

## EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP – A STRATEGY FOR ACTION

The following reference numbers, actions and assigned responsible organisations are taken from the ESDGC Strategy for Action. The final column proposes appropriate action for HEFCW. Where our view is that no action is required, either because actions are subsumed within others, or because a role for HEFCW is unrealistic or impossible to define, this is noted.

### OVERARCHING ACTIONS

| Ref No | Action  | Responsible | Commentary / proposed action for HEFCW  |
|--------|---|-------------|---|
| 2.1.1  | Increase support to the ESDGC panel to enable it to develop into a more focused proactive panel; appointment of the ESDGC Champion with responsibility for delivering the Action Plan                           | WAG         | <i>Claire Fowler, ESDGC Champion for Wales, appointed on secondment to WAG from RSPB Wales. HEFCW officers met with Claire on 24 January 2007 to discuss implications of the Action Plan for HEFCW/HE, including financial implications and plans for dissemination.</i>  |
| 2.1.2  | WAG to remit Estyn to carry out a baseline survey of ESDGC in schools, youth work and adult and community-based learning.   | WAG         | <i>No action for HEFCW</i>  |
| 2.1.3  | Develop common standards for ESDGC: training, resourcing and development of ESDGC will then link to this national standard.   | WAG         | <i>According to Action Plan, to be resourced as a priority for the FE sector in 2006-07.</i>  |
| 2.1.4  | All education settings to work towards obtaining suitable environmental management systems for their own business premises and processes, thereby beginning the process of whole institution approach to ESDGC. | WAG         | <i>This to include HEFCW and HEIs. Action to accredit HEFCW with Green Dragon Level 2 are already in hand. Specific actions in relation to the Welsh HE sector are given in next section.</i>   |
| 2.1.5  | Establish a ten year strategy tying in with Millennium Development Goals and UNESCO ESD Decade to ensure that Wales as a country contributes to these objectives  | WAG         | <i>A welcome addition to the list of actions. In its document Learning for our Future, the Scottish Executive sets out Scotland's first five-year action plan in support of the DESD. The WAG ten year strategy will presumably set out how Wales will play its part in contributing to DESD objectives, especially in the light of Wales' statutory commitment to SD. Actions assigned to and undertaken by HEFCW will, in turn, contribute to this.</i> |
| 2.1.6  | WAG to encourage each organisation covered by this strategy to identify lead champions to form the conduit for information and the focal point for development of ESDGC   | WAG         | <i>Economic Development Team and Head of Estates identified as leads within HEFCW. Input will also be required from elsewhere, for example, from Learning and Teaching Team. WAG will also encourage HEIs to identify points of contact as an immediate action.</i>   |

PRIORITY ACTIONS ON HEFCW/HEIs

| Ref No                           | Action   | Responsible | Commentary / proposed action for HEFCW  |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------|---|
| <b>Commitment and Leadership</b> |  |             |   |
| 6.1.1                            | HEIs to identify what actions they are taking to develop ESDGC within their institution. An analysis of good practice is produced to share back with HEIs. | HEFCW       | <p><i>With the cooperation of our HEIs, it should be a fairly straightforward exercise to determine their current activities. Although care should be taken in terms of imposing a reporting burden separate from the Strategic Planning process, informal discussions with a number of HEIs indicates that this information is readily available, at least as far as environmental activities are concerned. (NB Strategic Plans by their nature look forward – see 6.1.2; current activities as described here might need to be collected separately.) However, questioning from HEFCW that might be seen as inappropriate intrusion into the curriculum would need to be sensitively handled to avoid problems previously encountered by HEFCE and SFC.</i></p> <p><i>The <b>analysis of best practice</b> would need to be externally commissioned (eg from experts who could advise on what constitutes best practice; make comparisons with activities outside of Wales, etc), but at a cost most likely outside our available budget. Better in terms of building in an undertaking to measure progress over time would be to use the information collected from the provided by the sector to include the establishment of a <b>baseline of activity</b>. Again, this would most likely involve the use of external consultants.</i></p> <p><i>Some expertise exists within the Welsh HE sector (eg Cardiff University’s BRASS centre which is looking at Cardiff’s corporate social responsibility; UW Bangor, which has carried out an audit of SD within the curriculum; and UW Swansea/SIHE/TCC, U Glamorgan in terms of EMS models). HEFCW might also wish to consider the approach taken by SFC, who commissioned consultants to undertake a six month study (cost around £20k) to examine sustainability literacy in curricula in Scottish FE and HE. However, we might also wish to take into account the research being undertaken through HEFCE’s Strategic Review of Sustainable Development which, among other objectives, aims to establish a baseline of activity in English HE against which future progress might be measured. The final report will not be published until 2008, but an interim report will be available in May 2007 and a draft report in September 2007. HEFCW sits on the Steering Panel as an observer.</i></p> <p><i>Officers’ inclination is to await publication of the HEFCE report before undertaking a separate exercise in Wales. <b>The ESDGC Champion has indicated that some</b></i></p> |

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|                                 |  |                  | <b>funding might be made available by WAG's ESDGC Panel to allow this work to be taken forward by external consultants.</b>  |
| 6.1.2                           | HEIs to include a section on sustainable development and global citizenship in their strategic plans. This should explain how training in ESDGC is being addressed and delivered.  | HEFCW            | <i>Straightforward to incorporate in future Strategic Planning exercises. This separate section was requested in strategic plans in 2006 and the information provided to a greater or lesser extent. We will need to make clear in the Strategic Plan Request circular in 2007 that the provision of this information is not optional.</i>   |
| <b>Teaching and Learning</b>    |  |                  |  |
| 6.2.1                           | HEIs undertake a self analysis of where ESDGC is being taught within their institution and where it could be further incorporated.   | HEIs             | <i>HEIs' self analysis to be incorporated in the method we adopt for 6.1.1 (ie current activity), with the conclusions for the future incorporated in 6.1.2 (strategic planning).</i>  |
| <b>Institutional Management</b> |  |                  |  |
| 6.3.1                           | All HEIs are encouraged (via good practice examples) to develop a suitable environmental management system (EMS) and equivalent measures which cover all their operations in order to minimise their overall resource use to sustainable levels. | HEFCW            | <i>There is a lot of work ongoing in Wales (and via HEFCE and SFC) on EMS with examples of good practice in UG (ISO14001) and UWS (to be taken forward via the SWW Partnership). Work is also being undertaken by the EAUC. These models will need to be reviewed and the sector advised appropriately. <b>The ESDGC Champion has indicated that some funding might be made available by WAG's ESDGC Panel to share good practice examples.</b> We could also encourage HEIs to access HEFCW collaborative funding to address these issues.</i>  |
| 6.3.2                           | HEIs are encouraged to commit to and work with the Welsh Sustainable Procurement Initiative  | HEFCW            | <i>HEFCW is already aware of a number of activities and groups concerned with sustainable procurement issues. HEFCW monitors HEIs via their Procurement Fitness Health Check action plans, of which sustainable procurement is one element – the action on HEIs is to maintain a watching brief and to work with Value Wales (formerly the Welsh Procurement Initiative). Each HEI also receives Value Wales updates, which cover sustainable procurement, training, case study information, etc. HEFCW is also represented on the (Ministerial) Business Procurement Task Force, which looks at the SME agenda.</i> |
| <b>Partnerships</b>             |  |                  |  |
| 6.4.1                           | An audit is carried out as to what third mission initiatives currently include ESDGC   | HEFCW            | <i>Covered in 6.1.1 (audit of activity) and the submission of three-year 3M strategies (also links with 6.4.2).</i>  |
| <b>Research and monitoring</b>  |  |                  |  |
| 6.5.1                           | The potential to establish or strengthen dedicated interdisciplinary funding streams for SDGC research is explored with the research councils and the EU.  | WAG UK<br>RCs EU | <i>No action proposed for HEFCW, but we would contend that there is no evidence for a lack of funding opportunities – relevant RC and EU priority areas already exist. The WAG ESDGC Champion might wish to raise this matter in the context of additional monies that might arise from parallel Science Policy considerations.</i>  |

SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIONS ON HEFCW/HEIs

| Ref No                           | Action   | Responsible        | Commentary / proposed action for HEFCW  |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|---|
| <b>Leadership and commitment</b> |  |                    |   |
| 6.1.3                            | Training for ESDGC is provided to leaders and senior management teams in all Welsh HEIs  | HE<br>HEFCW<br>HEW | <i>Agree that we need to build capacity via the HEA and the LFHE. Discussions on a “good practice” event for the sector already in progress with HEA and EAUC, and scope for discussion with LFHE via the Wales LF group (LFHE is putting greater emphasis on SD, via its small development project funding; via the joint LF/HEA “change academies”; and by making SD more explicit in leaders’ programmes.)</i><br><i>Remit letter 2007-08 asks HEFCW to consider governance issues, including a review of induction and ongoing development of governors and senior HE managers to consider whether they are receiving adequate training. We should consider the scope for including ESDGC issues in this review. We could also encourage HEIs to make use of HEFCW collaborative funding to address these matters.</i><br><b>The ESDGC Champion has indicated that some funding might be made available by the WAG ESDGC Panel to help kick-start training development/curriculum work, working in conjunction with the HEA and the LFHE.</b> |
| <b>Teaching and learning</b>     |  |                    |   |
| 6.2.2                            | HEFCW to hold initial discussions with the QAA to explore whether a contribution to ESDGC could be considered within quality assurance arrangements                              | HEFCW<br>QAA       | <i>No immediate action. QAA’s stance on SD is to keep a watching brief, although reported that the issue is being raised informally at roundtables, with anecdotal evidence that thought should be given to incorporating SD into benchmark guidelines, even for subject disciplines outside the SD radar. Any future action to be progressed by the Learning and Teaching Committee, eg to raise the issue of ESDGC should QAA wish to consider this in the review of its guidelines.</i>  |
| 6.2.3                            | Support and guidance publications will be reviewed to ensure that ESDGC is implicit in them and encourages students to develop ESDGC within their induction period, EPD and CPD. | HEFCW              | <i>This is ITT-related and the responsibility for controlling the requirements for ITT lies with WAG, not HEFCW. HEFCW would make reference to WAG requirements in its own ITT strategy guidance.</i>   |
| <b>Institutional management</b>  |  |                    |   |
| 6.3.3                            | The use of life cycle costings for major build and refurbishment projects is reviewed with a view to revising the funding of capital projects and maintenance and running costs. | HEFCW<br>HEIs      | <i>HEFCW to influence good practice via estates strategy guidance. Although, in general, HEFCW does not directly contract capital projects, for capital funding initiatives such as SRIF it would be possible to build in conditions of grant relating to the use of life cycle costings. (Note that HEFCE no longer tasks HEIs on this, although has been looking at BREEAM). HEFCW has held discussions with Design</i>   |

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|                                |   |              | <i>Council Wales regarding a product that HEIs could use to measure good practice.</i>   |
| 6.3.4                          | Institutions adopt and implement a Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Policy that actively promotes SD and GC through corporate planning.   | HEIs         | <i>Covered in 6.1.2 (strategic plan submissions). This is concerned with HEIs recognising EDSGC as a cornerstone of institutional planning – a reflective process in the first instance. This may not necessarily require a separate ESDGC Policy document to be drawn up by HEIs.</i>   |
| 6.3.5                          | HEIs are encouraged to adopt a whole institution approach to SD in the grant settlement letter.   | HEFCW        | <i>Covered in 6.1.2 (strategic plan submissions). In terms of funding, there may be implications for additional Reaching Higher monies, ie the “something for something” principle.</i>  |
| <b>Partnerships</b>            |   |              |  |
| 6.4.2                          | HEIs are encouraged to include ESDGC as part of what they offer as third mission provision.   | HEFCW        | <i>Straightforward to request via three-year 3M strategies (new cycle begins in 2007/08 and runs to 2009/10).</i>  |
| 6.4.3                          | Aspects of ESDGC within third mission strategies should be cross referenced to the institutional strategic plans or other relevant strategies sent to HEFCW.  | HEFCW        | <i>Yes, by linking 6.4.2 (3M strategy submissions) with 6.1.2 (strategic plan submissions).</i>  |
| 6.4.4                          | Consider where HEIs could help local authorities deliver their ESDGC actions plans.   | WLGA<br>Las  | <i>No action for HEFCW. Possibility of links via Wales Spatial Plan groups, or via Beecham Report / Making the Connections.</i>  |
| <b>Research and monitoring</b> |   |              |  |
| 6.5.2                          | A gap analysis on the current funding streams for research relevant to SDGC is commissioned.  | HEIs         | <i>HEIs are not best placed to do this, even if this was felt to be necessary. HEFCW to raise in early discussion with HEW.</i>  |
| 6.5.3                          | Following on from the initial audit of current practice within HEIs relating to SDGC, commission a project to explore the barriers to SDGC in HE and how they might be overcome.                                      | HEFCW        | <i>HEFCE's Strategic Review will explore barriers and there seems little sense in conducting a separate exercise. HEFCE will make the report publicly available in 2008 (date depends on whether it's held back to be launched at the dissemination conference). HEFCW could draw on the report, and perhaps commission further work (together with HEFCE) on specific areas such as barriers to the embedding of SD. HEFCW might also need to consider further specific work on GC.</i> |
| 6.5.4                          | Dialogue is initiated with the RAE governing bodies to work towards ensuring that the interdisciplinary research central to SDGC is properly recognised and evaluated in future assessment exercises beyond RAE 2008. | HEFCW<br>HEW | <i>The Funding Councils have already ensured that RAE 2008 takes account of interdisciplinary research. As thinking develops post 2008, HEFCW will wish to ensure that all interdisciplinary research is covered in the new assessment arrangements.</i>   |