

Environment Task Group
26th October 2010 , 12- 1.30 pm
E&B Meeting Room

1 Welcome and apologies

Present: Trudy Cunningham, Gordon Davies, Alasdair Hood, Derek Mitchell, Colin Reid, Mark Stevenson, Ian Scragg, Kimberley Ellis and Catherine Robson

Apologies: Louise Aird, Jean Keighren, Jim McGeorge, and Pamela Milne.

2 Minutes of last meeting.

Approved.

3 Environment Policy Statement.

TC explained that a new law that 50% of construction waste has to be recycled and this should be updated into our environmental policy. This would not need to be passed through University Court. A copy is to be sent to Neil Laker. Targets discussed later in meeting.

4 Green League & Universities that Count (UTC)

Dundee University was 1st in the environmental index for UTC out of 57 Universities. TC felt that it was more robust than the Green league as TC explained its stats are all accurate, unlike Green league which accepts estimates from EMS and involves lots of paper work. Silver award to be put on webpage, press release was sent in July another will be sent to Press Office.

UTC is not running this year, as it is to be more aligned with HE relevant questions etc...TC has meeting with David Somerville in Edinburgh. General consensus was to leave Green League unless it's reporting/collation of data became more robust.

5 Carbon Management & Targets

i Recycling:

The university's carbon management recycle target of 5% per annum was met. Recycling points were put in Dalhousie, Life Sciences and Library these recycling points are for student and public use. KE brought up the issue of no glass recycling bins there. TC explained that space was an issue as there would be a need for different coloured glass bins, another factor was emptying of these recycling points. GD to discuss the implications of cleaning staff emptying recycling bins around campus. CR asked if recycling bins could be located outside DUSA—TC to investigate.

ii Energy:

DM reported energy graphs are up to date and on web. Energy consumption is not reducing as size of Estate is larger due to not selling of some properties due to the current economic downturn in the market.

Wastage on energy is mostly on lights and PC's being left on. More meters are to be put in to monitor energy consumption. Group agreed that a behavioural change is needed by staff and students to switch off. DM reported that all bulbs that go out are now replaced by energy saving lights. Richard Borrer to be emailed encouraging security staff switching off lights in evenings and weekends.

iii Water:

Water consumption has decreased yearly. Trades are reacting quicker to jobs dealing with running taps and cisterns etc. TC has replaced the 51st bottled water cooler with P.O.U. chillers within the University and has saved in shipping costs, carbon and is cost effective.

iv: ICS

Power down software discussion by ICS to perhaps implement at a cost of approx £4 per computer. Dalhousie computer suites will only power down if computer is logged off. Many computers around campus especially the library are sometimes logged in for weeks. Suggestions were to put up more signage to encourage staff/students to log off. Raise issue with all college groups on powering down. DM to see if money left in energy budget. Raise issue of logging/switching off with 4 college groups.

7 Liftsharing

Number 1 in Scotland. New dedicated liftshare parking spaces have been created-- 10 carsharing parking spaces at Dalhousie before 10.30am and 20 at Comet available all day. Users must be registered with carshare and display their carshare permits. TC to send another email about car sharing to go out.

8 Cyclescheme

100 people have applied to the scheme in 2010. Bikeboost opened to staff and students which gave applicants a bike valued at £400 for discounted rate of £75. >50 people so far have had bikes. Scheme to run next year perhaps if funding can be identified. <http://www.bikeboost.org/dundee>

9 Biodiversity Study

Student was employed for an 8 week placement through Green Business partnership to upgrade the 2001 study. New study now on line: <http://www.dundee.ac.uk/media/dundeewebsite/estates/documents/energyenvironment/biodiversitystudy2010.pdf>

10 Student Allotments

Allotment is now situated in the public garden area near entrance, instead of nursery area. A shed is to be put up. 80 people on email list and 10 active gardeners. 'Taste of Autumn' event to be held next October to raise awareness. A lottery fund application for renovation of glass house has been applied for.