

GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING - 28 NOVEMBER 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ESTATES AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members in relation to environmental and sustainability matters, and it covers the following areas:

- 2 - Funding Activities
- 3 - Scottish Central Government Energy Efficient Grant
- 4 - West End Campus – Auction of Items No Longer Required
- 5 - Catering Provider – Baxter Storey – Environmental/Sustainability Initiatives
- 6 - Student Engagement
- 7 - Public Sector Climate Change Duties Reporting
- 8 - Audit Scotland Publication: Tough Decisions Ahead on Climate Change
- 9 - Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges – Update
- 10 - Staff Development Week
- 11 - Green Gown Awards 2023
- 12 - Green Wall

2. Funding Activities

Glasgow Kelvin submitted a successful application for a **Campus Cycling Officer**, funded through **Cycling Scotland**. We have now welcomed our second Cycling Officer, Alexander Paterson, who looks to provide resources and events to improve cycling rates across all three campuses. Additionally, Cycling Scotland awarded the College £1,000 towards cycling events, and is considering another application for improved cycle shelter signage at our East End campus.

TravelKnowHow Scotland is providing free consultancy work to a small number of FE institutions, and Glasgow Kelvin is pleased to be one of the institutions chosen to work with the organisation. TravelKnowHow Scotland will be providing the College with free resources which include a travel survey, data analysis, commuter carbon emissions calculations, and a bespoke travel plan.

3. Scottish Central Government Energy Efficient Grant

As members are aware, the College was awarded a £2.6m Scottish Central Government Energy Efficiency Grant. The contract for this work has been awarded to Ameresco and the delivery of the projects being overseen by Gordon Ross, Project Manager from Watts with other members of College staff also involved.

Two initial formal meetings have been held and work is progressing accordingly.

A further series of meetings have been organised to ensure projects are kept on track i.e.:

- Project Board Meetings - Glasgow Kelvin College/Watts
- Scottish Government Meetings - Glasgow Kelvin College/Watts/Scottish Government Officials
- Ameresco Progress Meetings - Glasgow Kelvin College/Watts/Ameresco

Members will be kept apprised of progress.

4. West End Campus – Auction of Items No Longer Required

Stage 1 of the auction catalogue is scheduled to go live during week commencing 27 November 2023.

The link to the auction catalogue is noted below:

[West End Auction Catalogue](#)

It is expected that this auction will save money on skips and will prevent countless items from going to landfill. Funds generated will be spent on improving the student experience.

5. Catering Provider – Baxter Storey – Environmental/Sustainability Initiatives

During the Staff Development Week, the Environmental and Sustainability Manager, in partnership with Baxter Storey, will provide a session on sustainable food: cooking, eating and grocery shopping.

6. Student Engagement

Green Week 2023

Green Week 2023 took place the week of 2-6 October across all Glasgow Kelvin Campuses. The events were highly successful and included partnerships with external organisations as well as Glasgow Kelvin students and staff. Highlights of the week include:

- a. Professional Cookery Students offering 'Sustainabili-TEA' event at Easterhouse.
- b. UN SDG Workshop provided by Glasgow Science Centre.
- c. A dozen staff and student bikes serviced by Dr. Bike.
- d. 44 staff and students participated in an East End Garden weeding & planting event.
- e. Refreshments and a sustainable food pop-up from BaxterStorey.
- f. Over 50 staff and students participated in a Springburn litter pick.
- g. Resources & information provided from Enva, FirstBus, Home Energy Scotland, Bridge to Business, GKC Student Association, and our Campus Cycle Officer.

Photos are contained within **Appendix 1**.

Hedgehog Friendly Campus

The College was awarded a Hedgehog Friendly Campus Toolkit from Students Organising for Sustainability. Since being awarded the Toolkit, a Hedgehog Working Group has been formed of staff and students and the College is progressing toward achieving the 'Bronze' level of

Hedgehog Friendly accreditation. If achieved, the Working Group plans to work towards 'Silver' and then 'Gold' level.

Sparqs Annual Award Ceremony.

The College was happy to be invited to attend the **Sparqs Annual Award Ceremony**, where Glasgow Kelvin College was recognised and highly commended in the category of 'Student Engagement around Sustainability in the Learning Experience' for its involvement and success in the 2023 Planet Earth Games.

SWAP Shop Event

The Environmental and Sustainability Manager will continue collaborating with Fashion Department and Student Association, with plans to put on a Winter Coat and Jumper **Swap Shop** event before the holidays. This event will promote the circular economy and allow students to take leadership roles in planning and executing sustainable events at the College.

7. Public Sector Climate Change Duties Reporting

The annual Scottish Government Public Sector Climate Change Duties Report (PSCCDR) regulatory return for the period 2022-23 is due for submission by the deadline of 30 November 2023. The College is on schedule to meet this deadline.

As noted previously, Finance and Resource Committee members will receive sight of the full Public Sector Climate Change Duties Report for 2022-23 at the meeting scheduled for 5 March 2024.

8. Audit Scotland Publication: Tough Decisions Ahead on Climate Change

The College is taking due cognisance of the above-named Audit Scotland publication; link as per below:

[Tough decisions ahead on climate change | Audit Scotland \(audit-scotland.gov.uk\)](https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/publications/tough-decisions-ahead-on-climate-change)

It is important to note that the following questions from **Audit Scotland** to all public bodies submitting Public Sector Climate Change Duties Returns this year will also be considered by the College in its return:

- 1) What targets has the body set for reducing emissions in its own organisation or in its local area?
- 2) Does the body have a climate change strategy or action plan which sets out how the body intends to achieve its targets?
- 3) How does the body monitor and report progress towards meeting its emission targets internally and publicly?
- 4) Has the body considered the impact of climate change on its financial statements?
- 5) What are the areas of the financial statements where climate change has, or is expected to have, a material impact?
- 6) Does the body include climate change in its narrative reporting which accompanies the financial statements and is it consistent with those financial statements?

9. Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) - Update

The Environmental and Sustainability Manager continues to build relationships in the sustainability community. **EAUC** (Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges)

spent a day visiting the Springburn campus, and the Sustainability Manager attended the EAUC Glasgow Regional Forum at Glasgow Caledonian University.

Additionally, Glasgow Kelvin was highlighted by EAUC on two of the five days of the **#LoveOurColleges Week** (a week led by Association of Colleges the week of 9 October to highlight the good work of colleges in the UK). Further interesting reading is noted within the following link:

[Blogs | EAUC](#)

10. Staff Development Week

Sustainability resources continue to be offered to College Staff. During the Staff Development Day on 22 November 2023, a session will be offered by Home Energy Scotland to help staff learn how to reduce energy consumption.

Also, for the Staff Development Day on 22 November 2023, as noted above, the Environmental and Sustainability Manager and Allison Miller, Operations Manager from Baxter Storey will deliver a session on sustainable food eating and grocery shopping.

11. Green Gown Awards 2023

As members are aware, Glasgow Kelvin College is a **Green Gown Award Finalist** in the Category of Next Generation Learning and Skills for the Fashion Department's work in educating on the harmful impacts of 'Fast Fashion' and creating projects in their curriculum which provide alternatives options.

Three members of College staff will attend the Awards Ceremony on 30 November 2023 in Liverpool. Members will be kept apprised of the outcome.

12. Green Wall

The Environmental and Sustainability Manager and Marketing and Commercial Manager have been working together to prepare a Green Wall which will detail all the various initiatives undertaken by College staff in relation to environmental and sustainability matters. This Green Wall will be in a prominent position in our Springburn Campus and will look as shown below:



13. Impact on Students

There are no adverse impact on students as a consequence of anything within this report. The Environmental Sustainability Manager continues to work on initiatives with colleagues and other partners to provide an enhanced experience for the students of Glasgow Kelvin College.

14. Risk and Assurance

There are no risk and assurance implications arising as a consequence of this report.

15. Equality

There are no equality implications arising as a consequence of this report.

16. Data Protection

There are no direct data protection implications arising as a consequence of anything within this report.

17. Environmental and Sustainability Impact

The College continues to take due cognisance of reports/guidance received in relation to environmental and sustainability matters and the Environmental Sustainability Manager is involved in networking events to obtain important information for the College.

18. Resources

The £2.6m funding as detailed in paragraph 9 of this report will enable the College to make significant progress with the Race to Zero Action Plan and Climate Change Action Plan.

These capital projects are expected to significantly contribute to carbon reduction and associated energy savings.

19. Recommendations

It is recommended that members:

- i) note the content of this report and its appendix.

20. Further Information

Further information can be obtained from Lisa Clark, Director of Estates and Corporate Services - lisaclark@glasgowkelvin.ac.uk, Sarah Shea, Environmental and Sustainability Manager on sshea@glasgowkelvin.ac.uk or Roddy MacKenzie, Regulations and Compliance Manager on rmackenzie@glasgowkelvin.ac.uk

Lisa Clark

Director of Estates and Corporate Services, Glasgow Kelvin College, November 2023

Photos from Green Week

Springburn Litter Pick



DR Bike at Easterhouse



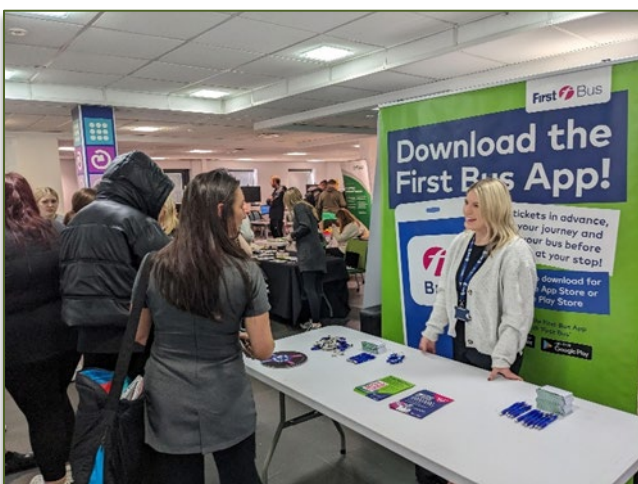
East End Weeding and Planting Event



East End Stalls and Vendors



Vendors at Easterhouse



Easterhouse 'Sustainabili-TEA'

