

Community of Practice

Championing Sustainability through Apprenticeships

09/08/2023



Project activities so far

- CoP 3 summary - [12.07.2023 NSN CoP \(northernskillsnetwork.co.uk\)](https://northernskillsnetwork.co.uk)
- Padlet updated to incorporate updates and guidance
- Jargon buster in development
- Apprentice case studies in development
- Champions course and mini research projects commenced
- SDG video content purchased for all CoP participants to help with SDG embedding
- Provider Health check created to support providers with the response

The [Manchester champion](#) has set up a practitioner forum dedicated to green matters across and is bringing together different apprenticeship providers to raise awareness of GSD across their patch

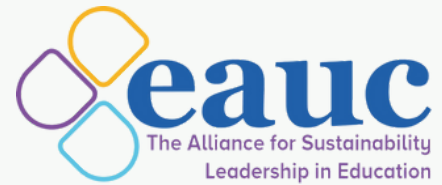
The [Yorkshire champion](#) is using their existing Green Ambition to raise awareness of the project and is holding a series of “developing your sustainability strategy” webinars for apprenticeship providers over the summer. There has also been Ambition digital badges issues to all providers signed up

The [Liverpool champion](#) has created a series of green-folio's that highlight specific key topics such as strategy, curriculum and CPD

The [Lancashire champion](#) has started using AI to create some green matters content to share with apprenticeship providers

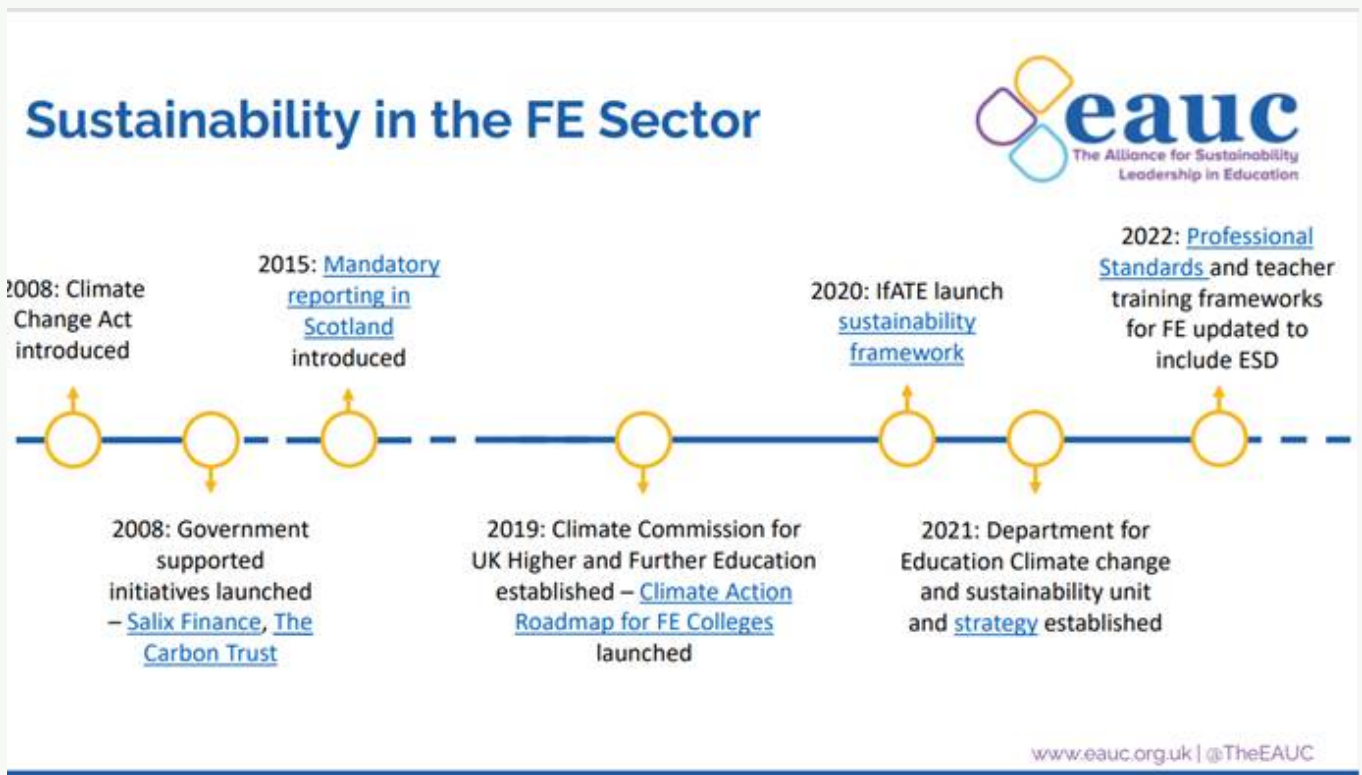
Alex Miles, CoP Host, also ran through the updated Padlet with the new additions to support training organisations, which can be found at - https://padlet.com/askresources21/nsn_gsd_padlet

Charlotte Bonner



The CoP guest speaker Charlotte Bonner from EAUC - The Alliance for sustainability leadership in Education then presented an insightful and helpful look into sustainable development over the years, the support available and how FE, HE and ITPs can work together to support curriculum and institutional change.

Charlotte shared the below map, detailing how long tshi subject has been in discussion, even though she has seen a huge increase in demand over just the past year.



Charlotte shared the need for successful sustainable development in Education needs a whole organisation response, from curriculum to culture, community and campus (Which is very much aligned to the Health Check we have created for this project).



The EAUC mission is to “lead and empower the post-16 education sector to embed sustainability in everything it does: preparing learners for their futures and shaping society for the better” which is something we absolutely support across our championing sustainability through apprenticeship work and project and we both recognise the need for education establishments to be doing more and it to be a responsibility of the ALL not the FEW.

Charlotte shared the wide range of programmes offered to support education institutions and encouraged CoP participants to get involved, these inc -



Ongoing programmes

- [Green Gown Awards](#)
- Communities of practice
- [Sustainability Exchange](#)
- Sector led [consultancy](#)
- [Fellowship](#) programme
- [Carbon literacy training](#)
- Annual conference
- Realigning Curricular for the Future events
- [Race to Zero](#) and the [SDG Accord](#)
- [Sustainability Leadership Scorecard](#)
- [Carbon Coalition](#) offsetting

www.eauc.org.uk | @TheEAUC

Charlotte finished by sharing the EAUC recent initiatives and new strategy for the organisation, which includes

- Rebalancing the FE & HE Offer
- Richer engagement across communities
- Creating solutions to challenging problems
- Stronger emphasis on ESD
- Developing datasets
- Policy and advocacy

Charlotte is keen to speak to any CoP members who want to find out more about the EAUC programme and initiatives and both EAUC and NSN will be collaborating on more work moving forward to help support the apprenticeship and adult skills providers across the member networks of the North – so watch this space! The full suite of slides and contact details from Charlotte are included on the updated Padlet.

Sector Mapping

The session then moved into the sector mapping element, which focused on early years, teaching assistant and education.

Alex discussed how the KSB's from the L3 EYE and Teaching Assistant standards can be easily and naturally embedded into the UNESCO 17 sustainable development goals and how these can aid apprentices in their apprenticeship journey with projects, discussions, T&L activities with the children and support their setting with their own sustainability journey. Examples of these include –

Early Years Apprenticeship mapping

EYE L3 & TAL3 –
KSB mapping to SDG's

The importance of promoting diversity, equality and inclusion – link to **SDG 10**

Health and well-being – link to **SDG 3**

Undertake tasks to ensure the prevention and control of infection for example hand washing, food preparation and hygiene, dealing with spillages safely, safe disposal of waste and using correct personal protective equipment. – link to **SDG 6**

Care and compassion - provide the very best childcare to every child every day combined with the ability to professionally challenge poor practice – link to **SDG 11**

[THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development \(un.org\)](https://un.org/sustainabledevelopment/)



Alex encouraged the CoP attendees to spend some time with their tutors and trainers explore how SDG's can be used as a teaching tool and using the SDG website and the video content soon to be issued to CoP members as a core resources when creating and adapting the curriculum.

It was discussed that sustainable development and the 17 SDG's are not just about the planet and environment, but also to tackle and challenge inequalities and create positive mindsets and attitudes through the culture. These are all qualities linked to apprenticeships and a quality education experience for all – apprenticeship provide perfect opportunities to challenge industry norms, look at and address inequalities in the workplace and community and place priority on personal development, well-being, behaviours and attitudes. It is the responsibility of all apprenticeship providers to instil and create opportunities for apprentices of all levels, sectors, ages and abilities to explore, debate and deepen their understanding of life in modern Britain. Sustainable development is broadly defined as:

'development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'.

It was shared that the Department for Education have issued a strategy called, Sustainability and climate change for education which sets out –

By 2025, all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan". This includes early years settings, schools, multi-academy trusts, colleges, and universities.

Sustainability leadership could be a group of people or an individual responsible for the development and implementation of a climate action plan.

A climate action plan is a detailed plan to enable your education setting, or trust, to progress or commence sustainability initiatives.

However, many in the group were not aware of this strategy and do not currently have a response that would meet this requirement. This is where the Championing Sustainability through Apprenticeships project and its support resources can help! The session then explored what this means in terms of climate action plans, sustainability leads and a whole organisation approach and the detailed slides can be found on the padlet.

The session concluded with reviewing the 17 SDG's, types of projects that can support apprentices in the workplace and mapping to the Ofsted framework. It also shared the importance of working in collaboration and developing partnerships with local charities, initiatives, social value opportunities and each other. No one organisation or individual can tackle this agenda on their own, we need social partnerships and collaboration.

Our next community if practice us taking place on 12th September the focus being -

- Guest speaker - Students for Sustainability
- How to embed into your quality cycle, self-assessment process and quality improvement
- Ensuring sustainability is part of your quality of education

To book on, [click here](#)

Also, our next [Green Skills Showcase for the North](#) is taking place on 25th September

