

Leaders for sustainability

Taking the sustainable development challenge to every part of your organisation



Programme overview

Sustainable development is an agenda that is considered increasingly pressing, but how can organisations respond in a strategic and meaningful way?

Recent research into future skills needs, and Ofsted's commitment to "evaluate the contribution that providers are making to a sustainable future" through the inspection framework, throw down a challenge to providers to make a step-change in their contribution to sustainable development.

This programme aims to support senior teams in developing their understanding of sustainable development in the context of their organisation, assessing the extent of current practice, and developing long-term strategies to embed sustainability into every aspect of strategy, policy and delivery.



The programme is offered in association with the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC), which has 13 years' experience helping the UK FE and HE sectors to improve their sustainability performance.

Who should attend?

Senior management teams of learning and skills providers.

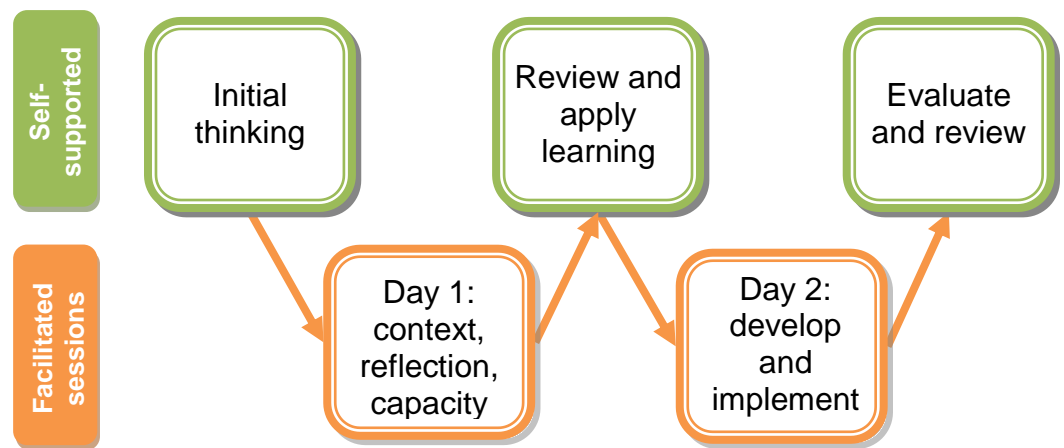
Outcomes

SMTs participating in the programme will:

- gain a shared understanding of sustainable development and the associated challenges and opportunities
- gain an appreciation of relevant developments within the sector and beyond
- reflect on their institution's current practice and performance and future aspirations
- begin the process of developing staff understanding of sustainable development in relation to the organisation's business
- identify, celebrate and network existing practice and committed practitioners
- develop a framework for the organisation to integrate sustainable development into its activities
- develop or update the organisation's sustainable development policy and strategy
- be equipped to support the development of action plans within specific departments – teaching and learning, estates, HR, learning support etc
- have insights into how to communicate the strategy across the organisation and engage staff
- begin to develop action plans to implement sustainable development policies across the organisation
- be equipped to develop a shared understanding of sustainability, to enable cross-functional dialogue and sharing of best practice.

Approach

The programme is structured around two one-day workshops, ideally held on-site. These will be arranged on dates to suit participants. They should be attended by the whole senior management team to support the development and implementation of a truly holistic strategy that encompasses every aspect of the organisation's business.



Initial thinking: Prior to the first workshop, the team will undertake some initial thinking and reflection on their organisation’s current approach and practice in sustainable development, supported by an online questionnaire.

Day 1: Context and reflection: Here you will explore what sustainable development means, and its relevance for the sector and your organisation. You will examine how it is manifested in your current strategy, culture and practice, and about how to develop sustainability thinking among your staff.

Review and apply learning: In between the workshops, you will spend some time working as a team to look in depth at specific areas of current practice in your organisation, in the context of the learning from day one.

Day 2: Develop and implement strategy: In the second workshop you will apply your learning to begin the development of an organisational sustainable development strategy, aligned with and integrated with your aims and objectives as an organisation and with other related strategies (for example, equality and diversity, e-learning and HR). By the end of the workshop you will have agreed an outline strategy and initial steps for implementation.

Evaluate and review, next steps: Following the programme, you will have space to further develop your strategy and implementation plan. There will be further LSIS and EAUC resources and activities that you will be able to access (some of which may have a cost).

Duration

The programme (including all the phases above) will generally be completed within eight weeks. The two workshops are the only core days. The other phases require about six to eight hours per person and can fit around other commitments.



Fee to attend

The programme is offered at an introductory fee of £900 per organisation excluding VAT. This includes all materials and facilitation. It does not include refreshments and lunches, travel or meeting room hire (where applicable).

How to apply

To register your interest in the programme, and for more information, please contact Conrad Benefield at LSIS on 020 7929 8721 or e-mail him at: conrad.benefield@lsis.org.uk