



LINK e-bulletin June 2011

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LINK DIARY

3 June	Networking Meeting/post-election discussion, Quaker Meeting House, Edinburgh
28 June	Board Meeting
30 August	AGM and Environmental Economics workshop
20 October	Board Meeting
17-18 Nov	LINK Congress and Strategic Planning
14 December	LINK Festive Reception

LINK NEWS

The Election Result: LINK Discussion, June 3rd, Edinburgh - this meeting will discuss LINK's new Governance Paper and also the outcome of the Scottish Parliamentary elections and likely impact on LINK and task force plans and strategies. All members and task forces are invited to send representatives to this important meeting in order to facilitate the broadest possible discussion of our strategy. Please contact [Kate](#) if you plan to attend.

New LINK Carbon Management Forum – LINK members who are working to address carbon efficiency and carbon management within in their organisations can now take part in a new Carbon Forum on the LINK website, which we hope will facilitate discussion and sharing of best practice within the network. If you or a colleague would like to take part, please visit LINK's secure members' website at <http://www.scotlink.org/members/phpBB/index.php> (Members' username Scotlink, password sc0t1and) and register with your full name and email address. *Please note that the username and password should not be shared with anyone outside the LINK network.*

Homecoming Legacy (Natural Scotland) Steering Group

The Parliamentary Officer attended this Group on 18th May. It is comprised of Government and Agency officials from all the relevant agencies and steers the themed "years" devised as a follow up to the "Year of Homecoming". Each year is to have a theme for the purpose of co-ordinated marketing of Scotland by Government and Agencies – and 2014 is to be the year of "Natural Scotland". The approximately £0.5m budget is for marketing initiatives, but they are keen to include the NGOs who actually hold lots of events related to the theme. It means, therefore, that if you are holding events in 2014 that you want "badged" with the national them, you might be able to benefit from co-ordinated publicity and marketing. If your LINK member organisation is interested please contact [Andy Myles](#) and he can give you a copy of the "basic pitch" he asked for (when it arrives).

Meeting with SEPA to discuss "Better Regulation".

LINK Representatives met with officials from SEPA and the Scottish Government on Thursday, 26th May to discuss the responses to SEPA's "Better Regulation" consultation. A fruitful conversation was had – both with regard to the nature of the responses, and to the options on the way forward (including the possibility of legislation to underpin new regulatory systems). Your Reps echoed the line of the LINK response and emphasised the need for independence of operations in the regulatory authority in order that it achieve the full trust of both "customers" and citizens. The meeting covered, in addition, the on-going LINK discussions on governance issues. For further information contact [Andy Myles](#).



[Public Goods and Agriculture in Scotland](#) – the fifth in the LINK Agriculture Taskforce’s File Notes on the CAP reform process. For the earlier File Notes please visit the [LINK website](#). If you would like to be included on the email circulation list contact enquiries@scotlink.org.

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MEMBER NEWS

Diarmid Hearn has been appointed as the new Head of Policy at the **National Trust for Scotland**.

[Moving on: Why flying less means more for business](#) – a new report from **WFF** which demonstrates that the latest conferencing technologies, such as videoconferencing are creating a culture change in working practices.

[Planners Must Take Action to Save Wildlife from Light Pollution](#) – **Buglife** has launched a new report about the impacts of emitted, polarised and reflected lights on invertebrates. The collation of the information available paints a very concerning picture of the damage that light pollution can cause to invertebrates and ecosystems.

[National Cycle Network App](#) – **Sustrans** has created a new app from their OS based online mapping facility, specifically designed to help people make more of their everyday journeys on foot or by bike. It includes 25,000 miles of route - including all 13,000 miles of award winning National Cycle Network and a further 12,000 miles of regional and local routes and links.

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OTHER NEWS

Scottish Government urged to measure what matters

A round table brought together by the Carnegie UK Trust has published a new report [More than GDP: Measuring what Matters](#), which develops ideas contained in the 2009 [Stiglitz Report](#) – which presented the findings from President Sarkozy’s *Commission on the measurement of economic performance and social progress* – and sets out how these ideas could be put into practice in Scotland. The round table argues that GDP, although an important indicator of progress, should be used as ‘one of a small select number of indicators used to track economic performance and social progress.’ The report praises the ‘ground-breaking work’ of the Scottish Government in setting a National Performance Framework (NPF) over 2007-2011, but suggests the NPF should be used as a ‘building block in helping Scotland go beyond GDP...by creating Scotland’s ‘GDP Plus’ dashboard of headline indicators.’

Scottish Green Awards

Nominations are now open for the Scottish Green Awards sponsored by Scottish Power which will take place on Thursday 29th September at the Glasgow Science Centre. Categories include Best Green Campaigner/Activist; Best Young Person Campaigner/Activist; Best Green PR Campaign; Outstanding Contribution to the Scottish Environment. Nominations should be submitted by 29th July at the [Green Awards website](#)

URBAN-NEXUS Project: The URBAN-NEXUS project due to start on 1st September 2011 aims to promote the sharing of knowledge between researchers, practitioners and policy-makers on key themes of climate change adaptation, health and quality of life and, sustainable land use. The project consortium comprises 10 European country partners and the European Networks:



Eurocities <http://www.eurocities.eu/main.php> and ICLEI <http://www.iclei.org/> For more about URBAN-NET see <http://www.urban-net.org/>

John Lewis offer free meeting room for local charities and community groups

John Lewis Glasgow is trialling a new community initiative that will provide a dedicated community room for use by charities and community organisations. The free resource will be available for events ranging from volunteer recruitment fairs and activity classes to regional meetings and staff training courses. The scheme will be run by the store's community liaison coordinator, who works with good causes in the local community. For more information, contact Rita McLean, community liaison coordinator, by telephoning 0141 353 7239.

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EVENTS AND SEMINARS

[Sir Patrick Geddes Commemorative Lecture 2011](#), 8 June, Edinburgh - Carolyn Steel, the architect and author of the book *Hungry City* will be giving the lecture on "Food and Cities" at the Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, The National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh.

[A celebration of forest culture and launch of a Thousand Huts](#) – 15th June, Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh. Reforesting Scotland celebrates the International Year of Forests with a memorable day of inspiring talks and discussions considering the past, present and future of forest culture in Scotland. Speakers include Lesley Riddoch, Andy Wightman, Mandy Haggith, Prof Chris Smout.

[Investing in Scotland's Voluntary Heritage Sector Workshop](#) - Wednesday 15th June 2011, Queen Ann Room, Edinburgh Castle 10am - 2pm. In partnership with Historic Scotland, BEFS is holding a FREE workshop to discuss Historic Scotland's future investment in the voluntary sector that manages and promotes Scotland's historic environment. Historic Scotland is keen to develop a more strategic approach to how it invests in this sector. Please reply to info@bef.org.uk 0131 220 6241, giving name, job title and organisation and contact details. RSVP by 5pm Tuesday 7th June.

[IUCN 'Investing in Peatlands - Delivering Multiple Benefits' Conference](#), University of Stirling, 20th - 22nd June 2011

[EMPOWERING SCOTLAND: Maximising the Potential of Public Assets for Low Carbon Energy](#) - 21 June, Aberdeen. Organised by SCDI, COSLA, SLAED and Aberdeen City Council. Following the decision by the UK Government in August 2010 to allow councils to sell renewable electricity to the grid, the conference will discuss the potential opportunities for councils, the wider public sector and their private and community partners in generating renewable energy.

[Green Economy Week in Scotland](#) – 21-23rd June. Organised by Business Council for Sustainable Development – UK. Various workshops.

[Citizen Science: public involvement in monitoring the natural environment](#) – SNH Sharing Good Practice Event, Tuesday 5th July 2011 Battleby Conference Centre

[SCVO How to do things differently Roadshow](#) - Various dates. These roadshows will provide practical information to help organisations make the most of new opportunities. You'll also have the chance to network with other third sector organisations in your area. Workshops include: Community Jobs Scotland, Fundraising, Renewable energy and SCIOs: A new legal structure for charities.

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PUBLICATIONS

[Governing the Future - The Opportunities for Mainstreaming Sustainable Development](#) -

The final report of the Sustainable Development Commission (SDC) provides guidance to help Governments – current and future – with the challenge of mainstreaming sustainable development.

[A Better Route: Mainstreaming the Green Economy](#) – periodical from the Green Alliance. This issue outlines options available to policy-makers if they want to make green a driver of growth.

[European Nitrogen Assessment: Sources, Effects and Policy Perspectives](#) – from NinE. Why curbing nitrogen emissions is a central environmental challenge for the twenty-first century.

[The Windpower](#) – an online database of wind turbines and windfarms. [Map](#) of windfarms in Europe.

[Workshop Guidance Notes for Community Engagement in Climate Change](#) – part of the A9 Climate change in the central highlands including templates of all activity worksheets and advice on planning and arranging the workshops plus copies of presentations used at each of the workshops.

[Outdoor events in Scotland: guidance for organisers and land managers](#) – a guide from SNH for event organisers, land managers and public bodies to help them plan and manage events in Scotland that are based on active outdoor recreation, such as walking, running, cycling, horse riding and canoeing.

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CONSULTATIONS

[UK Government Red Tape Challenge](#) – online consultation exercise to reduce “unnecessary” regulation. Dates for individual sectors are:

9 June	Equalities
30 June	Health and Safety
14 July	Manufacturing
28 July	Healthy living and social care
11 Aug	Media and creative services
1 Sep	Environment
15 Sep	Employment
29 Sep	Children’s services
13 Oct	Rail and Merchant Shipping
27 Oct	Utilities and energy

[Code of Practice for Deer Management – Draft for Public Consultation](#) - SNH, with input from stakeholders, has produced a draft Code of Practice on Deer Management for public consultation. The Code is a key part of the deer provisions in the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011. The consultation will run from Tuesday 10th May until Friday **1st July 2011**.

[UK Parliamentary Scottish Affairs Committee - Inquiry into the Crown Estate in Scotland](#)

During its inquiry to the Scotland Bill, the Scottish Affairs Committee received a significant amount of evidence, which identified a number of concerns and issues in relation to the administration of the Crown Estate in Scotland. On 17 February 2011 the Committee announced



that it would conduct an inquiry in to the Crown Estate in Scotland, and that terms of reference would be published in due course. The Committee welcomes written evidence from interested parties on any, or all, aspects of the inquiry by **10 June 2011**. Should you wish to submit written evidence after this date, please contact Committee staff. The Committee will be arranging public oral evidence sessions, and details of these will be announced in due course. Submissions should be in Word or rich text format and sent by e-mail to scotaffcom@parliament.uk .

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IUCN (LINK is a member International Union for Conservation of Nature)

European Red Lists - IUCN is currently working on new European Red Lists (species identified as at high risk of extinction) for Freshwater Fish, which will include all freshwater fish species native to Europe or naturalised in Europe before 1500 AD; for Vascular Plants which will consist of a selection of 2,000 plant species, including crop wild relatives, policy species (e.g. species protected under global or regional legislation) and aquatic species; and for Molluscs which will include all freshwater molluscs and a selection of terrestrial species. More details about the project [here](#)

[Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy newsletter](#)

[Commission on Environmental Law bulletin](#)

IUCN Member Pulse

For copies of IUCN documents which aren't linked, contact [Kate](#)

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Stop Climate Chaos Scotland Latest

On 9th May, 23 senior representatives from the SCCS coalition [delivered a giant postcard](#) to the new Scottish Government urging them to turn manifesto promises into political reality and to make action on climate change a priority for the next five years. Read a copy of the SCCS's letter to the incoming government [here](#).

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Vacancies

[Scottish Environment LINK Office Administrator](#) - Parliamentary Office, Edinburgh - Part-time, 21 hours per week. We are seeking an Office Administrator, based at LINK's Parliamentary Office in Edinburgh, to provide administrative support to LINK's parliamentary function. The successful applicant will have excellent administrative and organisational skills together with experience of events co-ordination and a good understanding of IT systems. Salary: £16,500 - £17,500 pro rata. Closing date: **Monday, 20th June**

[Chair of BEFs](#) - Please apply if you have a passion for Scotland's places, excellent strategic, organisational, interpersonal, communication skills and enjoy working with a focussed, motivated small team. Applications require a BEFS Trustee or a Member Representative to nominate an



applicant; please forward completed nomination form, which will be acknowledge by [email](#) or by post to: The Company Secretary, BEFS, 9 Manor Place, Edinburgh, EH3 7DN
Closing date for applications: 30 June 2011, at 12noon
Interview date: Week commencing 25 July 2011, in Edinburgh
Informal Discussion: For an informal discussion about the post please contact BEFS' office by [email](#) or 0131 220 6241 to arrange a meeting with Robin Burley MBE, current chairman of BEFS.

[SEPA Board members wanted](#) - The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) is looking for at least 2 new members to join its Agency Board. The new appointees will bring skills that complement existing Board members in supporting SEPA's environmental priorities. These include delivering a streamlined environmental regulation system for Scotland, state of the art environmental science, strong partnerships across the public sector and excellent customer services. The time commitment is approximately 24 days a year at a daily rate of £270.90 and the successful candidates will take up post in January 2012. These appointments will be for four years with the possibility of a further term, subject to evidence of effective performance and satisfying the skills, knowledge and personal qualities required on the Board at the time of re-appointment. Closing date 24 June.

[Member of the Committee for Scotland – Heritage Lottery Fund](#) - We are now seeking to appoint a new Committee Member for Scotland. The Committee for Scotland makes decisions on grants between £50,000 and £1 million. The Committee also provides a crucial country perspective to the Board on larger grants, on applications within targeted programmes and on the funding priorities for Scotland. Members meet people involved in heritage projects, represent HLF at openings and events and act as an advocate for the value of heritage to modern life in Scotland. We welcome interest from people who have a sound knowledge of the natural environment, biodiversity and landscapes and who can demonstrate they can apply their skills to, and have enthusiasm for, the role. Closing date is 6th June.

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If you would like to see news, information or upcoming events from your organisation featured in LINK's monthly bulletin, please contact [Kate](#) at Scottish Environment LINK.

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