

EAUC Scotland Campus Sustainability Programme 2008/11 End of year Progress Report May 2009

Purpose

To provide the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) with an annual update on progress of the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges' (EAUC) Campus Sustainability Programme (CaSPr).

Background

The SFC has allocated a sustainable development grant of £410,000 from 2008-11 to support the delivery of CaSPr. CaSPr is a programme of environmental management training, support and guidance and a forum for sharing best practice in sustainable development, specific to the Scottish university and college sectors and based on eight main themes:

1. resource consumption (energy, waste and recycling);
2. transport and travel;
3. high performance buildings (sustainable construction);
4. enhancing the student experience;
5. promoting biodiversity;
6. responsible procurement;
7. environmental compliance and management; and
8. community engagement.

Year 1 (April 2008 – March 2009)

Development and delivery of CaSPr 2008/11 was delayed by recruitment processes for the EAUC Scotland Manager and Scotland Project Officer and by the general time taken to establish the EAUC Scotland office. However, delivery of CaSPr is now fully underway and we are meeting the aims and objectives of the programme.

Scotland Office

In October 2008 Andrew Chamberlain was appointed as the Scotland Manager and Sarah Lee joined from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) in January 2009 as the Scotland Project Officer. The Scotland Manager and Project Officer have a

broad remit of delivering the EAUC's ambitious strategic plan in Scotland however day-to-day management of CaSPr is delegated to the Project Officer, under the supervision of the Scotland Manager.

The EAUC Scotland office is established at Queen Margaret University (QMU) in Musselburgh. We have agreed a method of collaborative working with QMU, whereby we participate in the University's Environmental and Sustainability Working Group and contribute to the ongoing development of a Sustainability Policy and Strategy. In return QMU provides us with discounted accommodation and services. This arrangement is working very well and the EAUC is benefiting from working in high quality university accommodation.

EAUC Scotland Strategic Framework

As part of the process of establishing the EAUC Scotland office, the EAUC Scotland Branch has agreed a Strategic Framework, within which all Scotland-specific activity will be delivered. Based around the EAUC UK Strategic Plan, the Scotland Framework is designed to provide a structure for activity in Scotland and add value and support to the EAUC's core activities and strategic aims and objectives.

Sustainable development transcends all activities within an institution and this is reflected in the growing awareness and understanding of sustainable development, corporate social responsibility and improved environmental performance amongst colleagues at all levels and across all business activity. EAUC Scotland's support mechanisms (including CaSPr) therefore reflect this diversity and are delivered through four strategic themes.

1. **Leadership:** University and college senior management leading by example, embedding sustainability into corporate strategies and established improvement practices.
2. **Campus:** Universities and colleges leading on the delivery of sustainable low carbon 21st century campuses.
3. **Learning:** Institutions equipping their graduates with core sustainability and employability skills and contributing to the National Capital as educators, skills trainers and researchers.
4. **Community:** Universities and colleges engaging with their student, staff and local communities to influence and lead on wider community and social initiatives.

Training and Networking Programme

We have published and are delivering the 2009/10 training and networking programme. The programme has been developed to reflect the eight themes highlighted above and to respond to the aims and objectives of the *Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland*. The overarching aims and objectives of CaSPr are:

- to raise general awareness of sustainable development and associated issues;
- to ensure legislative compliance;
- to promote practical tools and guidance;
- to facilitate partnership between institutions and delivery partners; and
- to provide networking opportunities and the sharing of good and best practice.

We have adopted a policy of charging member and non-member rates for CaSPr training events to cover event management costs and allow us to develop and role out a comprehensive programme of training events. Full day event fees are £50 and £65 respectively and half-day event fees are £35 and £50 respectively.

The target audience number is 25 delegates per event however average attendance at the first three events is 30 delegates. Average attendance at CaSPr events during Cycle 1 was 21 delegates.

Evaluating the effectiveness of the programme is key to its ongoing success and in determining the 2010/11 programme. Qualitative assessment undertaken after each event demonstrates that the programme is meeting the objectives outlined above. We will continue to evaluate performance and reassess content and delivery models as necessary.

We will begin preparation of the 2010/11 CaSPr programme in July 2009.

Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland (UCCCS)

To date, 42 institutions have signed the UCCCS, constituting $\frac{2}{3}$ of the sector and our objective is to have 100% sign-up by the end of this calendar year.

Signatories have 12 months from the date of signature to produce a 5-year Climate Change Action Plan which must include SMART targets relating to:

- energy and resource consumption;
- waste reduction, recycling and responsible disposal;
- sustainable estate development;
- sustainable travel planning; and
- responsible procurement of goods and services.

We have published *Planning and Implementation Guidance* which is available online and we are hosting several UCCCfS training events relating to the calculation of carbon baselines and the process of drafting a Climate Change Action Plan, whilst other CaSPr events focus on delivery elements of Climate Change Action Plans.

Ownership and accountability are critical to the success of the UCCCfS. Therefore during the summer, the UCCCfS Advisory Board will agree a monitoring and reporting mechanism for benchmarking incremental change in environmental performance and demonstrating progress to their stakeholders. We are working closely with URS Engineering and Environmental Consultants and John Wheatley College to develop the benchmarking mechanism that was produced as part of the SFC-funded (GMAP) Sustainable Accounting Group exercise in 2007/08 as the UCCCfS monitoring mechanism and intend to recommend this as a viable option to the Advisory Board. To capitalise on work already undertaken, every effort will be made to align the UCCCfS reporting mechanism with eMandate and EMS. The intention is for individual institutions to use the mechanism to monitor progress and reevaluate their Climate Change Action Plans as necessary. The EAUC will use the mechanism to demonstrate sector-wide qualitative and quantitative improvements to our key stakeholders.

Resource Map

In support of CaSPr and the UCCCfS, we have completed the EAUC Scotland Resource Map. This was a significant piece of work, developed in partnership with Sustainability Insight consultants and will be published online before the end of May. The aim of the mapping exercise is to facilitate partnership between institutions and the organisations that promote sustainable development and provide the necessary support to implement change. Details of organisations' services and support have been collated and are found in this document. The Map was showcased at a recent UCCCfS event and the response from the sector was extremely positive.

American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC)

We have received a travel grant from ACUPCC organisers to attend their Climate Leaders Summit in Chicago in August to showcase the EAUC's work in Scotland and to share our knowledge and experience of the UCCCfS with colleagues in the USA.

Other EAUC Scotland activity

Other activity that the EAUC has undertaken in support of CaSPr is as follows:

- Sustainable ICT – Carbon Management (Benchmarking) Programme (separate report submitted to SFC);

- input to the development of The Carbon Trust’s Carbon Management Lite programme;
- coordination of the annual review of the SFC’s *Sustainable Development Guidance for Estates Management*;
- coordination of the EAUC’s response to the SFC draft Corporate Plan;
- coordination of the EAUC’s response to the Defra consultation on the Draft Order to Implement the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC);
- development and publication of EAUC (UK) CRC *Insight Guide*;
- coordination of EAUC’s response to HEFCE’s consultation on sector carbon reduction targets and forthcoming recommendation to SFC on targets;
- development of the EAUC Scotland Communications Strategy;
- mapping and updating of the EAUC Scotland web pages.

Direct project support

Beyond the scope of training and networking events, we also provide direct support and guidance to university and college practitioners and senior management teams. Examples of our direct support activity are highlighted below:

Colleges

Aberdeen	Assistant Principal to advise on sustainable design/construction of new development
Aberdeen	To host a BREEAM training session for Aberdeen and Banff & Buchan
Ayr	Curriculum Leader to discuss ESD Training and Networking Events
Banff & Buchan	Principal and Senior Management Team to discuss membership and support requirements
Banff & Buchan	To interview Quantity Surveyors for the £30m refurbishment project
Borders	Assistant Principal and Estates Manager to discuss membership and support requirements
Cumbernauld	Assistant Principal and Curriculum Leader to discuss membership and ESD
Elmwood	Principal and sustainability adviser to discuss ESD and future partnership opportunities
Stevenson	Director of Estates to identify training requirements and Carbon Management Lite
West Lothian	Senior Management Team to present on UCCCfS and broader SD issues
West Lothian	Assistant Principal to develop Sustainable Development Policy and Strategy

Universities

HWU	Head of Procurement to discuss sustainable procurement and identify training opportunities
RGU	Director of Estates and Director of Development to discuss implementing behaviour change management programme
SAC	Director of Corporate Affairs to discuss membership and Carbon Management Lite
SAC	To host Senior Management workshop on sustainable development
UWS	Energy & Environmental Manager to identify training and support requirements

Relationship Management

One of the underlying principles of the EAUC’s success in Scotland is our ongoing commitment to effective relationship management, widening our scope of activity and

our sphere of influence and broadening support networks for our members. Examples of our networking activity are highlighted below:

Representative groups

APUC	Quarterly tripartite working group – EAUC/APUC/Scottish Government
AUDE	EAUC representation on (UK) AUDE Sustainability Group
BREEAM	EAUC representation on BREEAM (Higher) Education Steering Group
Finance CoP	UCCCFs / climate change presentation to Finance Managers’ Community of Practice
JISC	Sustainable ICT presentation at JISC Scotland Conference
POE	EAUC representation on SFC POE of SD Projects Steering Group
Principals’ Convention	UCCCFs / climate change presentation to Principals’ group
Scotland’s Colleges	SDE Steering Group
UCU	Host fringe workshop on climate change at UCU Congress in Bournemouth

Other

Carbon Trust	Scotland Manager to develop CM Lite cohorts
Defra	CRC consultation workshop in Peterborough
EcoBuild	EcoBuild Conference @ Earls Court, London
Greener View	Editor to discuss EAUC distribution of <i>Greener View</i> magazine
HMIe	HM Inspectors to discuss examples of good practice in college sector
Indigo AVS	Consultants to discuss services and associate membership
NLS	Director of Corporate Affairs and Estates Manager to discuss associate membership
Public Service	Transport Infrastructure Conference 09 @ Dynamic Earth
Scottish Government	Regular liaison meetings with Climate Change Policy Team
Scottish Government	Regular liaison meetings with SFC sponsor departments
Sestran	To explore collaborative procurement of bus services in Edinburgh
SFC	Quarterly liaison meetings with P&C, L&T and GMAP
SSDF	Scottish Sustainable Development Forum Conference @ Dynamic Earth
URS	Consultants to discuss UCCCFs monitoring and reporting
Valpak	Consultants to discuss services and associate membership
VIPRE	Consultants to discuss services and associate membership

In addition to the above activity, we provide quarterly reports to the Scottish Association of University Directors of Estates (SAUDE) and the Scottish University Heads of Procurement (SUHoP) group and discussing with Scotland’s Colleges how to establish formal routine communication with the Principals’ Convention.

Also, HM Inspectorate of Education (HMIe) has formally identified in guidance to colleges EAUC Scotland as one of eight organisations or groups that institutions should engage with in delivering sustainable development. The other seven are the SFEU’s Sustainable Development in the Curriculum Steering Group, the Sustainable Development Education Policy Network, SQA, COLEG, SFC, Sector Skills Councils and NUS Scotland.

Business development

In addition to the above activity, to augment CaSPr we are exploring several new significant business development opportunities:

1. ***Behaviour Change Management.*** We are in the very early stages of developing a brief for an EAUC Behaviour Change Management programme/guidelines. We are discussing with Alexi Marmot Associates the possibility of commissioning a piece of research to determine and record the barriers to behaviour change upon which we can base a change management programme. University College London, Queen Margaret University, Heriot Watt University, Robert Gordon University and Banff & Buchan College have been identified as potential pilot partners.
2. ***Colleges that Count.*** We are discussing with the Scottish Funding Council (GMAP and L&T) the potential for a pilot College CSR project in Scotland, using the Business in the Community model that forms the basis for *Universities that Count*.
3. ***QMU-led Consultancy.*** QMU's Estates & Facilities and Information Services departments are seeking opportunities to develop a specialist consultancy service, based on their knowledge and experience of delivering the 4th highest bespoke BREEAM project in the UK and the highest scoring university project in the UK. External consultancies have approached QMU to join them but QMU would like to explore this opportunity with the EAUC in the first instance. Historically we have delivered training through the "informed client" route, primarily directing our support to university and college representatives but we are considering supplementing this with "informed consultant" training, supporting SFC's conditions of grant relating to BREEAM for sustainable design and construction. QMU's proposal ideally lends itself to this model. Discussions are ongoing.

Budget

The project budget is as follows:

SFC SD Budget Cycle	CaSPr
AY2007/08 (covering period April – July 08)	60,000
AY2008/09 (covering period August 08 – March 09)	117,000
AY2009/10 (covering period April 09 – July 10)	117,000
AY2010/11 (covering period August 10 – March 11)	116,000
	410,000

The CaSPr budget cycle runs from April to March, whereas the SFC Sustainable Development (SD) Budget runs from August to July, hence four annual SD budget cycles are required to cover the three-year CaSPr cycle.

As highlighted in the mid-year report, submitted to the SFC in November 2008, due to the delays briefly outlined above, there was an underspend in Year 1, which has been carried forward into FY2009/10 (overlapping AY2008/09 and AY2009/10). As a result the CaSP cycle has been amended to allow for the implementation of a full 3-year project cycle. Salary costs for the Scotland Manager and Project Officer and rentals costs for QMU have been factored in until December 2011 and all funds have been allocated for specific purposes. Therefore no overall project underspend or overspend is anticipated.

Conclusion

The EAUC's primary role is to provide members across the UK with training, advice and support and a forum for sharing best practice. In Scotland we add value to that core activity by working closely with universities, colleges and our strategic partners to ensure a regional focus that is specific to Scotland. We provide a specialist focus on relevant Scottish issues by facilitating the exchange of information and the dissemination of best practice informed by those issues.

The first seven months since the creation of the Scotland office have been extremely productive, particularly since Sarah Lee joined the team as the EAUC Scotland Project Officer. Every effort is being made to realise our overarching objective of meeting the specific needs and requirements of our Scottish members and of strengthening our position as the centre of excellence for sustainable development in the university and college sector in Scotland.

Andrew Chamberlain
EAUC Scotland Manager
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e: achamberlain@eauc.org.uk
t: 0131 474 0000
m: 07595 826 819