

**Thursday 6 March, Rosebery House, Haymarket, Edinburgh**

**Attending from LINK:** Anne McCall, Ian McCall, Calum Duncan, Andrea Johnstonova

**Attending from CoSLA:** James Fowlie Team Leader Environment and Regeneration (E&R); Kathy Cameron Policy Manager E&R; Kristin Miller Policy Officer E&R; and Jenny Watson Parliamentary Liaison and European Issues.

**Key Actions:**

1. CoSLA staff explained their structure and approach which was useful. They have six Executive Groups and a number of Task Groups (similar to LINK) made up of Councilors (for the Executive Groups) and Councilors plus Officers for the Task Groups.

They said that whilst these groups were not always particularly enthusiastic about presentations, they did seem to like papers which individuals then talked to.

The staff at CoSLA have also started organising special briefing sessions (only one so far) and were intending to do more which LINK or it's member bodies might be able to take part in.

2. Specifically they indicated that the FTF might want to present a paper to the CoSLA Flooding Bill Task Group.

3. Ian McCall discussed Landscape issues and implications arising from the Single Outcome Agreements. CoSLA staff encouraged the LTF to consider what indicators could be developed to ensure that landscape is considered as part of this process and invited the LTF to present ideas to the CoSLA Regeneration and Sustainable Development Executive Group.

In general it would seem sensible for LINK to think about reviewing the Single Outcome Agreements once the Scottish Government has considered them and 'approved' them - which will happen over the next three months. The review should focus on identifying which indicators are missing and what we could/should do to address this.

4. In terms of planning, we discussed the apparently co-ordinated attack on the system by CBI, SCDI, STUC and the Chambers of Commerce and the extent to which members of CoSLA might try to rebutt this. We also discussed the recent SNH planning review report.

**AMcC** will circulate the SNH Planning Review Report to other LINK members for views.

5. Calum raised marine issues. Jenny indicated that she would send information about the East Scotland European Consortium and the Conference of the P..... (missed this) Maritime Region. Kristin indicated that as Alison Hay is an Argyll and Bute Councillor, she would be interested in developments.

6. Kristin indicated that she would like to discuss Climate Change policy and proactive action that CoSLA would like to take. Alison Hay is apparently very keen to push action for energy saving, travel to work etc.

**Clifton/Dan** - would you get in touch with them to discuss? [kristen@cosla.gov.uk](mailto:kristen@cosla.gov.uk)

7. CoSLA asked whether LINK's Chair could meet with Alison Hay (Councilor Argyll and Bute) and CoSLA spokesperson for the R&SD Exec Group, and arrangements are now being made.

8. CoSLA indicated that LINK would be welcome to submit ideas and issues which could be presented to their Exec Group and to keep these coming.

9. Representations to the CoSLA Task Groups were welcomed, e.g. on Planning, Flooding, Landscape etc.