

The LINK Newsletter

The quarterly update from Scottish Environment LINK
Autumn 2006



LINK

Scottish Environment Week 2007

Planning is underway for Scottish Environment Week 2007. Remember to put the dates in your diary: 5 - 11 February 2007. We aim to build on the successes of the past two years and create an exciting and varied programme that raises the profile of Scotland's environment and promotes environmental sustainability. The general theme of the week will be "Quality of Life", with the aim of interweaving social, economic and environmental aspects.

There are opportunities for you to get involved.

- Are you (or your organisation) holding an event between 5 and 11 February that fits with the theme and aims of Scottish Environment Week and could be included in the programme?
- Are you involved in a project or enterprise that supports environmental sustainability? Would you be interested in hosting a visit from an MSP or Councillor?

This year we are planning a public event at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh on the evening of 1 February. LINK Supporters and Subscribers are very welcome. It will be ticketed so please look out for further information on the website nearer the time.

For further information please contact Alex or Jane on 0131 225 4345, or email alex@scotlink.org. Visit www.scotlink.org for information on the 2007 Week as it becomes available.

Members' Congress 2006

LINK 5th Annual Members' Congress was held on 24 and 25 November on the theme *Scotland, the best small country in the world?* LINK commissioned a report from journalist Ed Douglas to start off discussions, which is available from the LINK website. The report looked at some of the areas where Scotland is successful and where the challenges ahead lie, and how we can learn from other countries' experience.

Ed Douglas's presentation was followed by a European perspective from Paul McAleavey, of the European Environment Agency. Paul is a native Scot, and formerly worked closely with the previous European Environment Commissioner Margot Wallstrom. A panel discussion with the audience followed, chaired by Peter Burman of the National Trust for Scotland, which drew out positive ideas and approaches from the wide range of talents and disciplines taking part. The panel included Ian McCall (Ramblers Association Scotland), Tom Brock (Scottish Seabird Centre) Maf Smith (Sustainable Development Commission), joined by Paul McAleavey and Ed Douglas.

Michael Scott, in his role as a LINK Honorary Fellow, summed up the afternoons discussions. Energy consumption had been a key issue for everybody. Michael considered that the environmental NGOs need to provide leadership like never before, and work with all like-minded organisations to be ready with ideas, options and innovative solutions.

An attractive element year on year are the relaxation therapy sessions provided Alison Robb and her colleagues from the Heilan Hands cooperative at the end of the days business, while others relaxed catching up with friends and colleagues in the bar, before a hearty dinner based on local, seasonal and organic food.

The following morning, LINK members caught up with the Holyrood **everyone** election campaign, to be launched the following week. The main focus of Saturday was Sustainable Tourism, with one of the purposes being to provide ideas for Bob Aitken, LINK's delegate on the Sustainable Tourism Partnership. With the aid of Drennan Watson, Dan Barlow and Bill Wright, who facilitated group discussions there was plenty of food for thought for Bob Aitken, and Tom Brock, who chairs the Partnership to take forward. LINK is grateful to Perth & Kinross Council for supporting the Congress, and to the Craignish Trust for a grant to cover the costs of the report.

Holyrood Elections Campaign

LINK's hardworking Campaign Delivery Team, assisted by co-ordinator Ylva Haglund, has worked with the communication agency Leithal Thinking to launch the campaign on 30 November. The campaign asks for:

Green Networks for people and wildlife: pollution free, safe walking and cycling networks to all schools and public centres, with links to well managed wildlife-rich places.

Measures to tackle climate change and fuel poverty: green technologies in all public buildings and in 40,000 Scottish homes by 2010.

Better protection and management of Scotland's nature: a Marine Bill for Scotland; new legislation for protecting landscape; and more funding to help halt the loss of species in Scotland.

Healthy sustainable food in Scotland's schools and hospitals: 75% of food should be unprocessed, 50% locally sourced, 30% organic.

There are many ways for supporting organisations to engage. Ylva will be in touch with all signatory bodies to think about which of their forthcoming events and press activities could be linked to the campaign and other ways to take part. The campaign website, www.everyonecan.org is now live. If you would like to support the issues the campaign raises please check out the website to see how you can get involved.

Renewable Energy Policy

The Scottish Executive's consultation on the draft Scottish Planning Policy 6: Renewable Energy (SPP6) was welcomed by LINK, who held a workshop in September involving members of LINK's Climate, Landscape and Planning task forces to determine LINK's response. Through our 2 delegates on the Environmental Advisory Forum on Renewable Energy LINK was involved in the pre-consultation discussions to develop it, and recognised the complexity and often competing demands made by the many issues which SPP6 has to address.

The response focused on issues on which members shared views and concerns including the importance of SPP6 linking explicitly to complementary strategies, policies and targets for

reducing demand and enhancing energy efficiency, since the current trend of increasing demand would otherwise undermine progress to be achieved by renewables. LINK welcomed recognition of the potential range of technologies and supported the proposal to meet 2020 targets through a mix of these technologies. The response welcomed the positive approach to micro-renewables, although with more ambitious targets, which increase as time goes on.

LINK considers the SPP does not answer major concerns relevant to the task it sets to local authorities. LINK and other stakeholders has called on the Executive to set out an overall Scottish Energy Strategy for the medium to longer term. This would inform and guide development relevant to energy considerations; for example the effect of technologies in the marine environment on the expected contribution from onshore technologies is key to planning for the short to medium term. In LINK's view, the SPP6 should be clear about the Executive's role and timescales for determining these factors. Within that context LINK welcomes the intention that local contributions towards national targets will be determined by local authorities in consultation with others.

Within the context of a Scottish Energy Strategy, LINK encourages incorporation of the energy hierarchy adopted in the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Scottish Climate Change Programme into SPP6 to rationalise the policy approach which planning authorities take. The hierarchy sets out different options for delivering carbon reductions with measures like energy conservation, avoidance and efficiency at the top, having least risk of adverse social and environmental impact, and macro-renewables grid-based generation at the bottom. This approach could readily be adopted by local authorities when producing their strategies and policies.

The response welcomes the 'areas of search' approach and the requirement for indicating areas where specific onshore windfarm developments should be avoided. LINK considers natural heritage, landscape, and historic environment provisions should be strengthened. With respect to the ongoing debate on the electricity grid network, LINK is concerned that the policy not prioritise potentially 'bad' schemes over 'good', due to proximity. The full response is on the LINK website.

News and Views from Members

The next four pages contain articles from LINK member bodies and guest contributors

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park - an update

Bob Aitken, LLTNP Board Member

The last few months have seen a good deal of action within the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority. As LINK members may well have noticed from the press, in July we had a change in the leadership team, with Councillor Gillie Thomson and Sir Peter Hutchison, who had laid the foundations for the Authority's work as first Convener and Deputy, stepping down.

Mike Cantlay and David Hughes-Hallett were elected to the vacant posts. Both are 'nationally appointed' members. Mike, one of the younger Board members, is a businessman with diverse interests in tourism retailing, raised and resident in Callander. He has an extensive record of public service as Chair of Forth Valley Enterprise and now Forth Valley College, as well as Vice-Chair of VisitScotland, service recognised by the award of an Honorary Doctorate from Stirling University.

David needs no introduction to older members of LINK; he was very actively involved with the development of LINK in earlier days when he headed the Scottish Wildlife Trust. Since then he has been a freelance consultant, and has also served on SEPA and on SNH's East Board.

The new team have brought fresh energy and vision to the Park Authority at a time when we are heavily committed to finalising the revision of our Park Plan for submission to the Minister by the end of the year. Everyone on the Authority recognises the Plan as the fundamental platform for future action, particularly on some of the thornier management problems that face the Park area. Some of the Park's recent achievements, such as launching Scotland's first electric boat on Loch Lomond and opening a new cycle route from Tarbet south to Balloch, are in some degree the product of initiatives originating prior to the Park's statutory existence, or the empirical fruits of wider partnerships. From here on we have to identify and realise our own agenda.

Bob Aitken is always happy to provide LINK members with more information on the work of the Park Authority.

Scottish Native Woods – an update

Gordon Gray Stephens, Director SNW

Scottish Native Woods' priorities are the restoration and expansion Scotland's native woodlands, and the encouragement of vibrant and sustainable links between woods and people. We work towards these priorities in a number of ways:

Promoting native woodland conservation by providing management advice and support to woodland occupiers Scottish Native Woods concentrates on the management of existing native woodlands. By the end of last year our cumulative figure for the area brought into management or expansion schemes was over 6,600 hectares/16,000 acres. The occupiers of these hectares include a very diverse mixture: over 20 community groups, some of the largest estates in Scotland, tenant farmers, crofters, and people who have bought a bit of woodland and now want to know how best to manage it.

Progress this year has been slowed by the withdrawal of the Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme in April, and we still await confirmation of details of the new scheme (although the rumour is that this will not be till next Autumn!).

Increasing awareness of the values of native woodlands Scottish Native Woods work in a number of ways to achieve this. We are in the process of publishing our first national newsletter (contact enquiries@scottishnativewoods.org.uk or phone 01887 820392 for a copy), and our revised website (scottishnativewoods.org.uk) was active from the end of October. Increasing awareness lends itself well to partnership working, and recently this has included events looking at the pros and cons of bracken with Forest Research, riparian management with the Conon Fisheries Board, and work on Aspen with the Highland Aspen Group, and Trees for Life.

Strengthening the contribution of native woodlands to the Scottish people We estimate that the area of native woodland Scottish Native Woods brought into management last year will contribute over £1m, mostly in grant based income, and mostly spent locally.

In the last year we have been involved in five successful **Woodlands In and Around Town** schemes, which aim to bring the benefits of native woodlands to the towns. Over the last two years we have installed or upgraded over 30kms of paths, helping to deliver Scottish Executive targets for health and well-being, but also making sure that this is done appropriately, and in native woodlands: the best place to go for a walk!

For those wanting to do more than walk, we have been developing a programme to encourage folk to get more involved in the management of local woodlands. Most recently, this has involved participation in the BBC Breathing Spaces programme, and a series of volunteer days at Balgownie Wood in Fife.

Ten Years of Paths For All – on the right track!

Ian Findlay, Paths for All Partnership

On 19 September 2006 the Paths for All Partnership was 10 years old. The Partnership, which now comprises 20 organisations representing relevant public sector and national representative bodies, was set up to facilitate the development and promotion of path networks.

The extent of positive change which has taken place during this time for people enjoying and managing the outdoors has been significant and very encouraging – partly as a consequence of the Partnership’s activities. Ten years ago there was a severe shortage of paths that could be used by the public with confidence. Most were not signposted and there was little information on where people could walk, cycle and ride. Physical barriers and deterring signs restricted access, often arising from land managers’ concerns and sometimes due to irresponsible behaviour; and there was generally a very low priority given to access provision.

A decade on and Scotland is well and truly on the right track to being a leader in outdoor access provision. We now have some of the most progressive access legislation in Europe, based on the principles of everyone being responsible for their own actions, respecting the interests of others and caring for the environment.

Outdoor access is now ‘mainstream’ in terms of delivering a wide range of public benefits in particular in relation to health and well-being,

sustainable transport, strengthening communities and economic development. One shining example of this is the Partnership’s Paths to Health initiative. This programme aims to improve the nation’s health and well-being by encouraging sedentary people to become more active. One GP has referred to Paths to Health as the “best buy in public health”!

Huge advances have been made in making the outdoors more accessible and welcoming. There are many more paths now accessible to a wider range of people, regardless of their age or ability. Big strides forward have taken place to ensure that paths are ‘fit for purpose’ and satisfy community needs. All 32 local authorities and the two national park authorities now have operational Local Access Forums. Crucially, there are significantly more resources being devoted to creating, promoting and managing path networks. For example, 10 years ago there were only three Access Officers in Scotland, now there are 83.

However, the job is not yet complete. The Partnership’s vision is for a Scotland of active communities where each community has access to well-used path networks to satisfy their needs and aspirations. The Partnership is proud of its 10 year contribution to the progress that has been made in fulfilling this vision, and recognises that further hard work is required to consolidate and build on this growth. Paths for All Partnership eagerly anticipates the challenges of the next 10 years.

Countryside Rangers – it’s time to up their profile

Toni Clark, SCRA Development Officer

A riddle: What is the connection between inquisitive bairns, health-conscious grannies, carrion-eating birds of prey and overflowing toilets?

An Answer: Throughout Scotland there is a breed of versatile individuals who tackle aspects of life (and death) such as these as part of their normal working days. You may have already spent time in their company hearing wild and woolly stories of your local area or countryside, or benefited from walking, riding or running on paths they help keep in a safe condition. If you have, you will know you were in the company of one of Scotland’s 250 or so Countryside Rangers.

They can be found in parks and at countryside sites from Shetland to Selkirk, Stornoway to Stonehaven, as well as, for the less fortunate few, at local council offices. You may have heard of them referred to as wardens, recreation rangers, ranger-naturalists, park rangers or countryside rangers and there are many others doing similar jobs – you’ll know who they are.

What is their role? How do they use their wide-ranging talents, local knowledge and contagious enthusiasm for our valuable green and open spaces? Amongst them they have a huge range of skills – communicating with the public, partnership working, conflict management, ecological knowledge, survey methods, species identification...

And importantly, how can you find one when you actually want one? Rangers are employed by a variety of organisations including local authorities, trusts, private estates, government agencies and other environmental groups – all are contactable through the Scottish Outdoor Access Code web site outdooraccess-scotland.com. Check where your nearest one is to be found.

Here are just some of the tasks Countryside Rangers undertake:

- Provide information and advice to user groups and individuals wanting to know where to walk, ride or cycle
- Provide advice and support to land managers who wish to improve access over their land
- Look after paths, checking for any problems and organising maintenance and improvements
- Manage large areas of protected land: national parks, nature reserves, designated sites
- Work closely with communities: organising guided walks, illustrated talks and assistance to improve local biodiversity
- Work with schools to deliver many aspects of the curriculum, helping to raise awareness of local and global environmental issues.

The Scottish Countryside Rangers Association represents about one-third of all rangers and in addition provides a forum for those in related jobs to keep in touch with what is going on. SCRA’s web site provides a networking opportunity for those involved in the world of Rangering.

With the help of SNH grant support, SCRA has appointed Toni Clark to the new post of

Development Officer. The part-time post runs for 12 months from August 2006. During this time the aims are to:

- Raise the public’s awareness of Rangers and their roles, especially in the fields of outdoor access and education;
- Raise Rangers’ awareness of how the profession is responding to legislative and policy developments;
- Assist the SCRA training team in delivering its national training programme and co-ordinating its content and delivery with other training providers.

An important aspect is to gather ideas on the development of networking opportunities and other means by which Rangers can share examples of good practice. Please email Toni at devofficer@scaonline.co.uk or call her on 01463 731066 for further details, or to discuss any aspect of her role.

Where are Scotland’s Allotments?

Sam Murray, project co-ordinator

The Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society (SAGS) has recently launched a search to discover the location of all allotment sites in Scotland. Scottish Natural Heritage is supporting this project, with the aim of completion by April 2007.

Initially, SAGS is keen to hear from anyone who knows of an allotment site, even if it appears not to be in active use, or is just setting up. Surprisingly, local authorities often do not know the sites in their locality, and knowledge is particularly sparse outwith the main population centres of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen.

The search comes after figures from local allotment associations suggest demand for allotments far outstrips supply in parts of Scotland. Demand has risen dramatically in the last few years, with a waiting list of more than 500 in Edinburgh for the already full 1,200 plots. Some allotment sites however, continue to be under threat from housing and commercial development. Once sites are identified, they can be officially recognised to safeguard their future. Increasingly the benefits of allotments are being valued, not just as a source of fresh fruit and vegetables, but contributing to a healthy lifestyle,

creating a sense of community and as important habitats for wildlife. Lobbying by SAGS, with a petition to the Scottish Parliament, resulted this summer in COSLA producing Allotment Guidance Notes for Councils. Environmental benefits feature prominently in this document. It is also encouraging that the Scottish Executive acknowledges the importance of horticulture and allotments in the current draft consultation on SPP11: Physical Activity and Open Space.

SAGS will use further study results to produce a database and map of Scotland's allotments, along with case studies of particular relevance to biodiversity and community involvement. These will help people find their nearest site, identify gaps in provision and sites that may need protection from development, and contribute to local authority greenspace audits. A short, on-line questionnaire is at www.sags.org.uk or contact Sam Murray on 0131 554 2435 or email: sammurray13@yahoo.co.uk

The Power of Nellie

Jenny Brotchie, Friends of the Earth Scotland

The publication of the 2006 Energy Review consultation was met with great disappointment at the Friends of the Earth offices. Only two years ago, the Energy Review had concluded that current economics made nuclear power an unattractive option and acknowledged that important issues concerning nuclear waste remained to be resolved. Now suddenly here was nuclear power back on the table again.

At a time when we should be tackling climate change via energy efficiency and sensible clean energy technologies it looked like we were about to be forced into accepting a new generation of nuclear power stations: a fleet of nuclear white elephants - expensive, ineffective, unpopular and unacceptably risky. And so we sprung into action with our "Nuclear Power? No thanks it's a white elephant" campaign. We want to ensure that the Scottish Executive adopts a strongly anti-nuclear stance after the 2007 Scottish Parliamentary elections and that a new generation of nuclear can not be foisted upon Scotland. We launched our campaign on the 20th anniversary of the Chernobyl accident with Nellie, a giant 12 ft inflatable elephant, symbolic of the many problems associated with nuclear power. Nellie was to join us as part of our campaign roadshow as travelled across Scotland at key events and locations across Scotland galvanising support.

The perfect crowd puller, Nellie has accompanied us to over 25 locations nationwide including town centres in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen, Cowdenbeath and Elgin, popular events such as T in the Park and key Scottish political dates such as the Liberal Democrats conference. She has helped us collect nearly 3,000 signed postcards, urging MSPs to take a strong stance against nuclear power and support cleaner sources of energy and energy efficiency, and send a clear message to our politicians that the nuclear power remains deeply unpopular here and the public have grave concerns about it's safety and ability to tackle climate change. For more information please have a look at www.foe-scotland.org.uk/elephant

The Hunt is on!

Andrew Fairbairn, Woodland Trust Scotland

Are you passionate about ancient and heritage trees, good with maps and have your own transport? Do you know your trees and enjoy using your computer? The **Ancient Tree Hunt** is looking for volunteers in Scotland to help us verify records of ancient trees sent in by the public as part of an online mapping project. The role comes with full training and support, and relevant expenses are covered. The Ancient Tree Hunt will involve thousands of people in finding and mapping all the ancient, heritage and veteran trees across the UK. It is a five-year partnership between the Woodland Trust, the Ancient Tree Forum and the Tree Register of the British Isles. Through the project the Woodland Trust will work in partnership with other organisations to encourage people to recognise and then identify ancient trees in their locality then record some key information about each tree. Data can be entered online, queried and viewed and the partnership sees the project as an important way of reconnecting people with nature, and encouraging them to help protect Ancient Trees.

If you would like to be a Volunteer Verifier, details and online registration are on www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk or phone the Trust's Volunteer Team on 01476 581111. Please register interest by 22 December and we will send you information about the training day on 20 January in Dalkeith. If you are interested but do not feel you have the time or skills there will be other ways you can get involved as the project develops.

LINK Task Force and other news

Agriculture LINK wrote in August to the Environment and Rural Affairs Minister outlining concerns about funding for the Scottish Rural Development Programme 2007-13 and seeking clarity about the extent of the Executive's existing commitments in relation to rural development spending. A major concern is that progress on Land Management Contracts (LMC) will be delayed owing to budgeting decisions to be made in Europe, and that the Executive should have contingency plans in place to ensure the good work already undertaken by farmers can continue.

The Minister's reply in October agreed that the Executive would focus on outcomes and target scarce resources effectively. He valued the time that LINK and other stakeholders have devoted to the process, recognised some of the frustrations involved, and undertook that improvements would be made. The task force was pleased that some of LINK's suggestions put forward for the SRDP have been incorporated, especially in relation to the measures that will form the new LMC scheme. However, the task force has some major concerns, not least about the overall funding of the SRDP, the structure of LMCs, and the proposals for an interim scheme for Less Favoured Areas support. Joint positions were developed on a number of key issues with other interests including NFUS, the Scottish Rural Property Business Association, SNH, HIE and the Crofters' Foundation. The task force looks forward to developments for sustainable agriculture in 2007 with some trepidation.

Biodiversity The task force has contributed to the production of the first Ministerial Report on the implementation of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy up to 2007 and is represented on the relevant sub-group of the Scottish Biodiversity Committee. A response to SNH's Species Framework consultation was submitted in the autumn. Deborah Long represents the task force on two important groups: the newly reformed priority Habitats and Species Review Working Group and the GB Non Native Invasive Species Strategy Working Group.

Climate Clifton Bain, Convenor of the task force has contributed to the Strategic Environment Assessment of the SE Climate Change Programme and other high level policy

documents which include climate action, eg agriculture and forestry strategies. The task force is leading on LINK position papers on nuclear and biomass which are near completion.

Clifton and John Lauder, who convenes the task forces Transport sub-group, had a very positive meeting with Transport Minister Tavish Scott in October to discuss climate change issues in relation to the National Transport Strategy. The task force also continues to contribute to the Scottish Stop Climate Chaos coalition with policy development.

Freshwater The task force continued its engagement with the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Scotland, including work with the agencies and civil servants on the development of diffuse pollution regulations, sustainable flood management policies, and involvement in the development of river basin management planning and advisory groups.

Landscape LINK delegates to the Scottish Landscape Forum, Helen McDade and Bill Wright, have, with other stakeholders, helped frame the Forum's work programme to start addressing longstanding concerns: how to implement the European Landscape Convention and the economic valuation of landscape. LINK representatives also participate in the Forum's sub-groups working on these issues. The task force welcomed the Executive's amendment to the Planning legislation on National Scenic Areas, apart from the lack of provision for a management strategy.

Marine LINK's focus for the autumn party conference season has been advocacy for a Marine Act for Scotland. The task force provided three new striking banners for the LINK stand, new briefing materials, and cuddly turtles to entice the MSPs.

A report commissioned by the task force on Nationally Important Marine Feature in Scotland was completed by the consultant Christine Howson. This was made possible by the consortium of charitable trusts funding UK-wide marine work by the environmental NGOs.

The task force is co-ordinating LINK's response to the consultation on Scotland's first Coastal and Marine National Park. A meeting with all LINK interests was held in late November to take this forward.

Planning The Planning etc (Scotland) Bill completed its passage through Parliament on 16th November with no Third Party Right of Appeal for communities, although the rights of appeal for developers was retained. Provision for democratic scrutiny of the National Planning Framework is very limited, with any future proposal designated as a 'national development' by Ministers leaving local authorities and communities with no opportunity to object to the need for the proposal.

On the positive side, scrutiny by Parliament and the Communities Committee at Stages 1 and 2 resulted in a welcome extension of the sustainable development duty, though this was not extended to development management. Ministers are required to meet this obligation in relation to preparation and revision of the National Planning Framework, though not explicitly for its implementation. In LINK's opinion, these omissions are not consistent with the clear intentions of the Sustainable Development Strategy.

The task force also contributed responses to other policy documents under consultation this quarter including SPPG on Renewable Energy (see page 2) and the Planning Advice Note on Community Engagement.

Forward Planning LINK's task forces, member organisations, board and staff met on 31 October for its twice-yearly Forward Planning and Review meeting. The network reviewed progress since the last meeting in the Spring, considered the range of future plans, and identified integration needs, subjects for workshops, and resource requirements.

Parliamentary LINK manifesto meetings continued with political parties this quarter. Research for an end of term report is now going ahead with a consultant commissioned to carry out some preliminary work looking at best and worst policy decisions over the last four years at the Scottish Parliament.

Staff changes The meeting marked the last working day for Rosalind Pearson, who has retired from LINK after 10 years, latterly as

Information Officer. Ros began her career with LINK as a volunteer joining the staff soon afterwards. She contributed a great deal to the work of the Special Areas Task Force in preparation for the National Parks legislation, digested tomes for their relevance to members, and tackled strategic and mundane tasks with enthusiasm and dedication to detail. We wish her a long, happy and productive retirement. Her successor, starting late November, is Adean Lutton. Adean has a strong background in information management and has worked within the voluntary environment sector.

Funding LINK's application to SNH for funding for April 2007 to March 2010 was successfully completed with news in late October that SNH will continue to support LINK at a similar level for the coming three years. This is very welcome as funds for the core elements of LINK's work are now largely in place for 2007-08. A funding application to Awards for All for new IT equipment and software was approved over the summer. LINK is grateful to the Big Lottery Fund for regular support from this small grants scheme.

Further Information

For information about reports and initiatives referred to in this newsletter please contact LINK or visit our website www.scotlink.org

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For updates on the everyone campaigns see www.everyonecan.org

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