

## Issues for consultation and response form

Completed forms should be e-mailed to [sustainability@hefce.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@hefce.ac.uk) no later than **11 April 2005**.

In the interests of transparency, we will make all responses publicly available unless specifically asked to keep them confidential, or unless we consider that there is a risk that they might breach legislation. Responses will be anonymised.

Name.....Libby Steele.....

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Individual response

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Response on behalf of (name of institution or organisation)

...**Royal Society of Chemistry**.....

The RSC is the largest organisation in Europe for advancing the chemical sciences. Supported by a network of 45,000 members worldwide and an internationally acclaimed publishing business, our activities span education and training, conferences and science policy, and the promotion of the chemical sciences to the public.

1. Will the proposed action plan help deliver the vision set out in our support strategy for sustainable development?

The action plan appears to be appropriate to deliver the vision set out by HEFCE. However, in the vision it very clearly states that “*through the skills and knowledge that its graduates learn and put into practice*” higher education will be recognised as a major contributor to society’s efforts to achieve sustainability but at first viewing the embedding of sustainable issues within the curriculum is not explicit in the four key roles in the action plan. The documentation which expands on the support role clearly identifies developing curricula and pedagogy through key support roles 1 and 3. It would be useful if this was more prominent and should probably be implicit within support role 2 as well.

**Key roles**

- *engaging with stakeholders to bring about policy synergies on sustainable development*
- *building the capacity of people to manage sustainable development*
- *sharing good practice, or supporting the development of good practice where none exists*
- *rewarding more sustainable behaviour.*

2. Which actions should take priority?

The introduction and embedding of curricula and pedagogy on sustainability. The RSC would be pleased to work with HEFCE/HEIs on this within the chemical science area.

3. Do you have any other comments on the strategy or action plan?

Development and delivery of support materials and workshops for lecturers will be important. The RSC would be pleased to work with HEIs and HEFCE funded bodies on this within the chemical sciences area.

4. What other activities are you engaged in which support the agenda for sustainable development?

**Higher Education**

Currently being produced - *Green Chemistry in Undergraduate Practical Courses*

A series of new undergraduate practicals which demonstrate the applications of some of the principles of green chemistry to synthetic organic chemistry.

### ***Schools and Colleges***

The RSC produces and disseminates resource materials to support the teaching of sustainable development within the school curriculum

e.g [Green Chemistry for 11-16 year olds](#). This book is part of the [Ideas and Evidence](#) selection of books from the RSC.

[Green Chemistry for 16-19 year olds](#). This web resource is based on a collaboration between the American Chemical Society, the German Chemical Society and the RSC

The RSC is involved in a range of other initiatives which support sustainability. For further information please see our Environment, Sustainability and Energy Gateway on our website <http://www.rsc.org/science/esef.htm>