

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

 scottishrenewables
MONTHLY BRIEFING
OCTOBER 2020

Dear member,

While this week's announcement from the UK Government of a new 1GW target for floating wind, as well as a potential doubling of capacity in next year's CfD round, signal a strong future for our industry, we're still very much in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic.

You may have read that unfortunately the Scottish Green Energy Awards can no longer take place in person, so for the first time we'll be announcing this year's winners at a virtual ceremony on the evening of 26 November.



We've got lots of really exciting ideas already and many more in development to make sure that SGEA20 is still the best night of the year for the renewables industry in Scotland. The event is free to join, with an unlimited number of tickets [available to book via our website](#).

Back to offshore wind, and we're also looking towards our annual Offshore Wind Conference, which will be held virtually on January 26-27 in association with ORE Catapult. Event details will be announced later this month but please email Lisa Russell to hear about sponsorship opportunities in the meantime.

Lisa Russell
Events Manager

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GENERAL



Fiona Hyslop Green Recovery Roundtable

Fiona Hyslop, [Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture](#), was treated to a whirlwind tour of Scotland's renewable energy industry by [Scottish Renewables](#) members at a roundtable event this week. The session, chaired by Claire Mack, placed renewable energy at the heart of the green economic recovery from coronavirus and heard from 13 members and the SR team on three themes: renewable heat, infrastructure projects and skills and export.

Ms Hyslop highlighted that The Scottish Government values its close association with Scottish Renewables and its members and our close and effective collaboration on addressing key issues.

You can [read all about the event in this blog](#), which looks at member contributions and the Cabinet Secretary's responses.



Launching the Scottish Renewable Energy Festival 2020

The second [Scottish Renewable Energy Festival](#), which will be held from October 26 - November 6, was [launched in September](#). The event will shine a light on the projects, people and places leading the shift to a clean energy future.

The Festival gives a Scotland-specific platform for the renewables industry to showcase the businesses who're making change happen, as well as providing an opportunity for Scotland's politicians and media to highlight the hard work our industry does every day.

[This blog](#) explains the reason for the Festival and the steps we'd like you to take to make it a success. To discuss how your business can get involved and help us raise the profile of the industry at this difficult time, please [email Nick Sharpe](#).

Renewable Energy SME Summit with Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands

This virtual event, organised by Scottish Renewables for its members as part of the [Scottish Renewable Energy Festival](#), will provide an opportunity for SMEs in Scottish Renewables membership to speak with Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands.

Places at this member-only event, on October 28, are limited. If you would like to attend please briefly outline what you would like to discuss, including the required support your business needs from The Scottish Government, by email to [Ben Walker](#).



Meeting with Liz Smith MSP, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

Nick Sharpe and Ben Walker met with Liz Smith MSP, the newly-appointed Scottish Conservative Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, to provide an overview of how renewable energy is supporting Scotland's environment. Liz was particularly interested in how to keep creating green jobs, and also how we can ensure Scotland's planning system is fit for net-zero.



Scottish Green Energy Awards finalists announced

The [finalists](#) of this year's Scottish Green Energy Awards were announced in a press release on October 5, alongside [a video, featuring the SR team](#), outlining why the event was going fully virtual.

In the press release, Claire Mack said the shortlist "is always a source of pride for the industry – and never more so than in this extraordinary year".

You can read the rest of the release, including the shortlist, [on our website](#), and [view the video on our YouTube channel](#).

Media reaction: Green Investment Portfolio launch

Scottish Renewables worked with The Scottish Government to bring together a portfolio of green energy projects which are ready for investment. It launched on September 9.

[Responding](#), Claire Mack said: “We were pleased to work on behalf of industry with The Scottish Government on the preparation of the Green Investment Portfolio which is launched today, and look forward to further work as the portfolio develops.”

PLANNING & CONSENTS



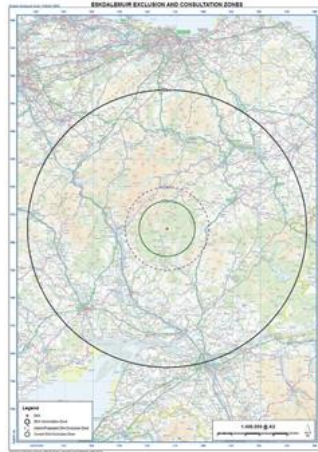
NatureScot LSA technical guidance consultation response

Scottish Renewables submitted a [response](#) to NatureScot's [consultation](#) on its draft technical guidance for Landscape Sensitivity Assessments.

We worked with Stephenson Halliday to prepare a response to the consultation on behalf of members. If you would like to discuss this please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#).

Consultation on housing and SPP: Chief Planner letter

Following a meeting with Scottish Renewables, the Chief Planner has issued a [letter](#) to all planning authorities clarifying the status of the current consultation on housing and the Scottish Planning Policy. This letter asserts that current policy remains in place until the Scottish Government announces its response to the consultation.



EWG Meeting Notes - 29 July 2020

Scottish Renewables, as a key member of the Eskdalemuir Working Group (EWG), is now hosting formal meeting minutes and relevant documents [on its website](#) on behalf of EWG. The first document features meeting minutes from 29 July 2020 and the relevant reports that were discussed.

For all enquiries related to the EWG please contact [Temeeka Linton](#), Onshore Wind Policy Manager, Energy and Climate Change Directorate, Scottish Government. Scottish Renewables can also speak to [Stephanie Conesa](#).

Eskdalemuir consultants' meeting

Due to member restrictions consultants are not able to participate in Eskdalemuir Working Group meetings. With this in mind, the Scottish Government is currently working to host a consultants' meeting in early October. This is an opportunity for SR members to discuss the work done so far and any wider thoughts they may have on this issue.

If you would like to participate in this meeting please get in touch with [Amy Keast](#) at the Scottish Government.

Key Agencies Planning Group: supporting a green recovery

The Scottish Government has published a [document](#) that summarises plans for the Key Agency Group to engage with planning authorities in support of a green recovery.

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

A National Mission with Global Impact

The Scottish Government has published its £24 billion draft [Infrastructure Investment Plan for Scotland 2021-22 to 2025-26](#). The consultation document includes £35 million investment for a new, open-access digital planning system for Scotland.



Provisions of the Coronavirus Act extended

The Scottish Government has announced that, subject to the agreement of Parliament, Part 1 of both Coronavirus Acts should be extended to March 31, 2021. This means that the provisions which extend the duration of planning permission are to be extended beyond the current expiry dates.

The "emergency period", as defined in both Acts, is due to expire on October 6, 2020, with the "extended period" due to expire on April 6, 2021. The regulations amend the expiry of the "emergency period" to March 31, 2021, and the "extended period" to September 30, 2021.

The regulations are available on the [legislation.gov.uk website](https://www.legislation.gov.uk). [The Industry Resilience Forum page of SR's website](#) is constantly updated as this type of information is received.

NatureScot regional distinctiveness meeting

NatureScot, formerly SNH, has offered to coordinate a discussion with Scottish Renewables' members on the issue of regionally-distinctive landscapes.

If you are interested in participating, please contact [Brendan Turvey](#) at NatureScot.

Assessing Impacts on Wild Land Areas: Technical Guidance

NatureScot's [Assessing Impacts on Wild Land Areas: Technical Guidance](#) has been published on the NatureScot website. It can also be [downloaded as a PDF](#).

This guidance should now be applied to new developments where relevant and replaces previous interim (2007) and consultation draft (2017) guidance. For well advanced schemes where NatureScot has already advised on the use of the 2017 draft guidance, NS encourages a discussion on its consideration rather than application. The new guidance does not change the general approach but is intended to be clearer and to clarify aspects of the 2017 guidance.

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

DPEA - retirement of Chief Reporter

Chief Reporter Paul Cackette, recently re-deployed to Outbreak Control Management, has made the decision to retire early with effect from January 8, 2021.

The interim Chief Reporter is Scott Ferrie. Steps for backfill will be taken in the Autumn.

OFFSHORE RENEWABLES



New floating wind target for UK and £160m of infrastructure support

The UK Government [has announced](#) a series of new measures to support offshore wind, including a new 1GW by 2030 floating wind target. The commitment to support a doubling of capacity in next year's CfD round is very welcome and was a major call made in [our submission to the CfD](#)

[consultation](#) earlier in the year. We look forward to seeing more details when the Government's full response is published.

Scottish ports with an interest in offshore wind should be aware of the new opportunity to [submit projects to BEIS](#) for funding support ahead of a deadline of October 30.

Find out what we said to the media about the announcements [on our website](#) or in [this BEIS press release](#), where Claire Mack is quoted, and [contact Ben Miller to discuss](#).

Submission to BEIS call for evidence on marine energy

Following industry discussions involving the Marine Energy Council and our members, we made a [submission](#) to the BEIS consultation on the potential of marine energy in Britain.

We look forward to seeing how this consultation feeds into the UK Government's response to the earlier CfD consultation and its Energy White Paper.



National Grid ESO Offshore Coordination Project

The ESO has [launched a consultation](#) on the initial findings of its work on offshore transmission. Key elements include its Cost Benefit Analysis of different coordinated options and a review of the technical capabilities that will be required.

This runs alongside the BEIS/Ofgem [Offshore Transmission Network Review](#), which SR will engage with on behalf of members. The ESO consultation runs until October 28, 2020. Contact [Ben Miller](#) to discuss this area of work.



Blog: The Future's Floating

Ahead of Floating Offshore Wind 2020, which is being held online on 7 & 8 October, we looked at the global picture for this rapidly-developing technology.

[This SR blog](#) says: "From the Prime Minister down, there is strong commitment inside the UK Government to offshore wind, with a clear role for floating offshore wind. In fact, proposals for giving floating offshore wind access to revenue support via the Contracts for Difference regime are now being worked up by civil servants."

[Read the blog on our website.](#)

Media reaction: Offshore workers survey

A survey by Friends of the Earth Scotland, Greenpeace and Platform last month found more than 75% of offshore workers surveyed said they would be willing to make the move to the renewable energy industry.

[Responding](#), Nick Sharpe, Director of Communications and Strategy at Scottish Renewables, said: "These findings echo those of a Scottish Renewables study in August which showed 80% of Scottish oil and gas workers have considered that their careers could be impacted by actions being taken to tackle climate change - and that more than three-quarters (77%) are positive about retraining to join the renewable energy industry."

Supply chain document refresh

[This document](#), produced last year, has helped SR and stakeholders show the positive impacts of the offshore wind industry on the Scottish supply chain.

We are refreshing the document for 2019-20, so please [get in touch with Nick](#) if you would like to support this work.

ONSHORE RENEWABLES



Battery storage consents: Chief Planner letter August 2020

On Thursday August 27 the Chief Planner issued a [letter](#) and [notification direction](#) which concerns the granting of energy consents and related planning permissions in Scotland. The letter also covers the use of Section 42 Applications related to development permitted by energy consents.

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

Consultation: Reviewing and Extending Permitted Development Rights in Scotland

The Scottish Government has published a [consultation paper](#) on its Phase 1 proposals for reviewing and extending Permitted Development Rights in relation to priority development types, including peatland restoration.

These changes are being prioritised to help support Scotland's green recovery from coronavirus and are designed to help deliver on key priorities, including tackling climate change and supporting remote and rural communities. This consultation closes November 12, 2020.

ECONOMICS & MARKETS



Extension to Feed-in Tariff deadline

Following a short consultation, BEIS has increased the six-month extension granted to all installations with initial accreditation deadlines falling between March 1 and September 30, 2020, to 12 months, as well as providing a 12-month extension to all hydro installations with initial accreditation deadlines falling on or after October 1, 2020. This reflects priorities highlighted in Scottish Renewables' [consultation response](#).

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

Consultation on new technologies eligible in Capacity Market

BEIS has launched an [open letter consultation](#) on technologies in the Capacity Market. The consultation seeks to identify emerging generating technologies, capable of contributing to security of supply but not already a Generating Technology Class, that may be eligible to participate in Capacity Market auctions. The consultation is open until October 30.

If you have any comments on the consultation, please send these to [Cara Dalziel](#) by October 12.



GRID & SYSTEMS



RIIO-2 Draft Determinations consultation response

Scottish Renewables' final submission to Ofgem's consultation on [RIIO-2 Draft Determinations](#) is [available](#) on our website. In our response we have highlighted the key issues that we believe must be resolved ahead of the Final Determinations in December to enable a network that supports net-zero.

If you would like to discuss our response or RIIO-2, contact [Cara Dalziel](#).

DSO Implementation Plan webinar

Policy Manager Cara Dalziel attended an Open Networks DSO Implementation Plan webinar on September 23. The webinar provided an overview of the DSO Implementation Plan interactive roadmap, as well as a discussion on how it has been used so far and what improvements could be made to future versions.

The DSO Implementation Plan interactive roadmap is [available](#) on the Energy Network Association's website. If you would like to discuss, please contact [Cara Dalziel](#).

RIIO-2 open meeting

A series of open meetings will be held in October to discuss network companies' responses to [Ofgem's Draft Determinations consultation](#), strategically discuss key areas of contention and raise areas for clarification ahead of Ofgem's Final Determination.

There will also be an opportunity for stakeholders to submit questions based on the themes of each meeting. If you would like to attend, you can register via [Eventbrite](#).



Ofgem meeting on Access and Forward-Looking Charges Review

Claire Mack and Cara Dalziel, along with RenewableUK, met with representatives from Ofgem's Electricity Network Charging & Access team on September 8.

The meeting focussed on progress with the Access and Forward-Looking Charges review for which the minded-to decision is due in November, as well as various code modifications impacting charging arrangements. If you would like to discuss, contact [Cara Dalziel](#).

Beginners Guide to Code Changes

In response to industry feedback, National Grid ESO has created a [Beginners Guide to Code Changes](#) webpage. The guide covers key information such as what codes the ESO looks after, how to get involved in the change process and how to raise a modification.

SPEN's DSO Strategy workshop

Policy Manager Cara Dalziel attended a workshop run by SPEN on its Distribution System Operator (DSO) strategy on September 30. The workshop focused on a discussion of the key objectives, actions, and enablers of DSO and how this would feed into SPEN's RIIO-ED2 plans.

If you would like to provide any feedback on SPEN's [DSO Strategy](#), you can complete the following [survey](#) which will be open until November 5.

Stability Pathfinder 2 - Expressions of interest

National Grid ESO has launched an [Expression of Interest](#) for the Stability Pathfinder Phase 2 service to meet stability needs in Scotland. For those wishing to participate, an [Expression of Interest form](#) must be submitted by 5pm, January 8, 2021, to box.networkdevelopment.roadmap@nationalgrideso.com.

National Grid ESO will also be holding a series of webinars to provide an overview of the service:

- Wed October 14, 1-2pm: [Expression of Interest Overview](#)
- Wed October 21, 1-2.30pm: [Technical Specification and Feasibility Study](#)
- Tue October 27, 2-3pm: [Assessment Methodology](#)

LOW-CARBON HEAT



New SR team member for heat and small-scale renewables

We are delighted that Helen Melone has joined us as Senior Policy Manager - Heat and Small Scale Renewables.

Previously a Policy and Research Officer for Energy Action Scotland, Helen brings a wealth of knowledge on the heat and fuel poverty agenda. Helen will be covering the policy areas of heat, hydrogen and CCUS in addition to looking after our solar members.

Please do take the opportunity to introduce yourself by emailing [Helen](#).

LCITP open for Expressions of Interest

The Low Carbon Infrastructure Transition Programme (LCITP) is now open for Expressions of Interest. A minimum £50 million of support will be targeted at projects that demonstrate innovative low-carbon heat solutions for buildings, as well as proposals for integrated energy systems that support the ambitions for Scotland to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045.

The closing date for receipt of [Expressions of Interest](#) is noon on November 13, 2020.

Low-Carbon Heat Conference

Our [Low-Carbon Heat Conference](#) was held online on September 24 and provided an opportunity for members to hear from leading experts in the sector.

To sign up for our Low-Carbon Heat Forum, [change your preferences on our website](#).

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