

Insight guide



An Introduction to The Climate Change Guidance Series

Introduction

What the guidance is

- The guidance is an introduction to a number of sustainability themes that together represent the primary areas of impact and influence in relation to the contributing factors and intervention measures regarding climate change.
- The guidance will provide in the first instance an **entry level introduction** to 13 sustainability themes that will provide advice on the following aspects:
 - **Introduction to the climate change related subject matter;**
 - Description of the subject matter in both a **UK and International context;**
 - Description of the subject matter with regards to **regional (English, Welsh, Scottish and Northern Ireland specific), UK and EU Legislation;**
 - Description of the subject matter with regards to key **technical aspects;**
 - Description of the subject matter with regards to **climate change;**
 - Description of the subject matter with regards to the **UCCCS.**

The guidance will also provide relevant case studies relating to the subject matter to illustrate its application, implementation and to highlight its relevance to the Further and Higher Education (FHE) sector.

In addition, the guidance will provide useful contacts, websites and links for further information, knowledge, best practice and advice.

What the guidance hopes to achieve

The aim of the guidance is to provide introductory level information on the issues influencing, contributing and minimising climate change.

The guidance is aimed at both FHE practitioners and Senior Management staff. The guidance may also be used as part of any Staff induction materials in any institution by way of Climate Change and Sustainability Awareness.

The material may also be used in conjunction with matriculation/induction procedures with the new annual student in take, as well existing students.

The guidance hopes to widen and increase the awareness of the issues influencing Climate Change and provide routes to information and services that can help to minimise the FHE's impact on the environment and wider society in the UK.



Universities and Colleges
Climate Commitment for Scotland



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Climate Change themes that are covered by this guidance

The areas covered in this guidance mirror include the following 13 themes:

1. **Water Management;**
2. **Waste Management and Recycling;**
3. **Renewable Energy;**
4. **Transportation and Travel Planning;**
5. **Carbon Emission Reduction;**
6. **Procurement and Trade;**
7. **Energy Efficiency;**
8. **Information and Communication Technology;**
9. **Sustainable Design, Construction and Building Materials;**
10. **Biodiversity;**
11. **Community;**
12. **Sustainable Development; and**
13. **Behaviour Change.**

How to use the guidance

There are five areas (climate change; legislation; cost; carbon emissions and sustainability management) that each introductory guidance will address in turn before focussing on FHE subject specific case studies and the business case for addressing the particular climate change issue.

Each of these sections has a clear icon denoting what the area is and a rigid format that is followed throughout the guidance series for consistency and ease of use. The following page provides an illustration of this and describes the type of information that will be detailed in each of the sections.

Direct and Indirect impacts upon Climate Change

This section will address the aspects of climate change where the subject area will have a direct and indirect impact. This may include issues such as:

- **Resource use;**
- **Health;**
- **Pollution and Toxicity;**
- **Climatic trends and forecasts; and**
- **Community and well being.**



Legislation

This section will address all aspects of legislation and regulation that relates to this subject area and will cover:

- **English, Welsh, Scottish and Northern Ireland specific Legislation;**
- **UK Legislation;**
- **European Union Legislation;**
- **Local, National and International Initiatives; and**
- **Local, National and International Targets and Commitments.**



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Cost

This section will address all aspects relating to the cost of addressing and for not addressing the subject. Cost in this instance will be measured purely in financial terms. The section will address and suggest:

- **Low level/cost intervention measures;**
- **Medium level/cost intervention measures;** and
- **High level/cost intervention measures**



Carbon Emissions

As the title of this section suggests, it will address all related aspects of carbon emissions in terms of and in relations to:

- **Targets;**
- **Measurement;**
- **Management;**
- **Reduction;** and
- **Reporting.**



Sustainability Management

This section will relate the subject area to its relevance within sustainability management by addressing:

- **Why it is relevant;** and
- **Its level of importance.**



Specific Impact at Estates Level

What and how to manage your

This section will specifically address all aspects of the subject area within the FHE context and provide relevant case study details where appropriate.

This section will also highlight both best practice and process within the UK FHE sector.

The Business Case for...

This section will make the business case for addressing the subject matter and will provide relevant evidence for practitioners to present to their finance departments and senior management that cover:

- **Short, medium and long term cost savings;**
- **Expected carbon emission reductions;** and
- **Leadership potential.**

This will be supported by summarised evidence from the EAUC campus wide impact matrix.

Potential for campus wide impacts

This section will provide the user with a ready list illustrating the potential impact of a number of areas at a campus level ranging from:

- Low;
- Low/Moderate;

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- Moderate;
- Moderate/Significant; and
- Significant.

The subject areas that are covered in this section are:

- Potential Financial savings;
- Potential Carbon Emissions savings
- Potential Behavioural Change;
- Potential Awareness Raising;
- Potential Environmental Impact; and
- Potential Social Impact.

An example of how this will be represented within the guidance is listed below:

Potential for **Financial** savings: ***SIGNIFICANT***

Further information

UK:

- Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) www.eauc.org.uk
- Envirowise www.envirowise.wrap.org.uk
- DEFRA <http://ww2.defra.gov.uk/>
- NetRegs www.netregs.gov.uk
- WRAP www.wrap.org.uk

England:

- Environment Agency <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/>

Scotland:

- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) www.sepa.org.uk
- The Scottish Government www.scotland.gov.uk
- UCCCfS Resource Map – Water Management www.eauc.org.uk/scotland_resource_map1

Wales:

- Environment Agency <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/>
- Welsh Assembly Government <http://wales.gov.uk>

Northern Ireland:

- Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) <http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/index.htm>
- Northern Ireland Executive <http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/>

You will find even more information on climate change on our dedicated EAUC resource bank http://www.eauc.org.uk/resource_bank.

Disclaimer: The information presented here provides an overview of legislation relevant to Climate Change. It does not constitute professional legal advice and in all cases where you intend to give an opinion or act on the content expressed here you should first obtain such advice. Please note that all information contained within this guidance is correct at the time of publication in **October 2010**.

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