

LINK Members' eBulletin November 2008

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LINK NEWS

LINK Congress and Forward Planning Meeting, 30-31 October

Thank you to all our speakers and participants - we had useful discussions over the two days, and notes and action points will be circulated shortly.

LINK Recruitment for Parliamentary Officer

The position has been advertised widely and candidates will be short-listed for interview at the end of November.

Wales Environment Link Work Plans

Summary of Wales Environment Link's eight [Working Groups' Work Plans](#) for 2008-09. The Climate Change Working Group was set up very recently and its Work Plan is not yet ready for circulation.

Wildlife and Countryside Link Quarterly Report

[Summary of WCL's work during July-September](#) covering its eight Working Groups and Taskforces

Commission on Scottish Devolution - Oral Evidence 10 October

LINK Board Member, [Lloyd Austin \(RSPB\)](#) gave oral evidence on behalf of LINK as part of the review of the experience of devolution in Scotland

Other News

Modernisation of the planning system

Scottish Government's [press release](#) announcing that the current suite of Scottish Planning Policies is to be streamlined, and statements of policy on a number of themes will be published in Spring 2009.

This means that the Scottish Government will not be issuing a consultation draft of SPP 14 Landscape and Natural Heritage - these issues will be incorporated into the spring statements.

Outline Planning Permission Given for Golf Course and Resort at Menie Estate

[Report of the Public Local Inquiry](#) and other relevant information

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Events and Seminars

12 November

Invitation to LINK Members

Tomintoul

Public events to debate the issues raised in the RSE report Future of Scotland's Hills and Islands.

Royal Society
Edinburgh

More details from [Dr Marc Rands](#), Evidence and Advice Manager, RSE, telephone 0131 240 5033

13-14 November SSN Sustainable Scotland Network Annual Conference 'Accounting for

Annual Conference	Sustainable Development’.
Dynamic Earth Edinburgh	The conference is aimed principally at local government officers and elected members responsible for financial management, procurement, climate change and sustainable development. More information or to book a place.
14 November 7pm - 1am Edinburgh	Invitation to LINK Members Friends of the Earth Scotland's 30th Birthday Celebration Ceilidh. Starring Hud Yer Wheest and friends Roxy Art House, Roxburgh Place, Edinburgh EH8 9EB
20-21 November Findhorn Ecovillage, Forres	Food Security: a Bioregional Response A UNITAR Training Seminar (United Nations Institute of Training and Research Associated Training Centre). Keynote speakers are Richard Lochhead MSP, the Soil Association Scotland and the Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society. Presentations by the Slow Food UK Movement, Sustain and Scotland’s Farmers’ Markets. Participants will also experience Findhorn’s community supported agriculture scheme, EarthShare. Book on-line or visit www.cifalfindhorn.org
25 November SNH, Battleby	SNH Sharing Good Practice Place for life: environment, health and well-being. Book with Lily Stanley or telephone 01738 458555
26 November The Hub, Edinburgh	Energy Efficiency in Traditional Buildings A one day seminar looking at technical issues and current research. Historic Scotland Technical Conservation Group. Details from Graeme McKirdy
27 November Glasgow, venue tbc 9.15 — 1.30 lunch included	An Introduction to Corporate Responsibility A lunchtime seminar-workshop by the Scottish Business in the Community. Further information or to register your attendance please contact Christiana Bardolf-Smith on 0131 451 1100 or email events@sbcscot.com
29 November 7.30pm Stirling Scottish Wild Land Group - AGM	The Scottish Wild Land Group's post-holders are standing down at their AGM and the organisation will be wound up if no successor volunteers come forward. Everything is going well and a hand-over period is planned. After the usual business, if there are no new nominations for the postholders then a motion will be proposed to wind up the group. If approved, all remaining

assets would be distributed to charities with like-minded aims.

For more information contact **Alistair Cant**, Co-ordinator, telephone 0131-229 2094.

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LINK Diary 2008

- November 11** LINK Ministerial Meeting, Edinburgh. Email **Jen** for details.
Autumn TBC LINK Strategy Workshop with Bruce Britton. Venue TBC.
- Autumn TBC** Possible LINK Workshop on SEA. Venue TBC.
Autumn TBC Possible LINK Workshop on National Parks Review. Venue TBC.
- December TBC** LINK Workshop on Management of Task Force Workload.
Venue TBC.
- December 17** Festive Evening Reception, St Augustine's Church, Edinburgh.
- 2009**
- January 22** Board meeting, am. Board and Convenors/Members
Networking pm. Perth.
- February 23-27** LINK Scottish Environment Week, Holyrood.
- April 23** Board meeting, am. Board and Convenors/Members Networking
pm.
- June 25** Board meeting, am. Board and Convenors/Members Networking
pm.
- October 22** Board meeting, am. Board and Convenors/Members Networking
pm.

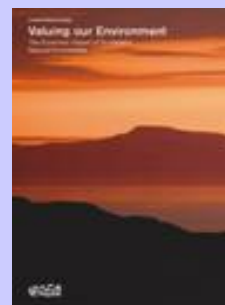
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Publications Received

Valuing our Environment. The Economic Impact of Scotland's Natural Environment.

This publication summarises research carried out by a partnership including LINK and led by SNH.

The research calculated for the first time the economic impact of Scotland's natural environment as well as identifying wider benefits of the environment to businesses and the economy.



SHEP Consolidated Volume and publication of Ministerial Policy on Listing and Listed Building Consent. Published in electronic form only.

The Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) was a series of free-standing publications (SHEPs 1 to 5) published between 2006 and 2008).

Ministers' finalised policies on Historic Battlefields and the Marine Historic Environment will be included in future versions. The SHEP will continue to be developed and revised as necessary.

Please give any comments on the format or content of the new consolidated SHEP, so that they can be considered in the design of the next version of the SHEP to **Dr Gordon J Barclay**, Head of National Policy



SCVO has published a **briefing for the sector on the current financial crisis** and progression of the economic down-turn.

This is a developing document, so if there is any further information or developments you would like to highlight, please contact **Sarah Beattie-Smith**, Campaigns Assistant or telephone the SCVO Information Service on 0800 169 0022.



Marine Conservation Society's Report **Silent Seas**

The report calls for urgent action that must be taken by government, industry and individuals to ensure that our seas never fall silent or still.



Royal Society of Edinburgh Report of the Committee of Inquiry into the **Future of Scotland's Hills and Islands**



Historic Environment Advisory Council for
Scotland **Annual Report 2007-08**

