

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 **Senior Leaders** to make significant 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% CO₂ 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 SENIOR LEADERS

Be ambitious for your institution

- Be ambitious with your sustainability aims and consider the broad range of sustainability issues (the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) may be a useful reference)
- Encourage innovative and experimental ideas and projects
- Put sustainability at the heart of your strategic plan / corporate strategy, and adopt a whole institutional approach including governance, operations, learning and research

Champion sustainability

- Lead by example, and be willing to stand out as a role model
- Value wellbeing above wealth
- Work to establish sustainability engagement and commitment across the senior team and wider institution – join the dots and bring the right people together
- Promote engagement with sustainability in learning and teaching, and mandate embedding learning for sustainability in all courses
- Highlight sustainability successes internally and externally

Challenge the status quo

- Initiate review and development exercises, and embrace the changes required
- Prioritise climate change, and challenge actions which will increase emissions
- Embed questions around environmental and social sustainability into all decision-making processes – sustainability will increase your financial resilience
- Champion the business case for sustainable resource use
- Challenge poor space utilisation, and consider longer teaching hours and use of the campus over closure periods
- Set a resource utilisation target as a strategic goal

Invest in sustainability to reap rewards

- Invest in sustainability staff and expertise
- Support professional development on sustainability for all teaching staff
- Allocate sufficient funding to sustainability budgets to make real progress

Listen and engage

- Engage in discussions about sustainability with staff, students, experts and partners
- Listen to sustainability experts and the values of staff and students
- Be transparent about your institution's progress to date and plans for the future

Develop partnerships

- Develop partnerships with local communities to demonstrate, support and inspire
- Develop partnerships with support organisations, such as EAUC, Zero Waste Scotland, Learning for Sustainability Scotland and the Sustainable Scotland Network, who can support progress within operations, engagement, teaching and research