

**Date:** Tuesday 17th March  
**Time:** 9:30-12:30  
**Venue:** Carnegie Conference Centre, Fife College,  
Dunfermline



[Website for Slides](#)

## Eco Salons and College Sustainability

### Education for Sustainable Development in FE Topic Support Network

---

#### Attendees:

John	Salter	EAUC / LfSS / SQA	ESD in FE TSN Convenor
Rebecca	Petford	EAUC-Scotland	Programme Coordinator
Alasdair	Clark	Fife College	
Abi	Cornwall	Learning for Sustainability Scotland	
Fi	Craig	Fife College	
Elaine	Crawford	Dumfries & Galloway College	
Diane	Creed	Forth Valley College	
Suze	Edney	Fife College	
Gillian	Gibson	EAUC	
Gillian	Griffin	North East Scotland College	
Lesley	Ingram	North East Scotland College	
Jennifer	Jamieson	Scottish Funding Council	
Christina	Laing	Fife College	
Jeanette	Mcleod	South Lanarkshire College	
Lynn	Milligan	City of Glasgow College	
Amby	Stanyer-Hunter	Ash & Co Organics	
May	Tennant	Forth Valley College	
Lee-Ann	Walker	West Lothian College	
Joanne	Warwick	South Lanarkshire College	
Margaret	Watson	Fife College	
Martin	Webb	Edinburgh College	
Paula	White	West Lothian College	

#### Apologies:

Julie	Fair	South Lanarkshire College
-------	------	---------------------------

1.	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b>  <i>John Salter, Education for Sustainable Development in FE Topic Support Network Convenor</i></p> <p>Everyone was welcomed to the meeting, and to Fife College, who were thanked for their hospitality. The high turnout was noted.</p>
2.	<p><b>Sustainability at Fife College</b>  <i>Christine Laing, Head of Department - Academy of Hair, Beauty, Sport and Fitness, Fife College</i></p> <p>Presentation available <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome to Fife College! Event focused on the Green Salon and the Ripple Effect that Christine has set up around it – it would be great if more people wanted to join the Ripple Effect.</li> <li>• Sustainability is important to Christine personally, hence the drive in this department, but the Principal is also keen for sustainability to be supported</li> <li>• Research involved looking backwards in time, but also visiting European salons using innovative eco technology</li> <li>• Bespoke Local Extraction Venting System for clean air to protect staff and student health by removing fine hair and dust. Wanted it to be powered by a fuel cell but as College is to be rebuilt this will have to wait. All Salons built at Fife College now will have this ventilation.</li> <li>• Virtual salon walkthrough highlighting eco systems and products is being developed for students and the sector</li> <li>• Desire to produce sustainable practitioners</li> <li>• Working with hairdressing council on compulsory registration for hairdressers, as a way to raise standards and increase accountability, and hopefully also sustainable practices</li> <li>• Some technology was more expensive, such as the green hairdryers, but the message they convey is important</li> <li>• Using REM green range furniture which uses metal from recycled sources, and have been assured this will be a long-term range which will help avoid having to replace all the furniture if a few items break</li> <li>• Many hair products are from eco-ranges, with clients now asking for these to be used on their hair. Product companies are asked for corporate social responsibility and sustainability information on both their products and the company as a whole</li> <li>• Many other green products and processes – low level LED lighting, recycled doors, water limiting shower heads, recyclable coffee pods, recycled wallpaper, marmoleum (12<sup>th</sup> greenest product in the world!), FSC for printing and digital imagery, towels reused by local bird sanctuary, e-charging points for college e-car and clients, towels hung out to dry, water-only cleaning products, specific ‘green’ sessions using henna only, plants within the salon to add oxygen, and plans for online guest sessions for training without travel impact.</li> <li>• Plus within the college more generally there is cycle space and lockers, a move towards digital learning materials and online assessments, green strategic planning, and the desire for the new build to include all possible green technologies</li> <li>• The Green Salon Ripple Effect is a Google Group of educators, salon-owners and suppliers, used to share information and encourage green practices. If you are interested please contact <a href="#">Christine</a>.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a long term aim and commitment for Fife College to be sustainable.</li> </ul> <p><i>Alistair Clark, Vice President for Education and Representation, Students Association, Fife College</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Student Association roles specifically involve sustainability but there are links to ethical aims in all</li> <li>• The Green Salon has set a precedent, allowing for discussions about education for sustainability across the college within different committees</li> <li>• Sustainable Students Association, with recycling bins in offices and use of tools such as gumdrop balls for collecting and re-using chewing gum to make new products and also minimise litter</li> <li>• Making sure sustainability is a main part of the College’s strategy</li> <li>• Working with NUS Scotland on a social responsibility project, including introducing ESD</li> </ul> <p>Questions and Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fife College is also part of the Cycle Friendly Campus pilot with Cycling Scotland, which is part of their healthy body, healthy mind focus</li> <li>• Ecobuild workshop at Fife College was set up many years ago, but students and visitors are still shown around it</li> <li>• Both Salons at the Halbeath Campus are eco-salons</li> <li>• The Cupar salon will be closing in a year, and Christine is currently working out where all their equipment will be best used</li> <li>• ESD is present and discussed, with information on the walls in the salon etc. Next stage will be to look more at the beauty side of things</li> <li>• Clients are told about the sustainability focus – hairdressers talk and are an effective way to spread ideas around communities!</li> <li>• The students will not all go on to work in salons, many will visit people in their own homes, creating a large social impact</li> <li>• Compulsory registration with the Hairdressing Council would support post-college learning and provide a support network</li> <li>• Some workplaces sign up to green values, but many welcome the idea (from students and external sources) but are worried about the cost, so the adoption of these values and practices may be a slow process. Health issues for hairdressers are a big problem so this many encourage adoption.</li> </ul>
3.	<p><b>Tour of the Eco Salon</b>  <i>Fi Craig, Curriculum Manager – Hairdressing, Fife College</i></p> <p>Some photographs taken on the tour can be found on the event webpage <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
4.	<p><b>Our Beautiful World: Beauty Shouldn’t Cost the Earth</b>  <i>Elaine Crawford, Dumfries and Galloway College</i></p> <p>Presentation available <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elaine has written several course booklets with funding from the EAUC, including one aimed at hairdressing students and a new one for beauty. There is also an introduction to</li> </ul>

	<p>sustainability course which has been credit rated, and can be used for staff and students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development ran from 2004-14 and achieved a lot, but we need to continue to develop the knowledge and skills for a sustainable life</li> <li>• Sustainability is embedded within the workbooks as students consider the lifecycle impacts of beauty and care products. With packaging students are considered to think about circular economy ideas and bringing back re-use, and the book talks about responsible sourcing of products and ingredients, as well as challenging students to make their own products. It also touches on social issues, including the homogenisation of image and animal testing.</li> <li>• The workbooks on Hairdressing and Construction are available for free download and use on the EAUC Website <a href="#">here</a>, with workbooks on Beauty and Health and Social Studies to be added shortly.</li> <li>• The work encourages links to extra-curricular work outside the salon and perhaps with other students, such as participation in a sustainable fashion show</li> <li>• The aim is to make ESD subject-specific, which makes it easy for the lecturer to embed and interesting to the students. Sustainability has to be a core skill, but the courses also have to teach core skills, and the booklets allow for this.</li> <li>• More research is still needed into how to engage college students within sustainability</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Updates from the Network</b>  <i>John Salter, Education for Sustainable Development in FE Topic Support Network Convenor</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been a change in sustainability ideas over time, from saving whales to ozone, then climate change and extreme weather. Now there is the question of how we provide for the basic needs of 8 billion people without destroying the planet. The definition of sustainability is constantly moving.</li> <li>• Colleges are not mini universities, they have a different remit</li> <li>• Does the Scottish Government consider the value of educating people to live independent lives? Colleges do this, supporting people with no qualifications to develop and realise their full potential – but with funding changes and restructure often students will have to travel twice as far to access it. Longer-term funding is likely to be restored.</li> <li>• The work of colleges can turn around a community e.g. the Raploch campus of Forth Valley College.</li> <li>• Fife College is teaching sustainable resource management</li> <li>• SQA now requires that those writing units embed SD, this represents steady progress</li> <li>• This period of austerity will end and industry will respond to the needs of the economy</li> <li>• UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development brought about a greater understanding of social as well as environmental sustainability – but companies generally don't know what they are doing in terms of social sustainability. Colleges can help a lot through their teaching.</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b>Learning for Sustainability Scotland: Definitions and Task Groups</b>  <i>Abi Cornwall, Learning for Sustainability Scotland</i></p> <p>Presentation available <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Scottish Government use the term Learning for Sustainability (Lfs) rather than</li> </ul>

	<p>Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), to include ESD, global citizenship and outdoor learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LfS Scotland (LfSS) are an organisation accredited as the UN Regional Centre of Expertise on ESD in Scotland. They work with organisations of all sizes and at all levels, including Universities and Colleges - although they want to work much more with colleges than they do currently.</li> <li>• LfSS (Betsy King and Abi) provide the secretariat for the network of 200 members and 164 organisations</li> <li>• LfSS use Task Groups to work in a small network to develop particular projects – networks are key to flourishing</li> </ul> <p>Discussion on potential projects to take forward. Ideas included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigating options and desire for training using henna (which has a much lower environmental impact) for colour training in college, through contact with salons and training institutions around the UK and in Europe. Using henna would push the ESD agenda further, potentially develop students to cater to a niche market, and also provide general development for students and CPD for staff.</li> <li>• Linking salons operating with sustainability values with colleges training students to consider sustainability in their work to provide placements to develop students' real-world sustainability skills in the sector.</li> </ul> <p>Anyone interested in being part of a Task Group to progress one of these or another learning for sustainability project should <a href="#">contact Abi</a> for more details and to get involved.</p>
7.	<p><b>The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC)</b>  <i>Rebecca Petford, EAUC-Scotland Programme Coordinator</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The EAUC is a not for profit Member based charity run by Members for Members. We are financed by subscriptions and service generated revenue which funds our work of representing and promoting the interests of Members and the provision of support services to drive sustainability to the heart of tertiary education across the UK.</li> <li>• In Scotland the EAUC is funded to run a programme called the Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland (UCCCCfS), with the Principals of all Colleges and Universities in Scotland recently asked to produce a Climate Action Plan and embed sustainability more within the way they are working.</li> <li>• The three-person EAUC-Scotland team (Sarah Lee, Gillian Gibson and Rebecca Petford) support Colleges and Universities to improve the sustainability within their estates management, but also within learning, teaching, research, engagement and governance, through a programme of Topic Support Networks to get people together working in a particular area (find the list of options <a href="#">here</a>), specific training programmes, and individual support. We are also working on a number of other projects, including leadership development and a programme to support Careers Advisors.</li> <li>• The EAUC more widely has a number of resources which may be of interest, including the <a href="#">Sustainability Exchange</a> which we use to share resources of interest to those working on sustainability within FHE (let us know if you have any case studies or resources to share!) and also the recently re-launched <a href="#">LIFE Framework</a>, a planning and self-assessment tool specifically for colleges and universities to improve social responsibility and environmental performance through a whole institution approach.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you have any questions about the EAUC you can contact our team on <a href="mailto:Scotland@eauc.org.uk">Scotland@eauc.org.uk</a></li> </ul>
8.	<p><b>Summary and Close</b>  <i>John Salter, Education for Sustainable Development in FE Topic Support Network Convenor</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thanks to all for a very successful TSN today</li> <li>The enthusiasm for this event has shown that this network has to be vocationally focused to attract people, although the health and beauty sector does appear to be most active in changing the world, lives and perceptions</li> <li>It is important that all colleges and other institutions don't just talk the talk but walk the walk, as has been shown here today</li> </ul>

Minutes prepared by: Rebecca Petford  
EAUC Scotland Programme Coordinator  
March 2015