



## MONTHLY BRIEFING

MAY 2017

Dear Member,

This issue of Scottish Renewables' Monthly Briefing showcases our engagement work ahead of the forthcoming General Election, and the views of the main political parties ahead of today's local elections.

Despite the snap General Election announcement you will see our work to highlight the importance of Scotland's renewables sector through both the UK Government's Industrial Strategy and the Scottish Government's Energy Strategy continues unaffected.



Regardless of election outcomes, Scottish Renewables will continue to engage with all levels of government in order to realise the full economic, social and environmental benefits of renewable energy for our country.

We will be publishing our own manifesto ahead of the vote on June 8.

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## General

### [General Election](#)

The next UK Government will be responsible for a number of important decisions for the Scottish renewable energy sector including on carbon budgets; the allocation of the Levy Control Framework (and the budget for its successor); a potential route to market for more established technologies; taking forward a 'Remote Islands CfD' and the future of the Renewable Heat Incentive and Feed-in Tariff.

Given the very limited timescale before the election, Scottish Renewables is already actively engaging with the main political parties about their respective manifesto commitments and will also be publishing its own manifesto in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions about Scottish Renewables' work in this area, please contact [Gavin Donoghue](#).

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### [Scottish local elections](#)

The elections for Scotland's 32 local authorities take place today.

You can see what the main political parties have to say about the role of local authorities in the transition to a low carbon economy through the links to their respective manifestos:

- [Conservatives](#)
- [Greens](#)
- [Labour](#)
- [Liberal Democrats](#)
- [SNP](#)

If you have any questions about Scottish Renewables' work in this area, please contact [Gavin Donoghue](#).

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### [Scottish Government's Draft Energy Strategy](#)

Scottish Renewables is currently drafting its response to the Scottish Government's [draft Energy Strategy](#), which will be circulated to members for comment very shortly.

If you have any questions or comments please contact [Lindsay Roberts](#).

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### [UK Industrial Strategy](#)

Scottish Renewables responded to BEIS' [Green Paper 'Building our Industrial Strategy'](#) last month, highlighting how Scotland's renewables sector can deliver many of the Strategy's objectives, with recommendations on how Government can help secure and grow those industrial benefits.

Our response included our newly published report of industrial case studies, '[Industrial Impact: The Power of Scotland's Renewables Sector](#)', about which we also wrote [this blog](#).

Scottish Renewables also joined five UK trade associations in [writing a letter to Secretary of State Greg Clark MP](#) to highlight our shared recommendations for the Strategy.

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## [YPGEA17 Finalists Announced](#)

The finalists of the 2017 Young Professionals Green Energy Awards [were announced](#) on April 5.

The event will be held at Glasgow Science Centre on May 25. Limited numbers of tickets are still available and [can be purchased online](#).

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## [Media reactions](#)

Scottish Renewables responded to a variety of announcements in April:

- The [sale of the Green Investment Bank to Macquarie Group](#)
- [New figures from the Office for National Statistics which show an estimated 58,500 people were employed by the low-carbon and renewables sectors in Scotland in 2015](#)
- News that up to 200 jobs will be created at Kishorn Port in the north-west Highlands during the construction of the world's largest floating wind farm (see [Offshore Renewables](#), below)

For more information on Scottish Renewables' media work, contact [Nick Sharpe](#).

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## [Economics & Markets](#)

### [Report on potential outcome of a further CfD Pot 1 auction](#)

[Baringa Partners, on behalf of Scottish Renewables](#), has modelled the potential outcome of a future GB Contract for Difference allocation round for 'Pot 1' established renewable energy technologies.

Its analysis found the UK Government could deliver 1GW of new onshore wind capacity – [enough to meet the equivalent annual demand of 600,000 homes](#) – at no additional cost to consumers over and above the long-term wholesale price of power.

Contact [Senior Policy Manager Michael Rieley](#) for further details.

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## [Systems and Storage](#)

### [Ofgem consultation: Targeted Charging Review](#)

[Scottish Renewables' draft response](#) to the Ofgem consultation on its proposed [Targeted Charging Review](#) highlights concern with the proposed scope of the review and encourages Ofgem to take a more holistic approach.

If you have any comments please [contact Michael Rieley](#) before the consultation closes on 5 May.

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### [Ofgem consultation: Charging arrangements for embedded generation](#)

[Scottish Renewables' response](#) to the [Ofgem consultation on industry's proposals \(CMP264 and CMP265\) to change the electricity transmission charging](#)

[arrangements for embedded generation](#) sets out our concern that the current position is founded on insufficient analysis and encourages the regulator to look at alternatives.

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## Planning, Consents & Deployment

### [Planning fees](#)

The Scottish Government has published an [analysis of its consultation on raising planning fees](#) which shows that the majority of respondents were opposed to the increase in the maximum fee level.

Despite this, a letter from Kevin Stewart, Minister for Local Government & Housing, confirms that the maximum fee for most development categories will rise to £125,000. [Updated regulations](#) will bring this into effect from 1 June.

[Scottish Renewables' response](#) highlighted a willingness to increase fees if this was done in conjunction with measures to improve the planning service, and not before.

With no indication that any corresponding, tangible improvements will be made to the planning service, we will be highlighting our disappointment at the fee increase in our response to the [Scottish Government's draft Energy Strategy](#) and [Onshore Wind Policy Statement](#).

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### [Peat guidance updated](#)

SNH and SEPA have recently reviewed and updated their [Guidance on Developments on Peatland - Peat survey](#).

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### [DPEA stakeholder meeting](#)

Scottish Renewables will be attending the next [Planning and Environmental Appeals Division](#) stakeholder meeting on 31 May. If you have any issues you would like raised at the meeting, please contact [Stephanie Clark](#).

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### [Local Development Plans](#)

The following consultations are currently live:

- [Falkirk Council – Main Issues Report](#): closing 5 May.
- [South Lanarkshire Council – Main Issues Report](#): closing 12 May
- [Inverclyde Council – Main Issues Report](#): closing 31 May

If you have any comments or questions on these consultations please contact [Stephanie Clark](#).

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## Onshore Renewables

### [Onshore Wind Policy Statement consultation](#)

Scottish Renewables is currently drafting its response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the [draft Onshore Wind Policy Statement](#), which will be circulated to members for comment very shortly.

If you have any questions or comments please contact [Lindsay Roberts](#).

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## [Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategies consultation](#)

[Scottish Renewables responded](#) to the Scottish Government [consultation on Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies and Regulation of District Heating](#) last month.

Our response calls for greater alignment with the wider Planning Review as well as the introduction of a target for the proportion of heat to be delivered from renewable sources.

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## [Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme](#)

Scottish Renewables is responding to the Scottish Government's [consultation on Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme](#).

Please contact [Stephanie Clark](#) by Wednesday 17 May with any comments.

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## Offshore Renewables

### [Kishorn Port jobs news](#)

Scottish Renewables [responded](#) to [news](#) that Kishorn Dry Dock, in the north-west Highlands, will come out of a 23-year long hibernation after an agreement was signed to use the site during the construction of the Kincardine Offshore Windfarm.



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