

Date: Thursday 8th Oct 2020
Time: 10:00–12:00
Resources: [Available here](#)

MINUTES: Sustainable Procurement Topic Support Network Meeting

Attendees:

Alexis	Heeren	The University of Edinburgh
Andrew	Foulner	Edinburgh Napier University
Claire	Guerin	Zero Waste Scotland
Colin	McLaren	Edinburgh College
David	Stutchfield	University of St Andrews
Elena	Rivilla-Lutterkort	London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
Jamie	Harbour	Rype Office
Jill	Burnett	EAUC-Scotland
Kate	Murray	Queen Margaret University
Martin	Webb	Edinburgh College
Matt	Woodthorpe	EAUC
Ricarda	Bieke	APUC
Scott	Bryson	University of Strathclyde

	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS	ACTIONS
1	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Introductions</p> <p><i>Kate Murray, Co-Convener, Queen Margaret University</i></p> <p>Everyone was welcomed to the event.</p>	
2	<p>Roundtable on how COVID has impacted Sustainable Procurement</p> <p><i>Ricarda Bieke, Co-Convener, APUC</i></p> <p><u>Build Back Better</u></p> <p>Originated in recovery and reconstruction from physical disasters. There is an emphasis on making preventative investments to improve resilience going forward.</p> <p><u>OECD's Policy Response to Coronavirus</u></p> <p>The economic recovery from COVID-19 needs to be durable & resilient. Return to business as usual and environmentally destructive investment patterns must be avoided.</p> <p>The climate and biodiversity emergencies could cause far greater economic losses than those caused by COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to align with long term emissions reduction goals 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve resilience to climate change • Increase resilience & circularity of supply chain <p><u>Scottish Government</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a stronger, fairer and greener economic future for Scotland in the wake of coronavirus • Employment measures • Help for SMEs • Consultation on policies <p><u>Zero Waste Scotland</u></p> <p>Decoupling Advisory Group: What we can do to meet Scotland's economic, environmental and social needs to overcome Covid-19 and the climate crisis.</p> <p>Key policy principles for using resources sustainably in a wellbeing economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principle 1: Recognise that green growth is not sufficient to Build Back Better • Principle 2: Put wellbeing at the heart of everything we do • Principle 3: Reduce Scotland's consumption of natural resources absolutely, rapidly, permanently and fairly <p><u>Impacts of COVID on Sustainable Procurement from Ideaboardz</u></p> <p>Direct</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in construction procurement • Cost pressures • Buying less as budgets reduced – travel budget halved for all schools and units • Increase in single use plastics • Reduction in reuse (hand dryers & water coolers turned off, keep cups not accepted) • Problems with replacing paper towels with hand dryers <p>Indirect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on speed of delivery at the impact of everything else • More focus on software solutions – perhaps more efficient less paper intensive processes • Buying from local suppliers – would be good to see more framework agreements targeted at local suppliers with lots of different regions <p><u>Mitigating Measures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerations in the Tender Process • Considerations in Tender Documents • Considerations in Contract Management 	
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3	<p>Scope 3 Procurement Emissions Project <i>David Stutchfield, Sustainability Manager, University of St Andrews</i></p> <p>We have historically used HESCET to estimate procurement emissions and looking at our annual report capital projects are 52% of our total emissions. So we wanted to look at this area in more detail – specifically the embodied carbon (manufacture, transport and installation) of construction materials.</p> <p>We looked at the methodology options and decided to pick a single £10million construction project to be evaluated by an MSc student from University of Edinburgh. She compared the spend-based method, the hybrid method and the supplier specific method.</p> <p>Spend-based using bill of quantities – 5,752 tonnes CO₂e.</p> <p>Hybrid methodology using ICE database tool – Steel 70% of total emissions and concrete 15%.</p> <p>Supplier specific method – using Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) from manufacturers. Found that this had higher emissions than the ICE average data factors.</p> <p>Required contractor to collect the EPD from each supplier which was very hard to do retrospectively and should be specified at the start of project – could be included in BREEAM specification area.</p> <p>We also included the contractors Scope 1&2 site emissions. Transport was logged on site. The data was already collected.</p> <p>Supplier specific method was too difficult retrospectively so opted for hybrid – 7,062 tonnes CO₂e.</p> <p><u>Comparison of calculation methods</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have looked at all calculation methods for a single project • A hybrid approach is the most practical • For a project in St Andrews, more resolution leads to higher emissions • All calculation methods in same ballpark <p><u>Lessons learnt</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard to do this retrospectively – needs to be specified at start of project • For a traditional construction building spend based methods are OK <p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>Key questions going forwards include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we improve carbon data and build these into our baseline reporting across the sector? • How do we embed carbon measurement into our procurement process and decision making? • How can Scottish Procurement and APUC take the lead by building carbon disclosure through all future contracts as a mandatory criteria? 	
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4	<p>Furniture for a Circular Economy</p> <p><i>Jamie Harbour, Rype Office</i></p> <p>Would like to do away with the notion that buying new is essential for an organisation.</p> <p>Conversations on building sustainability mostly focus on construction or running costs. Research looking at the emissions of a commercial building over its 40 year life span shows that furniture is the biggest source of GHG emissions because it is replaced several times during the life (approx. 42% of total).</p> <p>Don't want to negate the importance of energy efficiency but we need to think about how we buy our furniture.</p> <p>We are trained interior designers and architects, we source second-hand furniture (internally or from market), we make new furniture from waste streams, we remanufacture items in UK and we have guaranteed take-back.</p> <p>Remanufactured chairs are 20-30% cheaper and have an 80% lower environmental footprint.</p> <p>In terms of delivering net zero - what constitutes a hard to decarbonise emission? The market has an amazing variety of remanufactured options – ceramics, electronics, paint, flooring & furniture.</p> <p>Circular economy also creates social value – UK based jobs in remanufacture.</p> <p><u>How can large organisations help SMEs</u></p> <p>Barriers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender structure – separate out furniture from the broader build • Framework – Prescriptive is really difficult for circular providers there is a requirement for greater flexibility • Make sure there is a capability to use what you have creatively • Avoid a race to the bottom in terms of pricing • Make sure you're not measuring the wrong things <p>Enablers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Encourage and leave space for flexibility in frameworks • Prioritise it with policies internally • Robust focus on wellness and traceability <p>Transport for Wales recent tender was very progressive example.</p>	<p>JB to circulate Transport for Wales tender docs to group</p>
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5	<p>EAUC Update</p> <p><i>Jill Burnett, Carbon & Estates Project Officer, EAUC-Scotland</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education for Sustainable Development Topic Support Network 20th Oct (Health & Wellbeing – Social Isolation, Climate Anxiety) • Waste Management Topic Support Network 22nd Oct (Deposit Return Scheme update from SEPA & Microplastics loss from 3G Pitches from Fidra) • Sustainable Construction Topic Support Network 29th Oct (How to use BREEAM to drive Zero Carbon & Net Zero Carbon Public Sector Buildings Standard from Scottish Futures Trust) • Public Bodies Climate Change Duties reporting peer review 12th Nov email Scotland@eauc.org.uk if you would like to attend <p><u>HESCET update</u> The new DEFRA conversion factors have been added and mapped to the Proc HE codes and it is currently being tested by APUC, University of Manchester & Kings College London. Hope the revised tool will be available by early November.</p>	
6	<p>AOCB</p>	
7	<p>Next meeting ideas</p> <p>Our next meeting will be in the Spring and it will likely be virtual again. Please e-mail any suggestions for topics or speakers to jburnett@eauc.org.uk.</p>	
8	<p>Thanks and close</p>	