

Attendees:

Robyn Conway (Supply Chain Sustainability School), **Alice Crowsley** (Supply Chain Sustainability School), **Ben Stone** (Kier), **Daniel Edwards** (Peel Ports), **Damian Lynes** (OnSite Support), **Leigh Phillips** (Balfour Beatty), **Kerry Parker-Wray** (IKO), **Keith O'Flynn** (Sisk), **Helen Spafford** (NWCP), **Rick Dunn** (Supply Chain Sustainability School), **Ciara Saunders** (Certas Energy), **Cathy Bailey** (Certas Energy).

Introductions and Welcome

The group introduced themselves and then Robyn read through the objectives for the day, as the emphasis is on business planning for the next year.

Impact Survey

Robyn then talked through the results of the Impact Survey (these results can be found in the slide-deck), including the priorities from this year compared to last year.

We looked at the Learning Activity and Engagement- looking at the target for the year and the progress to meet these which look to be well on target. We also looked at the focus areas for 2024 based on the Impact Survey results, we also noticed that management has been very popular through the assessment when looking at the learning and assessment statistics.

Our Survey

We looked over the responses from our own survey:

Groups for Focus next year:

1. Procurement
2. Future Workforce
3. Modern Slavery & Nature Recovery (joint)

Quarterly Bulletin to Construction Partners on what the other groups are doing/creating – would this be useful?

100% Yes

Conference with another Group?

1. Climate Action
2. Future Workforce
3. Procurement

High risk & opportunity sectors?

1. Waste Management & Labour Supply (joint)
2. Materials

Would it help to run a case study presentation from a Partner who can explain how they created their “list” and what outcomes they’ve seen?

93% Yes

Business Planning

The group broke into small break out groups and focussed on three different questions, looking at each question in turn.

Question 1

This question looked at the topics arising as priorities from the Impact Survey; does the group agree, and is there anything else that could be a priority.

The group agreed with all ranked priorities in the Impact Report- but wondered if these could be brought together to tackle rather than being looked at in isolation- what are the opportunities for integration?

- This year, the School looked at the link between Solar Panel supply chain and Modern Slavery – is there is another important overlap that can be explored?
- Make sure to avoid duplication:
 - o Look into possibilities for joint initiatives – for example green skills + wellbeing
 - o Would it be beneficial for the Construction Group to form a task group to attend other groups and look for collaboration opportunities?
 - o For anyone living in Wales, there is a fantastic opportunity to create a free green skills personal learning account via [Careers Wales](#)
 - o Although “Lean” is not at the forefront of the prioritised topics, the group agreed that it is an essential enabler for making sustainable change, so must still be invested in.

Question 2:

This question looked at the balance between training and content and asks what would be good to focus on next year. Their suggestions were:

- Must have
 - o Sustainability Shorts
 - o Partner Workshops
- Should have
 - o Guidance on compliance with government challenges, such as new legislation, possibly in video format
 - o Physical conferences
 - o Blog posts on news stories that signpost to relevant School resources
 - o UN Global compact shorts – development of the School’s alignment with the Goals, or another example could be SBTI alignment;
 - o Visiting Partners like BRE to provide guidance on meeting standards
 - o Risk Group to analyse risks associated with upcoming regs/legislation
- Could have
 - o Potentially we need less Talking Heads videos, based on ROI – however many of the videos that form the statistics are new and/or niche topics.

Question 3:

This question looked at the challenges facing the sector and which the group could tackle. The top 3 challenges were:

- Difference in regulations- Europe, Scotland Wales England Northern Ireland
- Scope definitions- more information and company examples
- Finding the best available solution & effective due diligence - climate vs nature vs forced labour

We then looked at the challenges and solutions as a group:

Scopes- can we create something that allows an organisation to define the scopes using examples specific to their companies – should this be learning, guide, sustainability short, one-off training session?

- Work with Climate Action Group?
- Template- partners can fill out using examples to make relevant to their company
- This can be for internal use or adapted for the supply chain
- Make it relevant to the audience- needs more real life examples and ones for those that are not experts
- Workshop format- discuss use examples for partners in partner workshops
 - o Having experienced a recent School workshop, one Partner felt they were still getting things wrong- not sure why it was wrong?
 - o More tangible examples
 - o Post-learning resource- bridge the gap

Legislation Explainers/Fact Sheets – can we create something that enables companies to prepare for upcoming legislation, with emphasis on differences between UK jurisdictions and Europe:

- Waste Group- have done a lot of work on different project lifecycle waste- takes different themes and gives you aims to choose from- it will then give you multiple resources to choose from that are targeted to suit your issue- Construction Group to build something like this? this possibly isn't the solution as it relies upon a bank of resources to help orgs prepare for this – with new/upcoming legislation, there may not be existing resources.
- EU Legislation is in production all the time- how to tackle changing landscape
 - o Keeping on top of change
 - o Updates in jurisdiction (region specific) Rumours happening in the industry
 - o Raise awareness
 - o CPA doing this already- other associations already doing this- partner with them to produce and share
- Subscription? Use events to launch and use for dispersing reports etc.
 - o Look into another way to align ourselves with the release of external reports// look into ways to keep finger on the pulse.
- A comms campaign could tie this together – marketing journey?

Best Available Solutions- Finding the best available solution with effective due diligence – ie, climate vs nature vs forced labour; the solutions that may not be our first choices but are the best we can take now:

- Sometimes the best, most impactful sustainable solution can have unwanted effects, eg, the use of CLT and other timber building products and the unwanted impacts on biodiversity;
- HVO Report may have recommendations for next steps;
- Sliding Scale- focus on what we as UK need to do- make more global observations- give Partners knowledge they need to make good decision;
- Materials- reports and insights- sand, timber, steel and hidden impacts.

The group then looked at the impact and difficulty of delivering each of the solutions-

- Scopes Template- high impact, deliverable
- Legislation Explainers- High Impact, more difficult to deliver
- Best available solutions guidance: Robyn and Alice to discuss with Ben- link to HVO work and follow up steps for group to be involved with.