

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



scottishrenewables
MONTHLY BRIEFING
FEBRUARY 2020

Dear member,

COP26 will be held in Glasgow from November 9-20 and Scottish Renewables is planning a year-long series of events to ensure our industry's current and future contributions to the fight against climate change are recognised - and that the importance of further support from governments is noted.



Our work, including opportunities to engage you, our members, to profile individual technologies and showcase renewable energy as a key part of the route to net zero, is detailed on a new webpage, launched today, alongside [this blog](#) from Claire which sets out how COP and our [Annual Conference](#) interact.

We're made of our members, so please do get in touch if you'd like to be involved.

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GENERAL



Result of SR Board election

Twenty eligible candidates entered the ballot for a place on Scottish Renewables' Board, with 65% of members voting – a record turnout.

New directors have now been elected with varying terms, as below:

- Mike Hay, RIDG – three years
- Adam Morrison, EDPR – three years
- Kate Turner, ScottishPower Renewables – three years
- Clare Lavelle, ARUP – one year.

At the next Board meeting, on March 3, we have the ability to co-opt up to seven people to ensure we have the right breadth of skills and technologies to properly represent our diverse membership in the coming year.

Email chiefexecutive@scottishrenewables.com with any enquiries.

Annual Conference 2020 - March 24-25, Edinburgh

The programme for our Annual Conference is almost complete, and tickets are going fast after the sell-out of our Offshore Wind Conference last month.

We're delighted to announce that Tim Marshall, author of [Prisoners of Geography](#), is speaking at the event as our industry shifts geopolitics ahead of #COP26 in Glasgow.

Tickets [available now](#), and the [programme can be found here](#).



Scottish Renewables sparks discussion in Parliament

In our role as secretariat of the Scottish Parliament's cross-party group (CPG) on renewable energy and energy efficiency, Scottish Renewables this month arranged a joint meeting with the CPG for oil and gas to discuss the energy transition.

Chaired by Aberdeenshire West MSP Alexander Burnett, the event was an immediate success - with parliamentarians, business representatives and academics amongst the nearly 70 attendees. One observer said: "I got a real buzz from the event and can't wait till the next one."

You can read more about the event in our blog [here](#).



UK Budget 2020/21

Scottish Renewables continues its programme of engagement with the UK Government, setting out our members' priorities for the upcoming UK budget, expected in early March. Our key asks are set out in a [letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sajid Javid](#), which builds on our work during the recent General Election.

Our key asks, which mirror those made in our [General Election Manifesto](#), would, among other things, help the recently-elected Government meet its manifesto commitments, including to deliver two million new jobs in clean energy over the next decade.

Contact [Nick Sharpe](#) with any queries.

Scottish Budget 2020/21

"February 6 will mark Derek Mackay's fourth budget as Scotland's Finance Secretary, but it may very well prove to be his most important".

Our [new blog](#) follows on from our [submission to the Scottish Government](#) ahead of its Budget this week, setting out some of the areas we're focussing on.

We also contributed to the [Climate Emergency Response Group's new report](#) setting out its priorities. The paper proposes increased or new funding in areas of Scottish Government competence: low-carbon heat, building retrofit, transport and agriculture. To find out more please contact [Fabrice Leveque](#).

Ofgem releases decarbonisation plan

Ofgem has published its [Decarbonisation Programme Action Plan](#), setting out its nine-step plan for the next 18 months to ensure that energy networks are ready to deliver net-zero. The regulator is also holding a conference on decarbonisation in Glasgow this week, which SR is attending.

Ofgem is welcoming any comments on the action plan by February 21. Please contact [Cara Dalziel](#) if you would like to discuss.



Scottish Parliament Committee: Local Energy

Scottish Renewables' Claire Mack appeared in front of the Scottish Parliament's Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee this week to discuss local energy.

She spoke about specific "rich examples" including marine energy, hydropower, wind and solar, and added that the uptake of EVs would change the way energy is transmitted and used at a local level.

Her appearance follows our submission to the Committee's ongoing enquiry.

Please contact [Ben Miller](#) to discuss.

PLANNING & CONSENTS



Record Last Updated (dd/mm/yyyy)	Operator (or Applicant)	Site
04/07/2018	Statoil	Hywind Scotland Pilot F
31/05/2017	Talisman Energy	Beatrice Demonstrator
18/08/2017	E.On	Robin Rigg East
18/08/2017	E.On	Robin Rigg West
30/04/2019	Vattenfall	European Offshore Wind I
31/05/2019	Scottish & Southern Energy (SSE) / Reps	Beatrice
25/06/2019	EDF Renewables Power	Neart na Gaoithe
24/09/2019	Red Rock Power (ICOL)	Inch Cape
08/11/2018	Catapult	Levenmouth dem...
01/10/2019	SSE / Seagreen Wind Energy Ltd	
01/07/2019	Moray East (Inm...	
01/07/2019		

Onshore and Offshore Wind Pipeline

To assist supply chain companies that are looking to invest or upskill, Scottish Renewables has [refined data](#) from the UK Government showing the place of Scottish onshore and offshore wind projects in the planning process. We will continue to update the data each quarter in line with the UK Government's schedule.

Please contact [Cara Dalziel](#) for more information.

Scottish Government Consultation on Planning Performance and Fees – 2019

Scottish Government launched a [consultation](#) proposing a new approach to measuring the performance of planning authorities, the role of the planning improvement coordinator and a revised planning fees structure.

Scottish Renewables has prepared a [draft response](#). This consultation closes on February 14. Please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#) if you have any questions.

Consultation respons: Argyll & Bute Council LDP

Scottish Renewables submitted a [response](#) to Argyll and Bute Council's consultation on its Local Development Plan 2 setting out members' views on the changes needed to address both

the net-zero target and the desire to strengthen the rural economy.

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

NPF4 Policy Advisory Group meeting

Scottish Renewables' NPF4 Planning Policy Advisory Group met to develop our NPF4 Influencing Strategy, identifying advocacy and engagement opportunities throughout the NPF4 process.

As we take this Strategy forward we will be looking to members to join the SR team at meetings, roundtables and stakeholder events to input first-hand industry experience into the influencing process. To be kept up to date with progress please make sure you have [signed up for our Planning and Consents Forum](#).

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

Scottish Government NPF4 Programme for Engagement

As part of its Programme for Engagement, the Scottish Government is hosting a NPF4 Scotplan 2050 Roadshow. The roadshow offers general drop in sessions where attendees can speak to the NPF team, as well as facilitated workshops where attendees can discuss key issues with other stakeholders.

If you would like to attend a workshop session, please sign up on the [Transforming Planning website](#).



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Scottish Government and RTPI Scotland NPF4 events

During February and March the Scottish Government and RTPI Scotland will be jointly hosting [a series of free events](#) to

enable planning professionals to influence the early stages of preparation of National Planning Framework 4. Each event will be a hands-on workshop with most of the time given over to discussing ideas and solutions for the new national tier of the development plan.

RTPI Scotland is also holding a training course on March 4 in Edinburgh on [Implementing the Planning \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#). This event will focus on the practical implications of the legislation as it evolves, including the new regulations on performance, the introduction of statutory Chief Planning Officers and the implications for development management. [This course is also available on April 29 in Glasgow](#).

Scottish Government Rural Planning Policy to 2050: Research to Inform Preparation of NPF4

The Scottish Government has published its [Rural Planning Policy to 2050: Research to Inform Preparation of NPF4](#). This includes comments from Scottish Renewables on community renewable development, repowering and domestic consumption for heat.

If you have any questions on this please contact [Fabrice Leveque](#).

SNH Planning for Greater Places webinar series

SNH is delivering its second series of Planning for Great Places webinars, covering various development and natural heritage related topics. They are: Habitats Regulations Appraisal – Likely significant effect (Feb 12); Habitats Regulations Appraisal – Appropriate assessment (Feb 19); Our approach to Wild Land in Scotland (March 18); Development and peatland (April 22). For more information contact [Jacqueline Innes](#) at SNH.

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

GRID & SYSTEMS



Open Networks Project 2020 Work Plan

The Energy Networks Association has launched a consultation on the [Open Networks Project Work Plan](#) for 2020. The document sets out the key focus areas in all project work streams for the next 12 months, as well as providing timelines and key dates for upcoming consultations and events. The ENA will also be hosting [two webinars](#) in February for stakeholders to find out more and raise any questions directly.

The consultation closes on March 17. If you have any comments, please contact [Cara Dalziel](#).



Network Innovation Workshop

Scottish Renewables attended the ENA's Network Innovation Strategies workshop on January 16 to discuss the key themes, focus areas and challenges that network innovation should be focusing on going forward. The output from these discussions will directly inform a new set of network innovation strategy documents due to be published later this year.

Please contact [Cara Dalziel](#) if you would like to hear more.

RIIO-T2 Business Plans and Open Hearings

Throughout March and April, Ofgem will be running a number of RIIO-T2 open hearings, giving stakeholders an opportunity to hear from network operators directly on various aspects of its business plans. Registration is available through [Eventbrite](#) and to support the open hearings Ofgem is [welcoming](#) any views on network operators submissions by February 10.

The final RIIO-T2 business plans for [Scottish Power Transmission](#) and [Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission](#) are both available to read online. Contact [Cara Dalziel](#) for further information.

Media reaction: Infrastructure Commission for Scotland report

The Infrastructure Commission for Scotland released a new ['Key Findings Report – A blueprint for Scotland'](#) which outlines a 30-year infrastructure strategy with an emphasis on delivering an inclusive, net-zero carbon economy.

[Responding](#), Morag Watson, Director of Policy at Scottish Renewables, said: "Scottish Renewables was pleased to contribute to the work of the Commission in developing this report and we welcome its emphasis on achieving net-zero, as well as its recognition of the key role of the renewable energy industry."

OFFSHORE RENEWABLES



Scottish Government Offshore Wind Supply Chain Summit

The Scottish Government's second supply chain summit was held on January 16. SR attended after providing a briefing to the Government beforehand, setting out industry's actions to date.

Delegates were [told](#) that developers will have to agree on supply-chain commitments when applying for the upcoming ScotWind Leasing round. [Responding](#), Claire Mack, Chief Executive of Scottish Renewables, said: "Any measures which may reduce the competitiveness of Scotland's offshore wind sector must be carefully considered."

Crown Estate Scotland has published [further details](#), and we are now working with the Government and members to understand the implications of the announcement. Contact [Nick Sharpe](#) to discuss.

Offshore Wind Conference

Scottish Renewables' sold-out Offshore Wind Conference, Exhibition & Dinner, held in association with ORE Catapult, took place on January 28-29 in Glasgow. The conference saw a 23% increase in delegate numbers from last year, with 300 people attending both days. Following the first day of the conference we welcomed over 250 guests to the conference dinner, a 39% increase from the 2019 event.

Presentations, photographs and the final delegate list are available on our [website](#).

Marine Nature Fund Policy Advisory Group meeting

Scottish Renewables' Marine Conservation Fund Policy Advisory Group met to discuss proposals from Marine Scotland on key benefits and principles, and ideas for projects of a marine nature fund.

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



Review of Marine Guidance Notes for Offshore Renewable Energy Installations

The Maritime & Coastguard Agency [is consulting on new guidance notes](#) for offshore renewable projects including a revised methodology for assessing the navigational safety and emergency response of Offshore Renewable Energy Installations. Please contact [Fabrice Leveque](#) with any comments.

ONSHORE RENEWABLES



Solar Member Forum

Our next Solar Forum will be held on Wednesday March 4, from 2-4pm in Scottish Renewables' office. Join us to hear updates on the work Scottish Renewables has been doing on your behalf, ask questions and raise issues.

Registration for this event is open through [Eventbrite](#).



Outcome of the Tretton Review

The conclusions of the [Tretton Review](#) were published in January following a two-year inquiry. The report sets out the options to be considered by Scottish Ministers and suggests that government reliefs for small-scale hydro should continue, rather than implementing proposed legislative changes put forward by industry representatives. [Read how we reacted to media here](#).

While this is a disappointing outcome, we will continue to engage with both industry and the Scottish Government to achieve the best possible result for the small-scale hydro sector. If you would like to discuss further, please contact [Cara Dalziel](#).

LOW-CARBON HEAT



Future of the Renewable Heat Incentive

The Scottish Parliament's Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee [has written to the UK Government](#) requesting clarity regarding the future of the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) after the issue was raised at an evidence session attended by Scottish Renewables. Separately, the Prime Minister confirmed that the UK Government is looking at

'successor schemes' [when asked about the scheme in Parliament](#) last month.

Heat Decarbonisation Programme

SR attended the Scottish Government's heat decarbonisation stakeholder group, where plans for an expanded programme of policy development were discussed.

As well as assessing the current evidence base officials will be exploring on-gas and off-gas policies, a net-zero carbon standard for new public buildings, the heat networks policy framework and long-term financing and market structures.

Please contact [Fabrice Leveque](#) to discuss.

ECONOMICS & MARKETS



Economics & Markets Forum

Our next Economics and Markets Forum will be held on February 12 and will look at what we can expect to see on the agenda post-election at Westminster, including a possible CfD review and Energy White Paper.

Members can [sign up to attend on Eventbrite](#).

Committee on Climate Change rates Scotland's progress

The Committee on Climate Change has [published its annual evaluation](#) of Scotland's progress in cutting climate emissions. Emissions fell 3% in 2017, compared to a 10% reduction in 2016, reflecting Scotland's first full coal-free year of power generation.

While the Committee welcomes Scotland's recent progress and new ambition to reach net-zero emissions by 2045, it warns that this will not be achieved without steps to reduce emissions immediately.

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