

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

 scottishrenewables
MONTHLY BRIEFING
JUNE 2019

Dear member,

May saw the Scottish Government act on advice from the Committee on Climate Change and commit to net-zero carbon emissions by 2045 – turning up the dial on Scotland's efforts to tackle emissions ahead of the rest of the UK.

The announcement, made by Environment Secretary Roseanna Cunningham, opens up the opportunity for significant changes to the policy environment in which renewable energy operates.



We summarised the areas which will be of most interest to SR members in [this blog](#), and will maintain pressure on government to ensure that the welcome words of the statement turn into meaningful changes in policy to support renewable energy.

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GENERAL



**Scotland's green energy export impact
revealed**

A new Scottish Renewables [study](#) used input from members to reveal the reach of Scotland's renewable energy industry. We found home-grown renewable energy expertise is being put to work in 72 countries, with Scottish businesses employing staff in 22 of those.

Media coverage was achieved in the Daily Mail, Herald and Scotsman, while CEO Claire Mack presented the findings in a session at All-Energy.



Scottish Renewables at the Scottish Parliament

Our new Director of Policy Morag Watson represented the industry before the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee of the Scottish Parliament in a roundtable evidence session on Stage 2 of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) Bill.

She confirmed SR's support for the net-zero target and made clear that the technology exists, and that SR members are ready to deliver a green energy revolution in Scotland - but that government must play its part by establishing a stable and supportive policy environment for renewable energy.

The full evidence is available [here](#).

Nine honoured at fifth Young Professionals Green Energy Awards

The [2019 Young Professionals Green Energy Awards](#) recognised the work of nine up-and-coming green energy stars last month.

SR Chief Executive Claire Mack said: "Once again the Young Professionals Green Energy Awards bring the renewables

industry together to recognise the contributions being made by its upcoming leaders.”

Tickets for our next awards event, The Scottish Green Energy Awards, will go on sale on July 24 - register your interest by emailing [Preeti Jassal](mailto:Preeti.Jassal).



Blog: Diversity is more than a state of mind

Young Professionals Green Energy Awards nominee Blair Cruikshank gave a memorable speech on the importance of diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

This [blog](#) reproduces the highlights from his address.

ECONOMICS & MARKETS



Response: Infrastructure Commission for Scotland

Following the establishment of the Infrastructure Commission for Scotland, SR has [responded to the initial call for evidence](#).

We set out the need for a clean power plan (building on Scotland's Energy Strategy) a viable jobs transition programme and clear policy frameworks to decarbonise the heat sector.

Keeping pressure on for business rates reform

As we continue our campaign to reform the business rates system for renewable energy technologies, [we have submitted evidence to the Local Government and Communities Committee](#). Contact [Hannah Smith](#) to discuss.

PLANNING & CONSENTS





Adoption of Scottish Planning Policy in Local Development Plans

The Scottish Government has commissioned Ironside Farrar to undertake research to inform its future programme of work to review national planning policies in light of the proposed new arrangements included in the Planning (Scotland) Bill.

Ironside Farrar has created a short [survey](#) to canvas stakeholders' views on experiences using the existing Scottish Planning Policy, which closes on June 21.

Please get in touch with [Stephanie Conesa](#) if you would like to discuss.

Planning Bill stage 3: proposed amendments

The Scottish Government has [published](#) a version of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 incorporating proposed Stage 3 amendments to the Planning Bill.

Contact [Peter Speirs](#) if you would like to discuss.

SNH Guidance on Planning for Coastal Change

Following its [Planning for Great Places webinar](#), SNH has published its guidance [Looking Ahead: Planning for Coastal Change](#). This guidance aims to help those involved in development and infrastructure planning at the coast to work towards sustainable development that takes account of current and future coastal change.

SNH intend to create an interactive online version of the guidance during 2019/20. If you have any questions about the

guidance, or would like to submit a case study, please contact [Nina Turner](#) at SNH.

Please get in touch with [Stephanie Conesa](#) if you would like to discuss.

Publication of Scottish Government Good Practice Principles

The Scottish Government has published its revised Good Practice Principles (GPPs) for:

- [Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments](#)
- [Shared Ownership of Onshore Renewable Energy Developments](#)

The GPPs for Community Benefits from Offshore Renewable Energy Developments have not yet been finalised. The Scottish Government has decided that further engagement with stakeholders is required ahead of any revisions to this guidance.

Contact [Stephanie Conesa](#) if you would like to discuss.

LOW-CARBON HEAT



Scottish Government Working Group on District Heat Regulation

Scottish Renewables has been invited to sit on a short-term Scottish Government working group to finalise its proposals for regulation of the sector.

We will be making the case for regulation to help grow low-carbon heat as well as to improve standards, and have been working on a set of proposals to be discussed at the working group. To find out more please contact [Fabrice](#).



Call for Evidence: The future of low carbon heat for off gas buildings

The Scottish Government is [seeking evidence](#) on the technologies and policies required to decarbonise buildings not connected to the gas grid.

We are accepting member views on [our draft consultation response](#) until Monday June 10. The consultation closes on June 18.

Consultation: Energy Efficient Scotland

The Scottish Government is [consulting](#) on the design of the Energy Efficient Scotland programme, seeking views on accelerating the speed at which the programme delivers and the role of low-carbon heat (including what more could be done to support the roll out of heat networks).

SR will be sending in a short response to the questions on low-carbon heat - please send views and comments to [Fabrice](#). The consultation closes on June 17.

GRID & SYSTEMS



Views set out on Island Needs Cases

Ofgem's consultations on final needs cases for network reinforcements for Shetland and the Western Isles closed last month. [Scottish Renewables responded](#), setting out industry views.

ofgem

ONSHORE RENEWABLES



NPF / SPP Policy Advisory Group meeting note

Scottish Renewables recently held a Policy Advisory Group (PAG) meeting to identify potential priority areas and issues in

the upcoming combined Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) and National Planning Framework (NPF) across the variety of technologies that we represent. The outputs from this meeting will enable us to begin scoping out potential asks for these new planning documents.

A note of this meeting is now available [on our website](#).

Member feedback and additional ideas would be very welcome: please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#) if you would like to discuss further.

SNH Repowering Guidance

Following SR's participation in the SNH Repowering Workshop, the organisation has updated its [website](#) to reflect its current position on repowering, clarifying that SNH now recommends that the baseline for assessment should be the 'current state of the environment' as set out in the EIA regulations.

SNH is currently working through the implications of the revised position for the rest of its guidance and hopes to share a new version soon.

To discuss, please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#).



Blog: Hydro Conference provides optimism for sector's future

Senior Policy Manager Hannah Smith looks back at Scottish Renewables' Hydro Conference and Exhibition in our new

[blog](#), where she writes about how "a new sense of optimism for the future emerged" at the event, held annually in Perth.

OFFSHORE RENEWABLES



Scottish Parliament Debate on the Offshore Wind Supply Chain

The Scottish Labour Party led a debate on the Scottish offshore wind supply chain, with a particular focus on BiFab. SR provided MSPs with a comprehensive briefing ahead of the debate, however all parties in Parliament supported the campaign to secure work for the Fife yard and the politicians were critical of the industry's approach to Scottish and UK content in offshore wind farms. The full debate can be read [here](#).

Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council

The Scottish Government has redesigned and renamed the Offshore Wind Industry Group (OWIG).

The Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council (SOWEC) will adopt a similar structure to the Sector Deal workstreams. Scottish Renewables will lead the 'barriers to development' group, as well as on communications. To find out more please contact [Fabrice](#).

Marine planning inquiry

The Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee has launched an [inquiry into Marine Planning](#). The purpose of this inquiry is to explore the role, status and effectiveness of Regional Marine Plans (RMPs) in Scotland

and to examine their integration with the terrestrial planning system. The deadline for responses is Friday, July 12.

If you have any queries on the Call for Views contact [Pauline McIntyre](#). If you would like to discuss this with a member of the SR team please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#).

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