

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

 scottishrenewables
MONTHLY BRIEFING
OCTOBER 2019

Dear member,

The Scottish Parliament has delivered many world-firsts on climate change over its 20 years, but few will have had the implications of the ambitious goals contained in the [Climate Change \(Emissions Reductions Targets\) Act](#).

The targets, to slash 2020 emissions to at least 56% lower than the baseline, to cut 2030 emissions to at least 75% lower and reduce 2040 emissions to at least 90% lower, are highly ambitious and stretching. They will require a significant ramping up of renewable energy generation.



This piece of legislation is another step towards the realisation of our stretching climate change targets. Scottish Renewables will continue to work with the Scottish Government on its commitments. With consistent policy-making to reflect the bold targets contained in this Bill and the declaration of a Climate Emergency, Scotland can continue to lead the world on climate change.

Peter Spiers

Public Affairs Manager

pspeirs@scottishrenewables.com

0141 353 4985

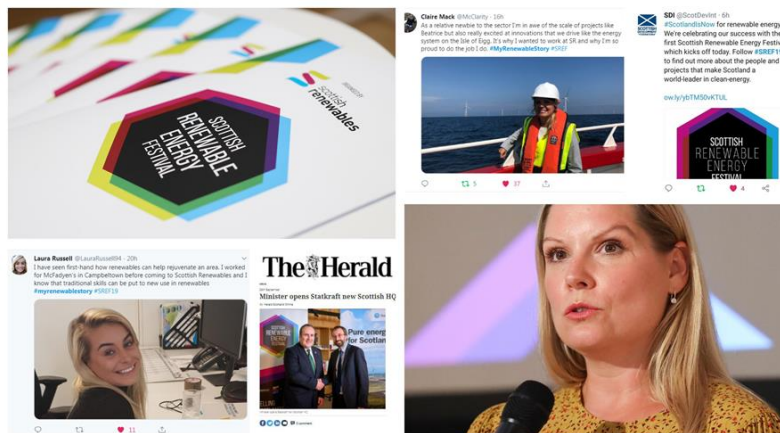


Scottish Renewable Energy Festival 2019

SR members and non-members alike joined us to celebrate the first Scottish Renewable Energy Festival between Sept 16 and Oct 1.

The event, which was launched at a packed event in Glasgow by Scottish Green Party Co-Convenor Patrick Harvie, involved politicians visiting green energy projects, the release of SR research on the number of students studying renewable energy in Scotland (more on that later), the publication of a document highlighting our industry's contribution to a number of key areas of Scottish life and lots (and lots) of social media.

Thanks to all who took part. To talk about getting involved in this type of work in future, email [Nick Sharpe](mailto:nick@scottishrenewables.org).



Almost 13,000 studying renewable energy

Almost 13,000 students are studying courses related to renewable energy at Scotland's universities and colleges, the first survey of its kind has revealed.

More than a third (36%) of the 12,885 students are female, new research by Scottish Renewables showed.

[This story, released as part of the Scottish Renewable Energy Festival](#), received coverage in the Herald, Times and industry media, among others.

Media reaction: UK Government Spending Review Announcement

[Responding](#) to the announcement of a Spending Review last month, SR Chief Executive Claire Mack said: "The Government's focus on improving Britain's infrastructure is encouraging, as is its commitment to funding COP26. Scotland's renewable energy sector can help to power Britain's infrastructure and deliver on the Government's commitment to achieving net zero emissions."

Forestry and Land Scotland Energy Offering

Forestry and Land Scotland has launched its [Energy Offering](#). This includes a guidance document, which links to an online form to record sites of developer interest. If you have a project idea, you can submit an expression of interest to FLS by no later than 2pm on November 6.

FLS plans to publish further information in October as part of Climate Week.

If you would like to discuss this, contact [Stephanie Conesa](#)



Blog: A climate emergency Programme for Government?

This SR [blog](#) by Senior Policy Manager Fabrice Leveque looks at what the new Programme for Government might mean for the renewables industry with climate change now front and centre of Government strategy and thinking. Read our [media reaction here](#), too.

The role of public sector bodies in tackling climate change

The Scottish Government is seeking views on [the role of public sector bodies in tackling climate change](#). Its consultation looks at the way that information and knowledge

is shared between public sector bodies; whether public bodies should set targets for themselves to achieve zero greenhouse gas emissions and proposed changes to mandatory reporting duties.

The consultation closes on December 4 and SR will be responding. If you would like to contribute please contact [Cara Dalziel](#).

Blog: Change is in the air – Scotland’s new Climate Change Bill

Scotland once again confirmed its world-leading position on climate change by passing the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill on October 26.

Our latest [blog](#) outlines the details of this ground-breaking legislation while our [media reaction](#) shows what we said at the time.

ECONOMICS & MARKETS



Flexible & Responsive Energy Retail Markets consultation

BEIS and Ofgem published a consultation on [Flexible & Responsive Energy Retail Markets](#) to seek input on how potential reforms to the current regulatory framework can ensure benefits from smart and flexible systems are delivered to support net-zero ambitions.

[SR has responded to the consultation](#) - please contact [Cara Dalziel](#) if you have any questions.

PLANNING & CONSENTS



NPF4 Meeting with the Chief Planner and SG Planning

Scottish Renewables' Claire Mack, Peter Speirs and Stephanie Conesa met with the Chief Planner and members of the Scottish Government's Planning Directorate to discuss SG's process for developing National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), as well as our members' key asks on this document so far.

SG will be publishing an update on its process shortly, which we will circulate to members.

If you have any questions on this, please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#).



Scottish Government Planning: post-Bill work programme

Scottish Government has published its [proposed timetable](#) for implementing the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 and taking forward other aspects of the reform of Scottish planning.

Section 2 of the Act, making amendments to the content and procedures for preparing NPF4, will come into force on 8 November along with the Purpose of Planning (section 1), which applies to the preparation of NPF4 and local development plans.

If you would like to discuss this, please contact [Peter Speirs](#).



PLANNING FOR RENEWABLES SEMINAR

AN AUDIENCE WITH SCOTLAND'S PLANNING MINISTER
14 NOVEMBER 2019 GLASGOW



Savills/Inherit NPF4 Research on Rural Planning

Policy Manager Stephanie Conesa participated in Savills/Inherit's final presentation on research they have undertaken on behalf of the Scottish Government to inform the preparation of NPF4. This research is focussed on rural planning issues.

The workshop was an opportunity to discuss the future needs of rural Scotland, the challenges communities and businesses face and how these needs might translate into development.

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

ONSHORE RENEWABLES



Guide to Hydropower Construction Good Practice - 2019 review

Version 3 of the joint SNH, SEPA and Scottish Renewables [Guide to Hydropower Construction Good Practice](#) has now been published.

This guidance has been developed to direct all stakeholders involved in development and construction of a hydro scheme to the appropriate sections of existing guidance, as well as provide a level of standing advice to help minimise construction impacts and highlight legislative compliance requirements. Contact [Stephanie Conesa](#) to discuss.

Blog: Can solar stack up?

Ahead of our Solar Conference which took place on September 26 in Edinburgh, Scottish Renewables Vice-Chair Andy Lyle of Locogen gave an update on where next for the solar sector in Scotland in this [blog](#).

OFFSHORE RENEWABLES



Offshore Wind & RSPB Conservation Opportunities Roundtable

Claire Mack and Stephanie Conesa participated in a round table meeting, bringing together the offshore wind industry, RSPB, Marine Scotland, SNH and the Energy Minister, as well as the Minister for Rural Affairs and Natural Environment. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss a proposal to establish a marine nature restoration fund to help the offshore wind sector contribute to marine conservation and restoration actions.

A Working Group to discuss the detail of the proposal has been arranged, in which SR will also participate.

For more information, please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#).



ScotWind Leasing update

Crown Estate Scotland has published an [update](#) on its ScotWind Leasing process, which will be held after the launch of the consultation on Marine Scotland's draft Sectoral Marine Plan, expected in Autumn 2019. The deadline for applications will be after the adopted SMP is published to ensure that developers have certainty regarding the sites in the final plan. Based on current timelines, we anticipate that this will likely be around summer 2020.

Scottish Renewables has been liaising with members to provide feedback to Marine Scotland on the draft SMP.

If you would like to know more please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#) or [Fabrice Leveque](#).



ScotWind Leasing

Seabed leasing for new
offshore wind farms

September 2019 update

LOW-CARBON HEAT



Photography exhibition meeting with Alex Burnett MSP

Director of Communications Nick Sharpe and Public Affairs Manager Peter Speirs met with Shadow Business, Innovation and Energy Minister Alex Burnett MSP for a tour of SR's Low-Carbon Heat Exhibition, which was held at the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation over August and September.

Issues around planning, infrastructure and revenue support were all discussed, with Alex later tweeting: "Great to meet Nick Sharpe and Peter Speirs from @ScotRenew this morning, to discuss the benefits of renewables to the rural economy & fuel poverty".

To hear more about the meeting, contact [Nick Sharpe](#).



Parliamentary Inquiry on Low-Carbon Heat

The Scottish Parliament's Economy, Energy & Fair Work Committee is [holding a short inquiry](#) on the development and supply of low-carbon heat in Scotland.

SR [submitted a written response](#) and will be giving oral evidence on October 8. Contact [Fabrice Leveque](#) for more details.

UK Government consults on 'Future Homes Standard'

The UK Government has [launched a consultation](#) on tightening energy and carbon standards for new homes in England. It seeks views on proposed uplifts to requirements in 2020, as a transitional step to a standard that ends the use of fossil fuel heating in 2025.

SR is seeking a meeting with the Scottish Government to understand its plans to introduce a similar standard by 2024 and will update members accordingly. Contact [Fabrice Leveque](#) for more details.

GRID & SYSTEMS



Reforming the Energy Industry Codes consultation

[SR has responded](#) to a consultation published by BEIS and Ofgem on [Reforming the Energy Industry Codes](#). The consultation sought input on proposals on changing the current code governance framework to better facilitate strategic changes in the sector as we transition to a more flexible energy system and encourage more innovation.

If you would like to discuss this, please contact [Cara Dalziel](#).

Application Interactivity and Queue Management consultation

The Energy Networks Association published a [consultation on Application Interactivity and Queue Management](#). This was part of the Open Networks Project and the consultation sought views on a 'minded to' policy standard to be applied across all GB networks and the outcome will be used to develop an implementation plan at the end of 2019.

[SR has responded to this consultation](#) - if you have any questions then contact [Cara Dalziel](#).



BEIS and Ofgem publish smart meter framework consultations

BEIS has published a consultation on the [Smart Meter Policy Framework Post 2020](#) to help inform the policy framework for energy suppliers to continue installing smart meters after December 31 2020, when the current rollout duty ends.

Alongside this, Ofgem has also published a consultation on the [Post-2020 Smart Meter Rollout Reporting Requirements](#) setting out its proposals for the reporting requirements energy suppliers would be subject to under the proposed new obligation.

If you have any comments on either of these consultations then please contact [Cara Dalziel](#).

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