Date: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016

Time: 10:30-15:00

Venue: 3.04 Charteris Land, University of Edinburgh

**Website for Slides** 



Convenor

Speaker

# **Waste Management Topic Support Network**

Attendees:

Jackie Beresford **Dundee and Angus College** 

Trudy Cunningham University of Dundee Convenor

Tracey-Ann Don University of Stirling Pauline Donaldson Forth Valley College Kate Fitzpatrick Scotland's Rural College **Edinburgh Napier University** Paul Jefferson

Sotiris Katsimpas REMADE in Edinburgh Speaker

University of Stirling Brian McIlroy Alan Peddie University of Edinburgh

Rebecca Petford **EAUC** Co-ordinator

University of Edinburgh Sophie Rippinger Fleur Ruckley University of Edinburgh **Erin Scott** Zero Waste Scotland

Speaker Steven Turnbull Zero Waste Scotland

Sophie Unwin REMADE in Edinburgh Martin Webb Edinburgh College University of Edinburgh Sandie Whigham

**Apologies:** 

Leafield Environmental Katie Bruce

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Fleur Ruckley, Waste Management TSN Co-Convenor / University of Edinburgh Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and invited to introduce themselves to the room. The programme was outlined and attendees invited to ask questions and provide examples throughout the event.

#### 2. **Zero Waste Campaigns and Events**

Erin Scott, Zero Waste Scotland

Coming to the end of this year's ZWS projects and not launched yet for next year. Key topics (see slides for more information):

- Pass it on Week 5-13<sup>th</sup> March 2016 looking for all Universities to be involved in re-use activities e.g. repair / swaps – register activities on the website – contact Miriam for info
- Love Your Clothes campaign contact Miriam if you want training for people at your college or university on repairing /upcycling clothes
- Good Practice Guidance for Preventing Waste Crime developed with SEPA through Environmental Crime Task Force – aimed at local authorities but also relevant to

- universities and colleges guidance on what to look for when procuring a waste contract (although this is usually done through APUC within our sector)
- <u>Scotland's Resource Sector Commitment</u> waste contractors have vetting by Zero Waste Scotland during commitment process, and ZWS can then help to address any issues with signatories failing to meet agreed standards
- Litter and flytipping update Scotland's <u>National Litter Strategy</u> trying to influence people not to litter, paying local authorities to pick it up isn't sustainable. Need to focus on prevention, including personal and shared responsibility, using innovation and creativity to encourage positive behaviour, and holding organisations with responsibilities to account.
- Love Food Hate Waste 50% of food waste in Scotland comes from households, nearly £500/year wasted per household Universities and colleges have a big role to play in developing behaviour good Love Food Hate Waste app would like new university and college partnerships 'to go' boxes in use to be expanded after an effectiveness review Discussion:
  - Could there be an issue with liability in terms of litter with ZWS branding on?
  - Food sharing system Olio which is big in London may be developed in Edinburgh
- Training opportunities Developing the Workforce to upskill in resource management, reuse and repair, coaching, training and assessing delivered by Fife College and Albion Environmental at no cost to employers or individuals – more information <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>
- <u>SWITCH</u> Strategic Objectives health and safety side of things within the resource management industry – meets twice a year, universities and colleges could sign up to mailing list. Competence Framework Launched by SWITCH
- WRAP's <u>Hospitality and Food Service Agreement</u> focuses on reducing waste and recycling more, and is a voluntary agreement. No universities signed up so far
- RES <u>Pledge Ambassador Programme</u> is for organisations who can influence others in terms of resource efficiency (such as students, affiliates and their supply chain)
- Ongoing opportunities inc. <u>Financing Resource Efficiency Projects</u> webinar 30<sup>th</sup> March

# 3. Legislative Updates

Fleur Ruckley, Waste Management TSN Co-Convenor / University of Edinburgh Erin Scott. Zero Waste Scotland

Recent changes (see <u>slides</u>) – Key items for FHE sector:

- WEEE changes, including from households
- Duty of care regulations now allow edocs ZWS preparing more info on these
- Multiple changes to The Waste (Meaning of Hazardous Waste and EWC) (Misc Amend) (Scotland) Regulations 2015 – University of Edinburgh have found it is good to train people on guidance to reduce number of queries
- Waste (Scotland) Regulations new 5kg limit for food waste segregation speak to waste contractor if affected, depends partly on postcode
- Flyer from SEPA (on slide) check contractors are happy with how you separate paper and card. There is a drive to push to source segregated waste from Europe which would be challenging for universities and colleges. MRF testing regime now underway and you will see pushback if you have contaminated collections, which could lead to changes if comingled is more contaminated than separate streams. UoE doing an audit and found out main issues are paper towels and coffee cups they will be the focus of a campaign.
- Carrier bag charge reporting 2015-16 data due soon from all those who sell bags (those with shops on campus) sign up if you haven't already
- Waste Data Strategy update underway with SEPA Hannah Felton may come to next TSN to present on this – reuse makes this complicated
- EU Circular Economy Package working on legislation and there will be targets for

increasing recycling and reducing landfill, removing grey areas and ways to deal with reuse, plus other areas including plastics, food waste, critical raw materials, construction and demolition projects, biomass and bio-based products etc., plus innovation and investment

• Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 – been undergoing changes for a while including enforcement powers

#### Discussions:

- Waste in HESA report and climate change duties, but reuse isn't counted carbon on that hard to do, especially if it doesn't go through WARPit
- New procurement legislation coming out, with sustainability and community benefits key, and trying to emphasise the full costs of procurement
- Modern Slavery Act University of Edinburgh's SRS department looking at this and doing an event as part of Fairtrade Fortnight
- Changes to legislation around refrigerant which might affect things if your researchers are using them

### 4. Practical Reuse in Action

Sotiris Katsimpas, REMADE in Edinburgh Sophie Unwin, REMADE in Edinburgh

- Demonstration of taking a laptop apart to clean it.
- Discussion on the work of REMADE in Edinburgh and how they work with the University of Edinburgh.
- Edinburgh Remakery new shop at the bottom of Leith Walk which will open soon and will do furniture restoration etc.
- ZWS Revolve accreditation undertaken by REMADE, which helps with external perception as well as internal working.
- Questions for people looking for services should be can they do the job, are they compliant, what are the community benefits, what are the effects on the environment?

#### Discussion:

- Health and safety can make passing things on more difficult, e.g. hairdressing supplies
- Challenge of logging donations and mechanism for it, including during building clearances time requirements vary depending on how active you are dividing items
- Need to ensure that gifted items are not ending up sold on eBay
- Scottish Futures Trust looking at decommissioning of schools and how to audit what is in them and if items can be taken retained from old schools – but people want all new items
- o Easier and guicker to buy new than refurbish, especially if specific size or shape needs
- o Hopefully all the stumbling blocks will be loosened over time.

## **Lunch and Networking**

#### 5. Shout Out

Trudy Cunningham, Waste Management TSN Co-Convenor / University of Dundee

Thank you to Fleur for all her work organising this TSN!

We need a new co-convenor as she will be stepping down after this TSN to take on a new job outside the sector.

Potential future topics to discuss or trips:

- Trip to an AD plant for the future. Fife or one in Cumbernauld Erin Scott to organise
- Trip to new MRF and energy from waste plant at Levenseat
- Information from APUC on WEEE and printer/toner cartridges

- Hannah or someone else from SEPA on the waste data strategy
- Input from APUC, including on their Buyers' Guide
- Next TSN October

# Sector updates:

- Dundee and Angus have recently installed a rocket composter which is managed by their horticulture department. All is going well so far. Advice received from other attendees to ensure maturation management is well supervised, and there is regular air quality testing
- SRUC have a large wormery on one of their golf courses, also managed by the grounds team, which works well
- SRUC looking at rationalising their waste contracts post-merge following a review by AA
  Ricardo with support from ZWS. They will go to mini-competition for a new contract from
  April 2017
- Local authority cut-backs are causing issues with additional recycling collections from the University of Dundee
- Possibility of lowering the costs of going to a mini competition by procuring regionally –
   University of Stirling are looking at working with the council. It makes sense to at least
   share information
- Frustration over the delay in low-carbon (etc.) technologies becoming available and affordable in the UK
- Need to get environmental issues high on senior management agenda they prioritise the highest fee-paying students. EAUC encourage sustainability being prioritised at SAUDE.
- Increased spending on labs to increase income, but this leads to higher impacts at a time when expenditure on waste, water and energy management is going down
- Issue with constant changes in baselines / conversion figures means you can never compare like with like
- University of Edinburgh currently contracting for WEEE divided the WEEE types up and stated requirements for each before going to tender. Happy to share info once awarded. Recently completed radioactive waste contract and next is clinical waste contract.
- University of Edinburgh Donation Agreement to be shared as a template for others to work from – please note all institutions should carefully check the wording before use.

# 6. Future Meetings and EAUC Updates

# Rebecca Petford, EAUC

# Upcoming **EAUC** events:

- EAUC-S AGM Edinburgh 11<sup>th</sup> March
- ESD in HE TSN: Interdisciplinarity Edinburgh 18<sup>th</sup> March
- Community Engagement TSN: Social Media Skill Share Glasgow 22<sup>nd</sup> March
- Adaptation Training Edinburgh 20<sup>th</sup> April
- Monitoring and Evaluation Training Edinburgh 27<sup>th</sup> April
- College Energy Training 4 events around Scotland in March to be announced soon
- EAUC UK Conference Bristol 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May
- CIWM accredited Waste Smart Training recently took place at University of Strathclyde, new dates to be announced soon

#### **EAUC** news:

- Green Gown Award information will be announced soon start thinking about potential projects and see case studies on the <u>Sustainability Exchange</u> – consider being a judge too
- Work will begin soon on updating the Waste Management Guidance document if you
  have any areas you think need included, case studies or documents / partners you think we
  should point people towards specifically please contact Rebecca on rpetford@eauc.org.uk

# Waste TSN update:

- We need a new co-convenor for the Waste TSN, to work alongside Trudy. If you would be
  able to support identifying and inviting speakers and topic for bi-annual meetings, perhaps
  offering a space to meet, and helping chair the meeting, please contact Rebecca on
  rpetford@eauc.org.uk. An invitation will be sent around the JISCMail list.
- Thank you very much to Fleur for all the work she has put into Co-Convening this group, and we wish her well in her new role at Project Manager for Scotland's 2020 Group.

# 7. Thanks and Close

Fleur Ruckley, Waste Management TSN Co-Convenor / University of Edinburgh
Minutes and event survey to be circulated to all attendees shortly. Thanks to all for attending.

Minutes prepared by: Rebecca Petford

**EAUC Scotland Programme Coordinator** 

February 2016