







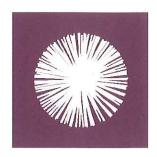




BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION (Scotland)







The voice of Scotland's environment movement







SCNP





FRIENDS OF THE EARTH SCOTLAND

























Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust













trans

the sustainable transport charity



Scottish Wild Land Group



Annual Report

June 2001—May 2002 and

Summary of Accounts 1 April 2001—31 March 2002







What is LINK?

Scottish Environment LINK is the focus for liaison between Scotland's voluntary sector environmental organisations, with over 30 member bodies representing a broad spectrum of environmental interests with the common goal of contributing to a more environmentally sustainable society.

Established in 1987, LINK provides a forum and network for its member organisations, facilitating information exchange, enabling informed debate, and assisting co-operation within the voluntary environmental sector. LINK also seeks to assist communication between member bodies, government and its agencies and civic society. Acting at local, national and international levels, LINK aims to ensure that the Scottish environment is fully recognised and considered at each stage of legislative procedure when policy is being framed.

Regular LINK publications

The *LINK Newsletter*, published quarterly for member bodies and the network of Supporters and Subscribers, carrying reviews of recent work and information on initiatives by member bodies and guest contributors.

Holyrood Highlighter, a weekly digest of Scottish Parliamentary news relating to environmental issues in Scotland.

Management Team 2001-2002

Chairman

Rear Admiral Neil E Rankin CB CBE

Vice Chairman Treasurer Lloyd Austin David Downie

Joan Geddes

Members

Ian McCall

John Mayhew

Lorna Main

Staff

Manager

Jen Anderson

Deputy Parliamentary Alice Walsh

Parliamentary

Jessica Pepper Andy Colledge

IT & Administration Information & Policy Support

Rosalind Pearson Steven Gardner

Fundraising Policy Support

Betsy King

LEARN Project Officer

Ruth Anderson to December 2001 Gill Calder from November 2001

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Chairman's Foreword



Neil Rankin CB CBE

Another busy reporting period for Scottish Environment LINK. One of this year's priorities was to work with others outside of LINK in civic society to promote the sustainable development agenda and this was successfully progressed through two important LINK-managed conferences, "Making Links - Citizens and Sustainability" and "Managing to be Sustainable" (which has initiated what we hope will be a productive engagement with SMEs and industry). Both were run in partnership with other public and private sector bodies and were well supported. Further on in this Report you will notice LINK's multifarious involvement and influence in environmental matters and this has only been possible through the active participation of the membership. The added value of working together - whether it be within such diverse areas as Task Forces, Public Inquiries, liaison with the Scottish Executive, or even over joint submissions and representations to the Scottish Parliament - seems to be increasingly effective.

We continue actively to promote liaison and constructive exchanges with Ministers and officials in the Scottish Executive; frequent ministerial changes make this an important aspect of LINK's business. Participation at the European Union level has been constrained by restricted staff time and competing higher priorities within the UK. Nevertheless, we are progressing our EU agenda through seminars and contacts in, and with, Brussels; you should notice an increased amount of reporting and information on our website.

If success was to be measured in terms of staff workload then LINK has enjoyed an extremely

successful year! As our views on environmental business and active participation are sought ever more often, so are our limited resources becoming increasingly stretched, to the extent that work is necessarily prioritised at a much higher level than we would like. That said, what we do achieve is largely due to the dedication of our staff and the willing contribution of our members, whose increased subscriptions provide Link with a necessary degree of financial independence and unfettered operation. I would like also to record LINK's appreciation of the significant funds and support we receive from a variety of organizations - too many to mention individually and to our members for their acceptance of a second year's increase in subscriptions. Our aim is to ensure that, through LINK's environmental representation on your behalf, you receive value for money, and that you derive as much pleasure and satisfaction from being associated with LINK as the team does from providing the service and facilities which you so admirably support. Thank you.

Mil Rankin

Neil E Rankin CB CBE LINK Chair