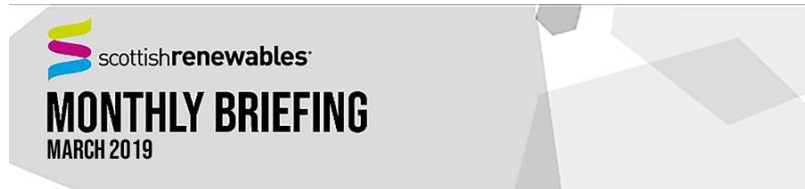


A round-up of the work SR is doing  
on your behalf



**Dear member,**

This month, the industry will gather in Edinburgh at [Scottish Renewables' Annual Conference on 12 & 13 March](#). With Brexit looming large, and major reforms taking place across our grid, planning and market support frameworks, delegates will not be short of pressing issues to discuss and debate.



[Come along to join in the debate](#) on the future of Scotland's renewable energy industry where we'll be discussing the carbon gap, global market outlook, Brexit, routes to market, the changing energy system, modernising our energy networks and infrastructure, and ensuring Scotland's planning system - onshore and offshore - is fit for the next generation.

This year's conference, sponsored by EDF Renewables, will be addressed by leading figures from across government, politics and industry, including:

- Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Energy, Connectivity & the Islands
- Ayesha Hazarika MBE, political commentator, comedian & former Special Advisor to Prime Minister Gordon Brown
- Michael Moore, Senior Advisor, PwC & former Secretary of State for Scotland
- Prof Martin Cave, Chair, Ofgem
- Prof Ian Hunter, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Vicky Dawe, Deputy Director – Renewable Electricity Support Schemes, BEIS
- Xavier Mamo, Research & Development Director, EDF Energy

I look forward to seeing you there.

Jenny Hogan  
**Deputy Chief Executive**  
[jhogan@scottishrenewables.com](mailto:jhogan@scottishrenewables.com)  
**0141 353 4004**

**GENERAL**



### **New SR staff team members**

We're delighted to announce the appointment of three new members of Scottish Renewables staff.

Morag Watson, currently Trust Manager at Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust, will take up the Director of Policy position, bringing more than 15 years of experience to the role.

Preeti Jassal, currently Equality & Inclusion Officer at Scottish Sports Futures, will provide maternity cover for our Events Manager, Lisa Russell, while Gary Baird will join our Business Services Team as a full-time Administration Officer.

### **New members for SR's Board**

An election for posts on Scottish Renewables' Board saw a record number of candidates (24), a record number of total votes cast and a record turnout (101 out of 170 eligible commercial members voting – nearly 60%).

As a result, the following new Board members were elected:  
Rob Forrest, GreenPower (Chair); Susie Lind, EDF Renewables; Richard Hatton, Enercon; Rachel Anderson, RES; Mike Hay, RIDG.

[Read the press release here.](#)



## **Blog: How it's all finally adding up for renewable transport**

We held our first low-carbon transport event last month, looking at EVs, hydrogen, biofuels and the future of getting from A to B.

The event, attended by 70 delegates, heard from Transport Scotland, Ferguson Marine, the Transport Systems Catapult and others.

Miss it? Catch up with [our latest blog](#).

## **Scottish National Investment Bank: where next?**

The Scottish Government has published an analysis of responses to a consultation which was recently held on the Scottish National Investment Bank.

Its conclusions are explained in this blog by [Finance Secretary Derek McKay](#).

Hannah Smith, Senior Policy Manager at Scottish Renewables, [said](#): “Accessing the right type of finance is one of the key challenges faced by renewable energy developers, so it is important that the economics of the transition to a cleaner energy system are reflected here.”

## **ECONOMICS & MARKETS**



### **Smart Export Guarantee**

Scottish Renewables has [developed a response](#) to BEIS' Smart Export Guarantee consultation.

The proposals centre around obligating suppliers to offer an export guarantee, which BEIS see as driving forward the transition to a smart energy system. While our response discusses some benefits of the scheme (such as encouraging half hourly metering) we express a number of concerns - most fundamentally that the mechanism will do little for small-scale renewable generators.

Contact [Hannah Smith](#) to discuss.

## PLANNING & CONSENTS



### **Planning for Great Places webinar series hosted by Scottish Natural Heritage**

SNH is delivering a series of 'Planning for Great Places' webinars, covering various development and natural heritage related topics:

- Track development - Wednesday, March 6, 1:00-1:30pm
- Wind farm aviation lighting - Wednesday, April 3, 1:00-1:30pm
- Planning for coastal change - Thursday, May 9 (date tbc), 1:00-1:30pm
- Wind farm visualisations - Wednesday, June 5, 1:00-1:30pm

Each webinar will include a short presentation to be followed by a Q&A session with the host and panellists. To register for the first webinar on track development click [here](#).

Please note all webinars will be recorded and may be broadcast in the future. Registering to attend the webinar will be considered as acknowledgement of the recording.

For more information contact [Caroline Anderson](#).



## Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan 2

The [Argyll and Bute Development Plan Scheme](#) contains an updated timetable for the preparation of LDP2 and sets out how to engage in the process.

The council anticipates that the Proposed LDP2 will be available for public consultation in June 2019.

## Planning and Environmental Appeals Division Stakeholders' Meeting

SR Policy Manager Stephanie Conesa participated in a DPEA Stakeholder Meeting in which the DPEA and ECU presented on planning performance, the role of the ECU and its interaction with the DPEA, and the status of the Planning (Scotland) Bill.

If you would like to discuss this [get in touch](#).

## GRID & SYSTEMS



## SR pushes for Orkney reinforcement

While we have welcomed Ofgem's minded to decision to approve the Final Needs Case for the Orkney transmission project, [we have responded to Ofgem](#) setting out our concerns with conditionality criteria set out - particularly Ofgem's minimum generation threshold.

## RIIO-2

Ofgem is [consulting](#) on the methodology it will apply for setting the RIIO-2 price controls for the gas and electricity transmission networks and the electricity system operator. The deadline for this consultation is March 14.

Please forward any comments on [our draft response](#) by Friday March 8.

## LOW-CARBON HEAT



### Change of date: SR Heat Forum

Our next heat forum, due to take place on March 22, has been rescheduled as we are await a number of Scottish Government consultations that have been delayed.

SR's annual [Low-Carbon Heat Conference](#) will be taking place on April 30, and we expect to hold a Forum or Policy Advisory Group meeting once the consultations have been launched.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact [Fabrice Leveque](#).

### New CCC report on decarbonising housing

The Committee on Climate Change [has published a new report](#) looking at the policies required to make new build and existing UK homes fit for climate mitigation and adaptation.

A key recommendation of the report is that all new homes should cease to be connected to the gas grid from 2025.



## Glasgow City Council LHEES

Scottish Renewables attended a Glasgow City Council event on its draft Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES). The strategy has been produced as part of a series of pilots, and analyses future heat decarbonisation and fuel poverty priorities across the whole city.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact [Fabrice Leveque](#).

## LHEES Guidance on Socio-economic Assessments

The Scottish Government has published two sets of guidance documents setting out how Local Authorities should conduct [plan](#) and [project](#) level socio-economic assessments as part of their Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies.

These assessments are intended to inform the designation of zones in an LHEES (e.g. for district heating) as well as the evaluation of specific project proposals.

**ONSHORE RENEWABLES**



## SR Onshore Wind Planning Forum

We held 2019's first Onshore Wind Forum last month, focused on planning.

Around 40 members attended to hear updates from the staff team and Local Energy Scotland on repowering, the Planning (Scotland) Bill, Section 36 fees and the Scottish Government's Good Practice Principles for shared ownership and community benefits.



If you couldn't make it and would like more details, contact [Stephanie Conesa](#). We will be scheduling a Planning Forum later this year as the Planning (Scotland) Bill completes its passage through Parliament.

## Hydro and Solar Forum

With the launch of the BEIS' Smart Export Guarantee consultation, various grid reforms and ongoing issues around planning and business rates, we recently hosted a member Forum to think strategically about our work on hydro and solar over the coming months.

Please [get in touch](#) if you would like to discuss this meeting.

**OFFSHORE RENEWABLES**



## Offshore Wind Sector Deal announced

The UK Government has launched a new joint Government-industry Offshore Wind Sector Deal.

SR worked hard to ensure Scotland was well-represented in the document, which sets out how offshore wind will provide a third of all UK electricity by 2030.

You can [read our reaction to the announcement of the sector deal here](#).

## Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind - Project Steering Groups

Scottish Renewables attended stakeholder steering group meetings on Marine Scotland's draft Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind. The meetings covered environmental impacts, SEA & HRA and socio-economic impacts.

If you would like to discuss the SEA/HRA process, contact [Stephanie Conesa](#); for information on the SEIA and socio-economic impacts get in touch with [Fabrice Leveque](#).

## Whitmarsh Review of the Offshore Wind Supply Chain

A [report](#) conducted by former McLaren Group chief executive Martin Whitmarsh on behalf of the Offshore Wind Industry



Council (OWIC) has highlighted opportunities available to UK companies of all sizes to get involved in the offshore wind supply chain and has called once again for clear targets for extra capacity from Government.

## **Media reaction: Saltire Tidal Energy Challenge Fund**

The Scottish Government announced last month that it would support tidal energy through a new challenge fund.

Responding, Hannah Smith, Senior Policy Manager at Scottish Renewables, said: “This new fund will help tidal energy developers innovate and lower costs – crucial when many are deploying devices which can already reliably produce electricity, but which are locked out of the energy market because they must compete with technologies like offshore wind, which has secured support to deploy at scale and deliver staggering cost reductions.”

Images: Wikipedia

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