

Response submitted online

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5th April 2019

Climate Change Adaptation Consultation
Climate Change Adaptation Team, 3F South
Scottish Government
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Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find below our consultation response on Climate Ready Scotland - Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme 2019-2024.

Consultation: Climate Ready Scotland - Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme 2019-2024

EAUC-Scotland:

Response on behalf of our Members (Scotland)

About the EAUC

Our passion is to create a world with sustainability at its heart. That's our vision. We exist to lead and empower the post-16 education sector to make sustainability 'just good business'.

The membership of the EAUC comprises higher and further educational institutions, with a combined budget of some £25 billion, responsible for educating over 2 million students supported by half a million staff.

We have regional and country chapters, with member institutions connected deeply with business, industry, health and civic bodies at local levels, with reach internationally via their research, innovation and student mobility.

EAUC-Scotland's Approach to the Inquiry

EAUC-Scotland held a virtual meeting with members to discuss the consultation on the 20th of March 2019. A member of the Scottish Government's Climate Change Adaptation Team gave a presentation and answered questions. Further comments were collected via e-mail.

Response to the consultation:

Q1. Do you agree with our outcome-based approach to adaptation in Scotland?

Yes

Comments

The EAUC-Scotland network agrees that an outcomes based approach will be positive and consistent with the Climate Change Plan (CCP). We are interested to know how universities and colleges will be asked to respond as the programme is developed and we would hope that any requirements would be incorporated into the revision of the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties (PBCCD) reporting questions.

Q2. Do you agree that a National Forum on Adaptation should be established to facilitate discussion on climate change adaptation?

Yes

Comments

The EAUC-Scotland network believes that establishing a National Forum on Adaptation is a great idea and hope it will provide an opportunity to share knowledge and improve partnership with a wide range of institutions and communities on both a national and regional level. Many of our member institutions would be interested in working in partnership on climate change adaptation, especially with Local Authorities.

Q3. Do you agree that climate change adaptation behaviours should be included in the Programme?

Yes

Comments

Our members are supportive of this and were surprised that climate adaptation behaviours were not included previously.

Q4. Do you agree that an integrated approach should be taken to monitoring and evaluation?

Unsure

Comment

The EAUC-Scotland network doesn't feel there is enough information to comment at this stage

Q5. Do you agree with our long term vision for adapting to climate change in Scotland?

Yes

Comments

The EAUC-Scotland network thinks that while 'climate ready' already encapsulates 'adaptive & resilient' it is worthwhile retaining all three words. The term 'resilient' really speaks to finance colleagues in terms of financial resilience so when talking about this to different stakeholders having all three terms allow us to have a bigger breadth of coverage in effectively communicating with different people across the institution. In addition, as Glasgow is a [Rockefeller 100 resilient city](#), the term 'resilient' will probably echo with different groups within the city.

Q6. Does the Programme identify the right outcomes for Scotland over the next five years?

Yes

Comments

The EAUC-Scotland network thinks that supply chains should be referenced more explicitly. Scotland is relatively resilient to climate change in comparison to many of the countries which we rely upon to import goods, and we need to develop our own resilience to shocks elsewhere which impact on our supply chains.

Q7. Are there any additional policies that should be included in the outcomes?

Yes

Comments

The Climate Change Plan (CCP) is missing, as well as personal stories about climate change which are a good way to communicate. University of Strathclyde [Heart of the Campus](#) project would be a good example.

Culture is missing and it is crucial to a lot of things like the Gaelic language, natural environment and heritage so there should be a greater focus.

Education for Sustainable Development is missing. If Scotland is to become adaptive and resilient it is vital not to only ensure we have the skills and knowledge to address sustainability issues now, but that we are ensuring future generations have the understanding of sustainability, and specifically climate change science, impacts, and resilience opportunities, to continue this work as the world progressively suffers from the impacts of climate change. Learning for sustainability should be embedded in all education from preschool to tertiary education, and also be made available for any other members of our communities who wish to improve their understanding.

Q8. What are your views on the accuracy and scope of the information used to describe the SEA environmental baseline set out in the Environmental Report? (Please give details of additional relevant sources)

No comments

Q9. What are your views on the predicted environmental effects as set out in the Environmental Report?

No comments

Q10. What are your views on the findings of the SEA and the proposals for mitigation and monitoring of the environmental effects set out in the Environmental Report?

No comments

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Petford, Scotland Programme Manager, EAUC-Scotland