



education
training
collective



STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING

AUGUST 2022 - JULY 2023





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The Education Training Collective (Etc.) is a group of vibrant colleges and training providers offering high quality educational opportunities in the North East of England. Incorporating Bede Sixth Form College, Innersummit, NETA Training Group, Redcar and Cleveland College, Stockton Riverside College and The Skills Academy; the Group has an estate of over 41,260 m², and served c12,000 learners during the 2022-23 academic year. The Etc. continues to acknowledge the responsibility it has to drive improvements in sustainability into its day-to-day activities. Throughout the reporting period, the Etc. has committed to recognising and seeking to reduce the impact it has on the environment, and to enable staff and students to do the same.

GREEN INITIATIVES GROUP

Comprising more than 30 members of staff, the Green Initiatives Group is both a vehicle and a driver for reducing the impact that the group has on the environment. With sub-groups including Staff Engagement, Student Engagement, Waste, Energy, Procurement and Travel; the volunteers create annual action plans which seek to improve environmental impact through a combination of education and process change. The main group meets bi-monthly and sub-groups on a more frequent basis.

Initiatives launched by the Green Initiatives Group include:

- A wide variety of recycling campaigns including crisp and medicine packaging
- Introduction of a bespoke car sharing platform for staff
- The introduction of a Carbon Literacy Awareness workshop delivered to more than 100 staff members to date
- Etc. group wide communications campaign to support Great Big Green Week
- Implementing the change from paper-based parent/college communication to electronic, for GCSE Maths and English learners – saving 2,672 – 3,507g of carbon
- Introducing a sustainable library focus – recycling books with staff and students, then sending remaining copies to Better World Books

CARBON FOOTPRINT REPORT FOR EDUCATION TRAINING COLLECTIVE - 01 AUGUST 2022 TO 31 JULY 2023

Education Training Collective emitted 775,731 kgCO₂e (Kilogrammes of carbon dioxide equivalent) for 2022/23 (across scope 1 and 2). This can be presented as 776 tCO₂e (tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent) with an intensity indicator of 1.53 tCO₂e per total full-time equivalent employee (FTE) and 0 tCO₂e per million GBP £.

When Scope 3 is added, this brings the total to 810 tCO₂e. The group employs 506 full-time equivalent employees (FTE).

Table 1. UK GHG emissions and energy use data for period 01 August 2022 to 31 July 2023

Emissions source	Units	kWh	Carbon (kgCO ₂ e)	Carbon (tCO ₂ e)
Scope 1				
Van diesel (average up to 3.5 tonnes)	76,725 km	71,144	17,766.55	17.77
Natural gas	340,537 m ³	3,745,907	686,434.05	686.43
Total Scope 1			695,997	696
Scope 2				
UK National Grid electricity	415,153 kWh	415,153	80,282.29	80.28
Total Scope 1 & 2			775,731	776
Total tCO ₂ e per *FTE on gross scope 1 & 2				1.53
Total tCO ₂ e per employee on gross scope 1 & 2				0
Emissions source	Units	kWh	Carbon (kgCO ₂ e)	Carbon (tCO ₂ e)
Scope 3				
Average car (Unknown fuel)	177,226 km	122,589	30,247.13	30.25
Water supply	18,148 m ³	-	2,704.05	2.70
Commercial and industrial waste (Recycled)	68 tonnes	-	1,436.99	1.44
Paper and board: Mixed (Recycled)	22 tonnes	-	460.21	0.46
Total Scope 3			34,403	34
Total Scope 1, 2 & 3			810,134	810
Total tCO ₂ e per *FTE on gross scope 1, 2 & 3				1.60
Total tCO ₂ e per *£m Turnover on gross scope 1, 2 & 3				0
Adjustments				
Green tariff electricity	415,153 kWh	415,153	0.00	0.00

*Notes: For 01 August 2022 to 31 July 2023 the number of Full-time equivalent employees (FTE) was 506 and the Turnover was GBP UNKNOWN

CASE STUDY OF IMPACT

Rebecca Maynard

Course Leader for GCSE and
Functional Skills English

As part of the process to reduce cost and become more sustainable in our approach, the English and maths department at Redcar & Cleveland College, during academic year 2022-23, moved from a paper-based communications approach, opting to send emails to inform all parents of the upcoming GCSE English and maths parent's evening that the college had planned.

Historically, information such as this is sent via letter and post, however by sending these as an email, the college will have incurred a saving of approximately £86 as there are 167 learners enrolled on GCSE maths/English at this college. Not only has this saved on the cost of postage, there have also been other financial savings regarding printing, paper and envelopes.

But, more importantly, there have been significant savings in carbon emission as a result.

According to 8billiontrees.com:

“When measuring the difference between an email carbon footprint vs a paper letter by mail, a standard letter size envelope can generate about 20-25 grams of emissions. But, a standard text email generates about 4 grams of carbon emissions.”

Therefore, at a saving of 16-21 grams of carbon emissions per letter, this change has saved approximately 2,672 – 3,507g of carbon. While not a huge amount alone, this makes a significant contribution to overall emissions and sets the standard for what is achievable in other areas of the group.

In future, all correspondence to parents regarding English and maths at Redcar & Cleveland College will be sent via email rather than letter, and we will share this as an activity of best practice with other departments.



CASE STUDY OF IMPACT

Suzanne Maher

Learning Resource Assistant

A SUSTAINABLE LIBRARY

At the end of academic year 2022/23, we had a big clear out in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) – removing old books that were old and not getting used. We put out tables inside and outside of the LRC and an ‘all staff’ email was sent out inviting anyone to take any of these books that they wanted.

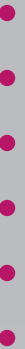
Both staff and students made use of this and took lots of books. The books that were not taken were sent to Better World Books who sell the books on or recycle the books which can be made into pet bedding.

Due to the success of this initiative, we have

maintained a book reuse station within the LRC for any other books that are withdrawn and these can be taken by anybody who has use for them.

As part of Green Libraries Week, we ran craft sessions using recyclable materials and advertised our recycling schemes including Battery Bob (already full), the newspaper drop off for Kirkleatham Owl Sanctuary, free books and our new crisp packet drop off point.

The crisp packets will be sent off to a company in Middlesbrough who make the crisp packets into sleeping bags for the homeless. We are trialling this to see how it goes. We need 112 crisp packets for one sleeping bag. At the last count we had over 80, so not far off but will keep this running for now and hopefully we keep getting more brought in.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES TAKEN

- Developed and implemented an Environmental Strategy, approved by the FE Corporation, tracking progress against the Climate Commission for UK Higher and Further Education Climate action roadmap for FE colleges. Tracking against the “Climate action roadmap for FE colleges” we are acknowledged as ‘established’ and through a focused approach to driving positive environmental change cross-group, we seek to become a leading college in terms of sustainability.
- A Carbon Literacy Awareness workshop was developed in-house and offered to staff as an opportunity for Continuous Professional Development – to date c100 staff members have taken part in this workshop with demand for further sessions
- Wildflower mowing has been employed at sites, where possible, to encourage biodiversity and 135 trees have been secured under the Trees for Tees initiative to encourage biodiversity across group sites
- The Etc. has continued its commitment to the Investors in the Environment Standard, achieving Silver accreditation in July 2021 and continuing this at the December 2022 audit. Investors in the Environment (iE) is a national environmental accreditation scheme designed to help organisations across the UK reduce their impact on the environment, save money and time, and get promoted for their green credentials. The Etc. is hopeful of achieving Green standard in December 2023.
- The Etc. has committed to the procurement of electricity from 100% green sources (as can be seen from the data), renewable sources of energy are employed by the group, including the use of Bio-mass heating systems. Additionally, energy saving lights have been installed across all sites and the run time on heating equipment has been reduced.
- The improvement of environmental impact at departmental level continues to be embedded into our Business Planning/ Performance Review cycle last year. This been adopted as a permanent addition to the process. The cycle is a series of scrutiny meetings which take place throughout the year and hold Heads of Department to account for ensuring sustainability is embedded into departmental activities.
- The group continues to be a signatory of the Global Climate Letter.
- Sustainability is embedded into the curriculum delivery and through our curriculum planning and performance review processes, we are checking all departmental plans for the embedding of curriculum content. Good examples include:
 - Redcar and Cleveland College has developed a unique selling point for clean and renewable energy training through the creation of the Clean Energy Education Hub (CEEH). Working with key employers including, but not limited to, bp, Northern Gas Networks and Beyond Housing, to ensure communities are equipped with the skills needed to be part of the Teesside Green Revolution
 - Bede Sixth Form College has a lead for raising the profile of sustainability in the sixth form



curriculum, and to date Andrew Featherstone has been instrumental in changing parent/college communications to entirely electronic other than in critical communications, providing a route for students to recycle batteries, the priority focus on using eBooks rather than physical copies

- Redcar and Cleveland College is the lead organisation for the bp Enthuse Partnership working with 10 schools to promote green skills in primary and secondary – driving ‘green’ engagement as early as is possible
- At Stockton Riverside College, the Early Years Resource Centre, uses sustainable toys and resources. The Centre provides learners with the opportunity to explore and practise professional skills such as monitoring and maintaining the health and safety of children and young people in their setting while using sustainability as a key foundation
- An Electric Vehicle Simulator and Hydrogen Rig have been procured for learners to use at Stockton Riverside College – enabling the delivery of high-tech, cutting-edge curriculum emerging technology and helps meet the sustainable skills needs for vehicle technicians.
- Foundation Learning students have a 2-hour Green Initiative session timetabled each week covering topics such as: Global Warming, Plastic Pollution and Upcycling / Recycling and have introduced a recycling service for staff across the sites.
- Pastorally, the group has continued with the delivery of themed tutorials on Green issues during the academic year, which allows them to address climate change and make pledges to change the future. This session also addresses the need for sustainable consumption and production as this is a link to climate change.
- Prince’s Trust community projects continue to have a keen focus on improving spaces and community areas.
- Regifting Week initially started off as a staff initiative however students and parents also utilised the opportunity to be able to donate and use items.

NET CARBON ZERO - OFFSETTING

Working with Carbon Neutral Britain, the UK's Carbon Offsetting Initiative which supports British Individuals and organisations make an impact on Climate Change, we have offset the carbon footprint outlined in Table 1 and have been certified as 'Carbon Neutral' for the period August 2022 – July 2023. For this period, the Etc. is providing financial support to projects in the Renewables sector and this offsets the carbon footprint of 776 tCO₂e.

PLANNED ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The Etc. plans to continue driving forward on the sustainability agenda through:

- Achieving Inventors in the Environment Green accreditation in 2023
- Promotion of careers in the clean energy sector through engagement with organisations driving the green careers agenda across the Tees Valley, including the promotion of Green Careers Week.
- Further developing the scope of understanding of our environmental impact to become net zero for all emissions.
- Continue to drive the carbon literacy of our governors, staff and students, embedding sustainability into the curriculum and strengthening the sustainable tutorial and enrichment offer
- Develop sustainable skills through investment in green technologies and the creation of resources to train sustainable skills, including the retrofitting of heat pumps and hydrogen boilers.
- Expanding the Green Initiatives Group to involve volunteers through linking with the Group Students' Union.



NOTES ABOUT METHODOLOGY:

- Education Training Collective has adopted an operational control approach to establishing the boundary. The methodology adopted in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol¹ and the BEIS Environmental Reporting Guidelines². The calculations were completed on the SmartCarbon™ Calculator³ using the UK Government emissions factors⁴.
- CO₂e is the universal unit of measurement to indicate the global warming potential (GWP) of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs), expressed in terms of the GWP of one unit of carbon dioxide. There are seven main GHGs that contribute to climate change, as covered by the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). Different activities emit different gases. Using CO₂e allows all greenhouse gases to be measured on a like-for-like basis.
- For National grid electricity consumption, THE ORGANISATION has included factors for the transmission and distribution of electricity (T&D) losses, which occur between the power station and site(s). The emissions from T&D has been accounted for in Scope 3. As with other Scope 3 impacts, reporting T&D is voluntary but is recommended standard practice by UK Government².

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