

EAUC-Scotland's 2018 Conference took the theme "A Decade of Progress", celebrating achievements of the last decade and visioning the decade ahead.

102 individuals representing 9 universities and 12 colleges co-created the visions below, and identified key actions for different stakeholder groups to take us to those visions.

This Conference Summary Report highlights the Visions for the Decade Ahead under the five areas of further and higher education sustainability activity explored in Conference Workshops, and the Actions required by the **Scottish Government** to make progress towards these visions.

## VISIONS FOR A DECADE AHEAD

### Behaviour Change

A tertiary education sector that engages communities to foster and encourage inclusive and sustainable behaviours within and beyond their institutions

### Campus Development and Utilities

A tertiary education sector which achieves a 50% CO<sub>2</sub> reduction over the next decade through smaller, more flexible and accessible intelligent estates

### Learning and Teaching

A tertiary education sector which inspires and equips learners to collaboratively make positive changes for people and planet, using creativity and critical thinking

### Resource Procurement and Lifecycle

A tertiary education sector which educates and inspires society to maximise resource lifecycles and make reduction the new norm

### Whole Institution Approach

A tertiary education sector which is a leader in demonstrating holistic sustainability (at all levels and in external engagement and partnerships) through practical actions, individual behaviours, and institutional values and culture

# ACTIONS REQUIRED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

## Strengthen Scotland's sustainability

- Implement policy / legislation to force long term change in industry and society, and set targets to motivate individuals and organisations
- Ensure all strategies are environmentally and socially robust
- Unify rules on sustainability action areas, such as recycling, across the country
- Create effective mechanisms to punish those who violate sustainability regulations
- Go beyond corporate led actions to system changes
- Be ambitious - set a zero emissions by 2050 target
- Be transparent and accountable, and hold others to the same
- Listen and record what has been done already, and learn from it
- Create a culture of sustainability in Scotland - make sustainability cool!

## Strengthen sustainability requirements for FHE institutions

- Enshrine a statutory responsibility for climate change within institutions to force action
- Widen Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reporting to include the Sustainable Development Goals

## Engage with universities and colleges about sustainability

- Engage more actively with universities and colleges on their visions for the future, listen to their aspirations, and support them to be bold
- Work with Universities and Colleges to implement the SDGs in Scotland

## Improve funding opportunities for sustainability

- Offer more opportunities for funding to support further and higher education sustainability activities
- Make community funding options easier to apply for
- Encourage local, national and international partnerships in funding applications
- Encourage sustainability in all funded projects by prioritising projects which have demonstrable positive environmental or social sustainability impacts

## Support specific actions

- Develop the education system and ensure that sustainability education is continuous from primary school
- Support innovative, integrated travel options and travel subsidies
- Develop a collaborative and innovative procurement platform
- Provide financial incentives for good procurement practice
- Partner with a circular economy investment bank
- Continue to value the EU relationship