



# A Green and Sustainable Development AMBITION for the FE & Skills Sector

Yorkshire & Humberside

December 2021



Greener



Fairer



Stronger

Yorkshire Learning Providers in partnership with Craven College and York and North Yorkshire LEP have developed a **Green Skills & Sustainable Development AMBITION** to aid FE & Skills organisations in their response to sustainability and to provide an opportunity to work together to support the implementation of a greener curriculum and economy by adopting environmental, circular and sustainability practices as part of their strategic, operational and curriculum development.

Our AMBITION acts as a pledge that supports the Government's ambition to move towards net-zero by 2050 and the ambitious target set by York and North Yorkshire to be England's first carbon negative region by 2040. Education is front and centre to achieve this by ensuring our learners and apprentices have the skills they need for modern Britain and to succeed in our future economy. Our AMBITION to move towards net-zero requires us to transform the way we create products, services, and systems, and this is fully dependent on how individuals, teams and organisations learn to innovate and apply those learnings in the real world.

This will require a transformative shift in the way we have previously worked in the skills sector & this AMBITION will support local FE & Skills organisations to show their collective commitment to a green and sustainable curriculum, share practice, work with partners and highlight the ways in which FE & Skills across our region are acting as a trailblazer in a collaborative response to tackling climate action.

**Vision:** The FE & Skills Sector in York and North Yorkshire leading the way towards a sustainable, net-zero future for institutions, employees, apprentices & learners.



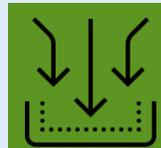
FE & Skills providers identify, monitor and reduce their environmental impact towards becoming carbon net-zero and share their progress and impact in this area



Sustainability, regeneration and net-zero practices are promoted and embedded into every curriculum area, with effective CPD for practitioners and overarching strategies in place to raise the profile of this agenda across FE & Skills in York and North Yorkshire



Through project work, workplace activities, resources and case-studies, learners and apprentices support local businesses to increase net-zero knowledge and understanding and provide a platform for learners to be involved in positive change



Working with sector stakeholders, such as AoC, ETF, NSN, AOs, LEPs and MCAs to support prioritising and raising the profile of sustainability, funding and qualifications that increase a whole sector and region response. Influenced by a united York and North Yorkshire voice

## Transforming Institutions

FE & Skills organisations have a responsibility to teach learners about sustainability but to commit to becoming truly sustainable institutions and for all to be working towards net zero by 2030.

Resources such as:

- AoC Green College Commitment
- Climate Action Roadmap for FE Colleges
- UNESCO 17 Goals to Transform Our World,
- UNESCO ESD Roadmap
- The Y&H Climate Commission
- Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution

will help the sector implement sustainability strategies and governance frameworks leading to greener institutions.



## Embedding and Promoting in the curriculum

In order to meet local and national net-zero goals, education for sustainable development needs to be embedded and promoted into all areas of the curriculum. By doing this we will better equip our learners for their future learning, careers and life choices.

As FE and skills organisations commit to embedding, promoting and contextualising sustainability matters into the curriculum, we will build a bank of resources and case studies that support the wider skills community and share activities that lead to greater knowledge and understanding of sustainability issues both for employers and learners. A resources & support Padlet will aid this Ambition & its responses.



## Learners Acting as Agents of Change

As part of the response to 'green up' the curriculum, FE & Skills organisations have an important role to play in raising the profile of sustainability across the business sector through projects and activities apprentices and learners undertake.

By identifying sustainability projects and activities, learners and apprentices will gain greater knowledge and a deeper understanding of the issues that affect young people and adults. FE & Skills providers need to listen to that voice, allow learners to generate ideas and ultimately influence and lead positive change for their future.



## Support the Sector to Influence Future Change

Through building successful long-term relationships with key sector partners that support green, circular and sustainable development, we commit to provide a platform to learn, share and develop this agenda.

By working collaboratively and playing our part we can ensure sustainable development across the region is given the priority and recognition it requires to be impactful. This pledge will offer the skills system a clear voice to influence local policy and funding decisions and support the raising of quality standards and curriculum development through sharing of good practice.



# YNY Green & Sustainable Development AMBITION for the FE & Skills Sector

**Aim:** To provide FE & Skills organisations with an opportunity to work together across the region towards a Greener, Fairer, Stronger curriculum and economy by adopting green skills, circular economy and sustainability practices as part of operational and curriculum development.

By committing to our AMBITION we agree to:



Identifying, monitoring, sharing & reducing the environmental impact of our organisation whilst striving to continually improve our environmental performance as an integral part of our business strategy and operating methods, with regular review points and specific targets & to showcase impact in this area via ongoing meetings & events



Utilising the resources available, including the EAUC Climate Action Roadmap, AoC Green College Commitment and UNESCO Education for Sustainable Development 2030 Roadmap to embed, promote and contextualise green, regenerative and sustainable approaches into the curriculum, encouraging discussion and debate amongst students, staff and external stakeholders and provide resources and upskilling on this agenda.



Identifying and sharing projects, workplace activities, resources and case studies that lead to greater knowledge and understanding of sustainability issues both for the employer and the learners, building a bank of resources and case studies that support the wider skills community and that empowers local businesses and training organisations to become net-zero.



Building long-term relationships with partners and other networks across the region that support the skills sector's green and sustainable development needs and provide a platform to learn, share and develop this agenda including the opportunity to offer a clear voice to influence skills policy around sustainability and support the raising of quality standards, curriculum development and the introduction of new greener standards and qualifications.

Signed by:

On behalf of:

Published: