting of activities supporting the UN SDGs within Scottish Higher and Further Education**. Alongside this report, infographics were published summarising the available SDG reporting frameworks available to FHE institutions and the next steps for institutions to engage with them.

EAUC-Scotland also **promoted SOS-UK's Global Goals Teach-In** which seeks teaching staff to link their course content to sustainability and the SDGs over a two-week period. Staff from **9 Scottish institutions engaged** with the programme this year, with **Glasgow Caledonian University ranking second in the UK for % of students engaged**. Further details can be found [here](#).

**69% of Annual Review Survey respondents either Agree or Agree Strongly that their institution tries to embed the concept of sustainability within its learning and teaching activities** (compared to 68% in 2019). This increases to 87% when those who answered 'Don't know' are excluded from the data (compared to 86% in 2019).



## Supporting Student Skills, Interest and Knowledge

### Key Stats:

- **Created EAUC-Scotland Student Engagement Strategy**
- **Directly engaged with 13 Scottish Students' Unions/Associations through new EAUC-Scotland Student Leaders Network and published 3 new resources for the network**
- **Supported development of Royal Veterinary College Students' Association Net Zero by 2030 Policy**
- **Supported and secured two EAUC-Scotland Kickstarter 6-month placements for during Year 2 of the Programme for 16 – 24-year-olds**
- **Secured first-ever Student Sponsor for EAUC-Scotland Conference allowing for bespoke student workshops and free student tickets**
- **3 Community Engagement TSN events hosted**
- **Community Engagement TSN members supported sector response to the Scottish Government Net Zero Engagement consultation**
- **Survey respondents rated the extent to which EAUC-Scotland supports students and recent graduates to gain knowledge, skills, and experiences of working in the area of sustainability as 7/10**

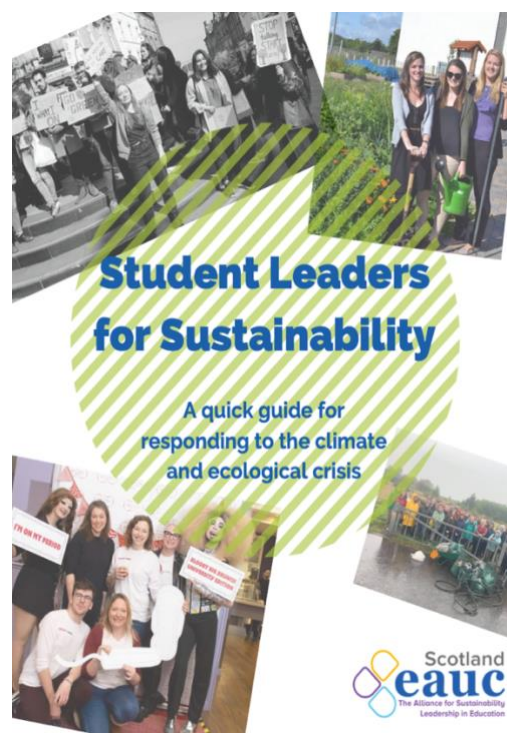
**Led by our new Student Union/Association and Student Groups Engagement Strategy**, this year EAUC-Scotland has broken new ground in directly working with and supporting college and university students.

In August 2020 we **launched our new Student Leaders Network**, connecting Sabbatical Officers and student Sustainability Officers throughout Scotland. This has resulted in **direct contact with 13 Scottish and 2 non-Scottish Students' Unions and Associations**. Supporting the network, we also **created three student leaders resources** – “A quick guide for responding to the climate and ecological crisis”, a simplified Students' Union/Association GHG Emissions Calculator, and an example Sustainability SMART Action Plan template. We also delivered a follow-up **training session on how to use the GHG Emissions Calculator**.

The EAUC-Scotland “Degrees of Change” **Conference also curated two workshops specifically for students**. The two sessions focussed on climate anxiety and student leadership skills, facilitated by the Climate Psychology Alliance and SOS-UK, respectively. In addition, we secured a Student Sponsor for the virtual conference, allowing us to provide **free tickets for all 35 students** that joined the conference.

Beyond the Student Leaders Network and the conference, EAUC-Scotland has **presented at a student society event** (Food Security and Sustainability, University of Edinburgh Student Association); **supported a Freshers Week induction** (Glasgow Caledonian University Students' Union); **supported the Royal Veterinary College Students' Union develop its Net-Zero by 2030 policy**; and **helped two students with module and dissertation research**.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions and its impacts on sector finances, EAUC-Scotland has been unable to host a student or graduate intern this year. However, **EAUC-Scotland supported the UK Government's Kickstarter scheme**, aimed at getting 16–24-year-olds on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment paid work placements and training. Working with EAUC-UK, Change Agents UK and SOS-UK, the partnership was successful in creating a FHE sector Kickstarter placement scheme for sustainability roles. **EAUC-Scotland has successfully secured two placements for Year 2 of the programme**, reinvesting business travel and event savings due to Covid-19 to cover the cost of the roles. The placements will be for 25 hours per week for 6 months, with salaries increased to meet the Real Living Wage.



“Thank you so much for sending across these resources, they are fantastic! We have been trying for years to create an emissions calculator, with limited success, so this will be a great resource to add into our Green Impact resource bank and share with our network.

*Senior Project Officer, SOS-UK  
referencing EAUC-Scotland's  
Student Leaders resources*

The Careers in Sustainability Project was launched in 2017, with three webinars and three Careers Guides added to the Sustainability Exchange for access by students, careers advisors, and teaching staff. Over the last four years, **the homepage for the Careers in Sustainability Project has had 20,032 views** (1,229 in the last year). The resources were updated in March 2021 to fix out-of-date web links and add additional information provided as feedback on the Guides, and EAUC-Scotland have continued to share the resources through our communication channels and via sector partners.

The **Community Engagement TSN is also performing well**, with regular meetings and good engagement. Many of the topics discussed by this group relate to engaging with students. Community Engagement TSN members supported sector response to the Climate Change – Net Zero Nation: Draft Public Engagement Strategy Consultation.

EAUC-Scotland **continued to support the Climate Psychology Alliance Scotland (CPAS) branch over the last year** through the Community Engagement TSN. CPAS also facilitated a workshop as part of the EAUC-Scotland 2021 Conference.

On the Annual Review and Post-Conference Surveys, **respondents rated the extent to which EAUC-Scotland supports students and recent graduates to gain knowledge, skills, and experiences of working in the area of sustainability as 7/10**. This compares to a 6.6 average score during the previous 2017-2020 programme. However, 50% of survey respondents answered 'Don't Know' for this question.

EAUC-Scotland are committed to continuing to improve our engagement with students and student groups, working directly and in partnership with organisations such as SOS-UK, Learning for Sustainability Scotland and sparqs, and to communicating more widely about this side of our activities.

**This honestly means so much to me. The thing is that many people who were closest to me at the time, especially the family, kept telling me that my engagement for sustainability was useless and not leading anywhere, and that it may be nice but there's no future in it (because many of these things I did voluntarily). And now here I am being remembered for my activism and getting a chance to have my voice heard at conferences and whatnot.**

*An Instagram post from a student invited by EAUC-Scotland to speak at the EAUC-UK Conference Student Leaders Roundtable*

## Outcome 5: Supporting Wider Stakeholders

The Supporting Wider Stakeholders Outcome has two activity areas:

- 1) supporting the Scottish Funding Council to have a more thorough understanding of the opportunities and challenges of supporting sustainability in the sector;
- 2) and the sector voice is represented through relevant engagement activities including government consultation processes and organisational steering groups.

### Supporting the Scottish Funding Council

#### Key Stats:

- **Quarterly Environmental Sustainability Policy Briefings developed and shared with SFC, CDN and US**
- **Published 2018/19 FHE, FE and HE sector progress reports for PBCCD**
- **Published briefing on current FHE SDG reporting frameworks and use**
- **Developed template for informing SFC about individual institutional sustainability activities and progress**
- **Supporting development of SFC's internal Net Zero policy and strategy**
- **Supporting development of funding criteria for capital infrastructure loans**
- **Sector mapping to support insights for the place-based response to climate emergency**
- **Scoped and proposed a college net zero costings project**

Over the past year EAUC-Scotland has further developed its engagement with SFC. The **Networks and Communications Coordinator has produced four quarterly sustainability briefings for SFC and wider partners**. These briefings focus on legislative changes, policy developments and wider sector news relating to environmental sustainability. These briefings have been well received by partners and have also been published on the SFC staff intranet. EAUC-Scotland also shared it's a **report on Current reporting of activities supporting the UN SDGs within Scottish Higher and Further Education** to support SFC internal review activities.

In June 2020 EAUC-Scotland published a **Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Overview Report** on the 2018/19 FHE sector submissions for the Scottish Funding Council, and **individual HE and FE sector reports** for Universities Scotland and the College Development Network. In addition, EAUC-Scotland has **produced a new annual template detailing individual institutional sustainability activities and progress to date**. These will be shared with regional SFC Outcome Agreement Managers during summer 2021 and updated annually **to ensure Outcome Managers have a clearer understanding of institutional activities and progress**, relative to Scottish FE and HE sector averages where applicable.

Beyond the Outcome Agreement, EAUC-Scotland has also provided SFC support a number of new areas, including:

- **ongoing support to SFC** in a consultancy role with the **development of its new net zero policy and strategy**
- **facilitating discussions** with SFC contacts and Energy and Water Management TSN contacts **to support improved SFC capital loan frameworks for HE institutional sustainability projects**
- undertaking a **sector mapping exercise to further understanding of how institutional sustainability collaborations and knowledge exchange form**

- **Scoping and proposing an external consultancy project to determine FE sector building costs for reaching net zero.**

## Representing the Sector Voice

### Key Stats:

- **EAUC-Scotland directly engages with 10 partner network steering groups or working groups**
- **EAUC-Scotland sat on one grants panel and one awards panel**
- **Developed new contacts with Scottish Government and Parliament through EAUC-Scotland Conference and PBCCD reporting activities**
- **Responded to six Scottish Government/Partner Consultations**

EAUC-Scotland have been represented on **3 Steering or Advisory Groups** for the following national organisations over the past year (those in italics are new this year):

- Learning for Sustainability Scotland
- *Scotland's SDG Network*
- *Sustainable Scotland Network*

We also participate in **7 Networks / Working Groups**:

- Climate Psychology Alliance Scotland
- Responsible University Group Scotland
- Scottish Association of University Directors of Estates
- Scottish Infrastructure Circular Economy Forum
- APUC Climate Emergency Procurement Working Group
- CDN Climate Emergency Experts Working Group
- Scotlink

These collaborations ensure that EAUC-Scotland is able to advocate for institutions on their behalf, as well as link institutions directly with relevant support organisation activities. The Annual Review Survey asked participants to suggest additional groups where EAUC representation of the sector would be valuable, and the EAUC-Scotland Team will investigate potential to join the groups mentioned over the next few months.

Members of the EAUC-Scotland Team have sat on **one grant panel over the last year, for Cycling Scotland's Cycling Friendly Campus**, and supported the induction process of Cycling Scotland's Campus Cycling Officers. EAUC-Scotland Team members have also sat on the **Award Panel for the 2020 College Development Network Awards**, and continue to encourage sector members to apply for awards such as these and the EAUC Green Gown Awards to gain external recognition for their sustainability successes.

Over the past year **EAUC-Scotland has identified and developed new sector contacts within Scottish Government**. These contacts include three staff members from the **Climate Change Policy & Implementation Unit**. This has resulted in feedback to Scottish Government regarding the technical changes to PBCCD reporting, and outreach from the unit for EAUC-Scotland to engage in the Climate Change – Net Zero Nation: Draft Public Engagement Strategy consultation process. EAUC-Scotland also **successfully invited Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change**

**and Land Reform to open the EAUC-Scotland 2021 Degrees of Change Conference.**

EAUC-Scotland **have responded or contributed to feedback-gathering events for six Scottish Government and Partner Consultations/Activities over the last year** in collaboration with members of the sector or partner organisations. These included:

- Introducing Market Restrictions on Single-use Plastic Items in Scotland Consultation
- Heat Networks (Scotland) Consultation and Focus Group
- Climate Change Plan Update Call for Views
- Climate Change – Net Zero Nation: Draft Public Engagement Strategy Consultation
- Net Zero Public Sector Buildings Standard Peer Review
- QAA and Advance HE ESD Guidance Consultation
- Several other consultation opportunities of less broad relevance have been shared with relevant sector members to prompt a response.

## Financial Information

Find below the financial information for the programme covering Programme Years 1 to 3 – April 2020-March 2023.

Project	Income £			Expenditure £			Balance	
	Actual	Original Budget	Variance	Actual	Original Budget	Variance	Actual	Original Budget
Year 1 (20/21)	162,497.18	157,852.18	4,645.00	122,558.18	133,934.49	-11,376.31	39,939.00	23,917.69
Year 2 (21/22)		142,000.00	-142,000.00		144,062.95	-144,062.95	0.00	-2,062.95
Year 3 (22/23)		142,000.00	-142,000.00		150,755.27	-150,755.27	0.00	-8,755.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>162,497.18</b>	<b>441,852.18</b>	<b>-279,355.00</b>	<b>122,558.18</b>	<b>428,752.71</b>	<b>-306,194.53</b>	<b>39,939.00</b>	<b>13,099.47</b>

Project	SFC Income £			Project	Matched Income £		
	Actual	Original Budget	Variance		Actual	Original Budget	Variance
Year 1 (20/21)	127,000.00	127,000.00	0.00	Year 1 (20/21)	35,497.18	30,852.18	4,645.00
Year 2 (21/22)		128,000.00	-128,000.00	Year 2 (21/22)		14,000.00	-14,000.00
Year 3 (22/23)		128,000.00	-128,000.00	Year 3 (22/23)		14,000.00	-14,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>127,000.00</b>	<b>383,000.00</b>	<b>-256,000.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>35,497.18</b>	<b>58,852.18</b>	<b>-23,355.00</b>