



## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

10TH NOVEMBER 2011

COSLA CONFERENCE CENTRE,  
EDINBURGH



# FOR A SUSTAINABLE SCOTLAND



Supported by



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# CONFERENCE WELCOME



## Welcome to the 10th SSN Annual Conference, where we focus on local action for a sustainable Scotland and the need to better align the efforts of public sector organisations, businesses and communities.

This year's conference comes at a time of significant challenges: economic, social and environmental. At the same time, the opportunities for new partnerships and collaborative ventures that support communities in moving towards more sustainable and low-carbon lifestyles have never been greater. All signals point towards the need for all of Scotland to work better together if our climate change and sustainable development ambitions are to be realised.

Our conference programme reflects the strong relationships that we have developed within the public sector. We are pleased that The Scottish Government, COSLA and SOLACE are actively involved in supporting the event, and we welcome the on-going support from The Carbon Trust and SEPA. Also, our growing relations with the private sector and communities are reflected in the conference, and we thank Scotland's 2020 Climate Group for their support which has allowed us to make delegate places available for community group representatives. As always, it is through partnership working that the SSN Conference continues to be an extremely valuable national gathering focused on Scotland's sustainable development.

Finally, 2011 is proving to be a year of significant transition for Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB), which provides the

management, staff team and organisational capacity that makes SSN successful. As one of Scotland's leading environmental charities, with a broad portfolio of work that spans the whole of Scotland, KSB has set sustainable development at the heart of its strategic mission. This shift in focus is offering many new and exciting opportunities that will strengthen the capacity and capability of KSB to work with others to achieve improved local action for a sustainable Scotland. KSB's commitment to ensure a thriving and vibrant SSN remains central to these ambitions and is welcomed by the SSN members.

We hope you enjoy the SSN Conference 2011 and we look forward to working in partnership with many of you in the years ahead.



**Sylvia Gray**  
Chair  
Sustainable Scotland Network



**Derek Robertson**  
Chief Executive  
Keep Scotland Beautiful

## WITH THANKS TO SSN CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



**8.45-9.30 Registration and Refreshments**

**9.30-9.45 Welcome and Introduction**

Conference Chair: Tim Birley

SSN Chair: Sylvia Gray

**9.45-10.45 Local Leadership for a Low Carbon, Sustainable Scotland**

Sue Bruce, Chief Executive City of Edinburgh Council / Scotland's 2020 Climate Group

Dr. Andy Kerr, Executive Director, Edinburgh Centre for Low Carbon Innovation and Skills

**10.45-11.10 Refreshments**

**11.10-12.00 The Power of Local Example: 'Encourage, Engage, Exemplify, Enable'**

**12.00-12.20 Refreshments**

**12.20-12.50 The Power of Local Example: 'Encourage, Engage, Exemplify, Enable'**  
Conclusion of session.

**12.50-13.50 Lunch & Case Study Poster Exhibition**

The 2011 SSN Conference Poster Exhibition will showcase examples of recent work undertaken in Scotland's local authorities to progress sustainable development. Please see back page for full details of poster exhibition.

**13.50-14.30 Political Leadership for Delivery**

Stewart Stevenson MSP, Minister for Environment and Climate Change

Councillor Alison Hay, COSLA  
Spokesperson for Regeneration and Sustainable Development

**14.30-15.30 Knowledge Exchange**

**15.30-16.00 Integrated Approaches to Unlock Scotland's Potential**

David Wilson, Director of Energy and Climate Change, Scottish Government



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The SSN conference aims to explore and profile a range of partnerships and practical activities that are contributing to the transition towards a low carbon, sustainable Scotland.

A series of eight quick-fire presentations will provide delegates with headline information on action that demonstrates integrated approaches.

See overleaf for details of presentations and presenters.

In the Knowledge Exchange workshops, delegates will have an opportunity to get further in-depth information on one of the eight case studies highlighted in the Power of Local Example session.

See overleaf for details of workshops and contributors.

## THE POWER OF LOCAL EXAMPLE: QUICK-FIRE PRESENTATIONS 11.10 - 12.50

### **Integrated approaches to sustainability**

Chris Bremner,  
Sustainable Economy  
Manager, Cairngorms  
National Park

#### **With representatives from Cairngorms National Park**

Innovative thinking, close partnership working and the trialling of new approaches are common threads to all work in the Cairngorms National Park. The knowledge exchange session offers an opportunity to explore in detail the challenges and opportunities that have been experienced in fields as diverse as: food and drink, conservation, ranger service provision, deer management, footpath maintenance, sustainable tourism, visitor management, business collaboration, education and community engagement.

### **The true value of public and local authority food services in social, economic and environmental terms**

Robin Gourlay, Food and Drink Industry Division,  
Scottish Government

#### **With a representative from Scotland Food and Drink**

Workshop participants will be able to explore the National Food and Drink Policy, and its relevance in aligning public and private activity to deliver sustainable development. East Ayrshire Council's 'Food for Life' strategy, and the social, economic and environmental impact of this work, will also be considered in further detail. An industry perspective will be provided by Scotland Food and Drink. The workshop will look at how existing good practice can be replicated elsewhere and how partnership working can support local delivery.

### **Sustainable, energy-efficient social housing: the Glasgow House initiative**

Jim Cooke,  
Head of Design and Partnerships,  
City Building

#### **With David Fotheringham, Scottish Government**

Participants will further discuss and explore the 'Glasgow House' project, and the challenges and opportunities of developing energy-efficient social housing and tackling fuel poverty. There will additionally be an opportunity to hear about the national plan to meet housing-related climate change targets, including the forthcoming Strategy for Sustainable Housing.

### **How communities can deliver sustainable development: the Peterhead project story**

Belinda Miller,  
Head of Economic Development,  
Aberdeenshire Council

#### **With Karen Brown, Project Development Manager, Peterhead Projects With Dr Philip Revell, Project Coordinator, Sustaining Dunbar**

The workshop will provide further detail on two successful community initiatives - Peterhead Projects and Sustaining Dunbar - and consider how these projects have interacted with public sector and other partners. The workshop will also encourage participants to consider how this learning can be used to replicate action in their own areas.

## KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SESSIONS 14.30 - 15.30

## **The role of local authorities in fostering partnerships for sustainable economic growth**

Jan Falconer, Projects, Partnerships and Funding Manager, Aberdeen City Council

**With Andrew Win, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Aberdeen City Council**

Since 2004, Aberdeen City Council has given cross party support to address climate change, and has undertaken a number of initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint. The Knowledge Exchange session will particularly explore how Aberdeen City Council is working with a range of partners to secure the benefits of the transition from oil and gas to renewables, and will also identify opportunities for replication across other councils.

## **Strategic responses to global climate change: a UK analysis**

Prof. Jan Bebbington, University of St. Andrews

**With Alan Speedie, Alan Speedie Associates Ltd**

Drawing on new research with leading public and private sector organisations, this workshop will look at how global climate change requires a 'whole systems/multiple benefits' approach which considers the long-term in strategies and management. The workshop will also explore the challenges and barriers to developing strategic approaches, and will discuss opportunities for improved public and private sector partnerships.

## **Carbon management - partnerships and priorities for the future**

Paul Wedgwood, Manager of Carbon Trust Scotland

**With Jenny Cassels, Account Manager—Scotland, Warren McIntyre, Low Carbon Collaborations Manager (both Carbon Trust), and representatives from Fife Council**

The Carbon Trust continually updates its monitoring and reporting tools that assist the public sector in identifying key reduction opportunities, and understanding the financial, regulatory and reputational issues at stake. The workshop will review Carbon Trust's toolkit and carbon management advisory services, highlight exemplar practice from Fife Council, and provide opportunity for delegates to explore how carbon management could assist their organisation.

## **The Central Scotland Green Network: working in partnership for better places and sustainable economic growth**

Rebecca Maxwell, Assistant Chief Executive, Stirling Council

**With representatives from Scottish Natural Heritage, Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network and East Renfrewshire Council**

The Knowledge Exchange session will allow delegates to explore further the opportunities and challenges of taking forward a long-term project like the Central Scotland Green Network. Using case studies, delegates will be encouraged to share their thoughts and experience on how the CSGN can help local authorities to address issues such as preventative spend, budgetary pressures, working in partnership, and public service reform.

# SPEAKERS



## Stewart Stevenson MSP

Minister for Environment and Climate Change

Stewart Stevenson is MSP for Banffshire and the Buchan Coast. Born in 1946

and brought up in Cupar, Fife, Mr Stevenson studied Mathematics at the University of Aberdeen, graduating in 1969. Three decades later he retired from Bank of Scotland as a Technology Director and was first elected to the Scottish Parliament in 2001 having joined the SNP in 1961. He was Transport Minister for part of the 2007-2011 administration and was appointed to his current post after being re-elected at the May 5, 2011, election.



## Dr. Andy Kerr

Executive Director, Edinburgh Centre for Low Carbon Innovation and Skills

Andy was appointed Director of the Edinburgh Centre for Low Carbon Innovation and Skills in 2010. He is also the Policy Director of the Scottish Centre of Expertise in Climate Change.

Previously Andy was a Director at E3 International, working with companies to develop strategic and practical management responses to emerging market opportunities in international carbon and biofuel markets. His public policy work has focused on supporting the development of effective national policy frameworks that reduce dependence on fossil fuels and lower greenhouse gas emissions. Recent projects include the Royal Society of Edinburgh's Inquiry Report: 'Facing up to Climate Change: Breaking the barriers to a low carbon Scotland' and the Scottish Government's "Climate Change Delivery Plan".



## David Wilson

Director of Energy and Climate Change, Scottish Government

David Wilson is Director of Energy and Climate Change in the Scottish

Government, with responsibility for energy, climate change and the water industry. Before that he was Director of the Business Enterprise and Energy Directorate, and has held a series of policy responsibilities across Government. Outwith the Scottish Government, he was Deputy Director General of Electricity Supply for the UK-wide electricity regulator/watchdog, Ofgem. David is an economist by training.



## Councillor Alison Hay

COSLA Regeneration and Sustainable Development Spokesperson

Formerly a civil servant, Alison's public service began in Argyll and Bute in 1988. She is a member of the Scottish Liberal Democrat Group on Argyll and Bute Council and sits on the Executive Committee. She is Depute Spokesperson for Environment and a member of the council's Environment Policy and Performance Group. In her capacity as COSLA Spokesperson, Alison has been an active member of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) and now Chairs the CEMR Environment Working Group.



## Sue Bruce

Chief Executive of City of Edinburgh Council / Member of Scotland's 2020 Climate Group

Sue Bruce took up the post of Chief Executive of the City of Edinburgh Council in January 2011 having previously been Chief Executive at Aberdeen City Council and East Dunbartonshire Council. Sue began her local government career with Strathclyde Regional Council in 1976 spending the early part of her career in social and economic regeneration and then in the wider education field. Sue has held a number of senior positions, serving in the Strathclyde Regional Education Directorate until local government re-organisation in 1996 after which she held the post of Depute Director of Education with East Ayrshire Council. In 2000 she joined East Dunbartonshire Council initially as Strategic Director responsible for Education, Housing, Social Work and Cultural Services and had a corporate lead role in social inclusion and equalities. In May 2010 Sue received the Prince's Business Ambassador award for 2010 from HRH The Prince of Wales and in October 2010 was recognised as the Scottish Public Sector Leader of the Year Award at the Scottish Leadership Awards.



## Tim Birley

Adviser and Facilitator on Sustainable Development and Conference Chair

Tim Birley is an independent adviser and facilitator on sustainable development. Trained as a civil engineer and planner, he worked in local government and as an Edinburgh University lecturer before becoming an Inquiry Reporter. Within the civil service, he was a Deputy Director in the Scottish Development Department, then Head of Rural Affairs Division where he was responsible for Rural Framework policy document - credited as the first in Scotland with sustainable development as an explicit core principle. He was retained consultant to the Secretary of State's Advisory Group on Sustainable Development, and is author of numerous reports. He advises many Councils and other bodies in Scotland and further afield on sustainable development and public policy.



## Ground Floor



### Registration table: Keep Scotland Beautiful

KSB is one of Scotland's leading environmental charities working to achieve a clean, green, sustainable Scotland. See back page of conference programme for further information.

### Stand 1: Edinburgh Centre for Low Carbon Innovation & Skills (ECCC)



The Edinburgh Centre is a national hub for the knowledge, innovation and skills that will deliver a low carbon economy. Hosted by Edinburgh's three largest universities, the Centre creates a unique platform for all those who must work together to secure a low carbon future. The Centre acts as a low carbon hub; delivers training and education; and supports business to deliver low carbon products and services.

### Adaptation Scotland



The Adaptation Scotland partnership (formerly the Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership) is tasked with increasing the resilience of organisations and infrastructure to the threats and opportunities presented by the impacts of climate change. Adaptation Scotland has developed an Adaptation Workbook for Scotland to support public bodies as they work towards compliance with the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties. This is available to download from our website.



### Stand 2: Zero Waste Scotland

Zero Waste Scotland works with businesses, individuals and communities to help them reduce waste, recycle more and use resources sustainably. We work in partnership to deliver the actions set out in the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan and to lead the change, more generally, to a zero waste society.

### Stand 3. Changeworks

Changeworks is a charity and social enterprise that provides practical, impartial and straightforward solutions to tackle waste and energy use. Our services include: Training and Skills Development; Energy Surveying, Modelling and Analysis; Community Engagement and Behaviour Change; Research and Evaluation; Feasibility Studies and Project Development; Advice and Support Services; Event and Partnership Facilitation; Business Recycling Services.



## First Floor



### Stand 4:

#### Scottish Water Horizons

Scottish Water's leading infrastructure and renewables business. A commercially sustainable stand-alone business, Scottish Water Horizons brings together all sorts of innovative ideas that will contribute to a more successful Scotland. Horizons is already making its mark: converting food waste into green energy; transforming garden waste into compost; generating electricity through hydro technology, and; helping developers build a more sustainable Scotland.

### Stand 5: Scottish Government Climate Change Behaviours Research Programme



The stand will provide a summary of key findings from the Scottish Government's ongoing Climate Change Behaviours Research Programme. This includes evidence on the behaviour areas that are central to addressing climate change and the most effective mechanisms for stimulating, facilitating and supporting new and more sustainable ways of living.

### SEPA

#### - Scotland's Environmental Web



The stand will also provide an introduction to Scotland's Environmental Web (SEWeb), a multi-organisation initiative led by Sepa. Recently launched, this European LIFE-funded project aims to provide a web-based solution to the joining up of all Scottish environmental information through one access point, and encourage wider citizen science and citizen engagement and action on environmental issues

### Stand 6:

#### Local Energy



#### - Local Government Information Unit

Andy Johnston, a Director at the Local Government Information Unit (LGIU), will be on-hand to discuss the latest CRC-Energy Efficiency Scheme developments and the work of the Centre for Local Energy, an LGiU initiative designed to support local authority action on sustainable energy solutions.

# SSN CONFERENCE POSTER EXHIBITION

The SSN conference poster exhibition provides an opportunity for local authorities and other organisations to share information and learning about recent policies, plans and initiatives that are contributing to the delivery of Scotland's climate change and sustainable development ambitions.

In keeping with the theme of this year's conference, the case studies featured in the poster exhibition profile examples of effective partnership working, and of work related to the policy themes critical to the achievement of Scotland's climate change targets.

Delegates are invited to visit the poster exhibition which is situated in the main networking area of the conference centre. Following the conference, posters will additionally be available to download from: [www.sustainable-scotland.net/conference](http://www.sustainable-scotland.net/conference)



## KEEP SCOTLAND BEAUTIFUL... INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Since 2003 Keep Scotland Beautiful has provided the organisational capacity behind the success of the SSN. Keep Scotland Beautiful is now refreshing its strategic plan, placing sustainable development and climate change at the centre of its agenda.

In addition to SSN, Keep Scotland Beautiful also runs Eco-Schools Scotland, the administration of the Climate Challenge Fund, Going Carbon Neutral Stirling, and a suite of local environmental quality campaigns.

Keep Scotland Beautiful works in partnership with others to achieve a clean, green and sustainable Scotland, engaging and empowering organisations and communities throughout the country. Please come and meet members of our senior management team and staff at the KSB stall throughout the conference.



## CONNECT WITH SSN:

To receive sustainable development and climate change policy updates, news about research and resources, and the latest activity from across the Sustainable Scotland Network, sign up to our weekly e-bulletin.

**Just visit [www.sustainable-scotland.net](http://www.sustainable-scotland.net)**



## ABOUT SUSTAINABLE SCOTLAND NETWORK

The Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) is the network of sustainable development officers and advocates from Scotland's 32 local authorities.

Supported by the Scottish Government, SSN assists councils to improve performance on sustainability through coordinating and supporting action, sharing information, and organising events and trainings.



### Contact SSN

If you are not linked in to SSN we would welcome your involvement and ideas.

**t:** 01786 468 768

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