

Environmental Task Group  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 10am  
Dalhousie – 2S13

Welcome and apologies

<u>Present:</u>	<u>School/Dept</u>
Aidan McColgan (AMC)	Deputy Director, Estates
Prof Colin Reid (CR)	Prof of Environmental Law
Trudy Cunningham (TC)	Environment & Sustainability Officer
Mark Stephenson (MS)	UoD IT
Margaret Wyllie (MW)	Campus Catering
Stewart Kerr (SK)	Procurement
Louise Aird (LA)	Procurement
Bea Carlton (BC)	SRC Sustainability Rep
Karen Brough (KB)	Estates

Apologies:

Alasdair Hood	Curator of Botanic Garden
Jim McGeorge	University Secretary
President	DUSA
Derek Mitchell	Energy Manager

1. Minutes of last meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved

It was noted that Campus Catering have changed their name to Conference & Hospitalities Services (CHS) and that Pamela Milne has resigned from the Group.

2. Progress Report

*Water Coolers*

There are now 129 plumbed in machines on campus, the latest one in the canteen at the Kirkcaldy Campus.

*Food Waste*

TC met with the Head of Domestic Services and Colin Girdwood, and approval was given for external food waste bins. Staff will be able to request a food caddy but will have to empty these themselves; TC will email all staff to identify who would like a bin. Estates are to purchase the bins. Bins would also be appreciated by DUSA, but further co-ordination work is required since DUSA waste is collected by Dundee City Council, and the University's by Binn Farm.

Action: TC to work out which is the best option and co-ordinate with Colin Girdwood about locations and uplifts.

*Travel*

The 5 year Travel Plan is in place, with a target of reducing single occupancy car journeys. In recent years this number has increased slightly, possibly because of

changes in the mix of staff (more fixed-term contracts which do not incentivise moving close to the University) and less strict enforcement of the local residence rule for staff (if it is still included in contracts).

Action: TC to prepare travel information for new staff induction.

#### *Botanic Garden etc.*

The litter pick on 19 February was not well attended even with a soup and sandwich offer. There is a big litter issue on campus and litter picks should be held at least 2-3 times a year, although it is proving difficult to get more students involved, even with DUSA and SRC involvement.

TC has her own pledge – to pick up 1 piece of litter every day – and this might be more widely promoted for all staff and students.

#### *Building Developments*

The new car park in Park Place is well advanced.

Stripping out of BSI building [began] in January 2017 with demolition taking place in summer.

Estates have moved to Ewing Building.

The former Estates buildings are to be turned into a green transport hub, with electric vehicle points, electric bike points, a bike repair station, benches and wild flowers.

Action: TC is in discussions with Dundee Council about access to EU funding for some of this work.

#### *IT*

It had not proved possible for the Cisco phones to be set to go on standby, but there is a possibility that the whole system might be changed, with energy considerations part of the procurement process.

The introduction of hot/cold aisles in data centres is a separate issue from the renewal of the network.

Action: KB to discuss with MS

#### *PCs.*

There were no immediate plans for automatic shut-downs across the campus, but this was being trialled in the Estates offices and various technical and practice issues were being worked through. The automatic shut-down does not apply to lap-tops connected through docking stations (as increasingly being used across campus), but these do “go to sleep” with major reductions in energy consumption

Action: KB to discuss with MS

#### *Allotments*

After the demolition of BSI, new raised beds will be created for allotments. There is demand from students who want to grow their own flowers and a focus should be on postgraduate students who will be able to continue work over the summer months.

#### *IT*

Progress is continuing with the new improved wi-fi network, which will bring energy savings. The new network will be available from Life Sciences to the Nethergate. The network was last refreshed 10 years ago and the new system has many improved features, e.g. hot/cold aisles in Data and Network Centres.

UoD-IT is rationalising its footprint but this may require some building work within the Park Place centre.

### *Recycling and Reuse*

The Warpit furniture reuse scheme is working well. Total campus recycling now at approximately 70%. Savings of £110k have been achieved through furniture re-use, with daily requests. Free removal and delivery is provided but there are issues with the location of the store. It is not in a good position, beside teaching class rooms and if request to use the Heathfield store had been granted there would be scope for a big improvement since goods would be visible. TC also has available 80 brand new toner packs (all sealed) for HP Desktop Printers all available.

Action: TC to speak with Marianne Kenley re availability of store.

### *Salix*

Phase 2 of our Salix programme is near completion, with all projects being delivered. A further programme will be undertaken, again for £700K, with work in Heathfield, Wellcome Trust Building, Matthew Building and Life Sciences. Projects have to demonstrate a payback in less than 8 years and after the current light related projects it is becoming more difficult to find projects demonstrating payback. LED lighting can be used, dimming to 10% after 20 minutes then automatically going off, while LED lighting in the car parks improves the CCTV images and hence security.

### *Electric Vehicles*

Chargers are being installed at the car park in front of the Ewing Building for the University's vehicles. Those in the old Estates yard will be publically accessible next year. Further electric vans will be leased so that by January 50% of fleet will be electric. – 7electric vans, 1 electric car and 1 hybrid flatbed truck.

### *Cycles*

Dundee University was awarded the first ever Cycle Friendly Campus of the Year Award at Cycling Scotland's national conference. Free lights are available to all cyclists who attend "Dr Bike" sessions and over 200 students attended last year. The bike shop on campus now sells accessories and student and staff get a large discount on hire bookings.

A second electric cargo bike has been acquired for the Botanic Garden (with a 50% grant) and is used every day for carrying tools and compost.

Two security staff are using the Gazelle electric bikes around campus in nice weather and loving the experience.

### *Procurement*

Although recycled paper is offered, only 23% are buying this. Procurement did an evaluation with Banner to obtain a lower price for recycled paper and got 14.5% saving for box of paper. The position will be reviewed every quarter year. Procurement will gently remind all departments, in early part of 2017 and it will no longer an option on the website to order non-recycled paper. DUSA buy their

own paper and do not have much recycled paper stock in their shops (and at a high mark-up).

Print cartridges are to be considered as part of a wider review of printing facilities by IT. There is potential to move to cheaper and more environmentally friendly brands, but staff need information and incentives to change; annual savings of £13K might be available.

### 3. Botanic Garden, campus grounds and student allotment

AH had asked for it to be noted that there was still a problem of litter on campus. The plastic bottles of water provided by DUSA are still a big problem and the road sweepers are unable to pick up the many full bottles of water discarded on campus.

A lunchtime litter pick was arranged with DUSA, covering Perth Road and Campus Green, with free soup and a roll for all helpers. Only 1 student turned up and here were more staff from Dundee City Council than the University.

### 4. Carbon Management

The University's first statutory Climate Change Report has been returned: <http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/sustainability-climate-change/sustainable-scotland-network/climate-change-reporting/>

Our carbon reduction target is 4% per year but this is aspirational, especially as we have been expanding the campus and activity, notably in Life Sciences. The conversion factor used in calculating carbon usage has been changed, so that although we have used more energy our carbon footprint has decreased.

### 5. A.O.B.

The Green Impact behavioural change programme is to be rolled out, beginning in Life Sciences, since it is in laboratories that we should generate the largest savings. A student intern would be starting in February, working two days a week. Significant savings can be made in both labs and offices, including improved stock control of contents of the minus 80C freezers, and an audit of the many old freezers in use. Letty Gibson (SLS support services manager) was very positive to try this in Life Sciences.

### 6. Date of next meeting

Date in May to be confirmed.

Action: TC/CR/AMc