



The SSN Annual Conference 2007

www.sustainable-scotland.net/conference2007

Local Government and Climate Change



8th - 9th November
Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh

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Chair's welcome



Welcome to the Sustainable Scotland Network's annual conference 2007 - 'Local Government and Climate Change - Your How to Guide.' This will be my last conference as Chair of the Network so I would like to reflect briefly on today's event, in the context of the past five years.

It is difficult to exaggerate the importance of climate change - so it's just as important that we put steps in place to ensure that local government responds properly, adapting its own services to the challenge and safeguarding the interests of our communities.

There can be few issues where our perspective has changed so quickly. A search of media coverage suggests that the issue has gone 'off the scale' in the past year. Al Gore's film and book has brought the message to the mass market. The IPCC 4th Assessments moved us toward ever-greater scientific certainty. And Sir Nicholas Stern's report brought the issue home to the 'real world' of the economist.

When we agreed the conference topic it was with a measure of trepidation. Discussing the science and economics of climate change is one thing - agreeing how to deal with it is quite another! It is important however that, having secured the signature of Scotland's Climate Change Declaration by all thirty-two councils, we begin to consider how we meet its seven commitments. I hope that after the next two days you will go away feeling you really do have a better understanding of the 'hows' as well as the 'whats'.

Taking a look back, once again, the last twelve months have seen a strong performance by the SSN on Climate Change, Best Value, Local Footprints and Procurement for Sustainability (the SSN progress report, included in the delegate pack, provides detail on this work).

For this year's conference, thanks go to the Scottish Government, the Improvement Service and Sustainable Development Commission Scotland for providing invaluable sponsorship. The Scottish Government is due particular thanks, for giving the Network the opportunity to participate in key areas such as the Climate Change Bill.

I am grateful to Keep Scotland Beautiful for its continuing support. And of course thanks to our team at Stirling - George Tarvit, Chloe Smeed and most recently Amie Fulton - whose work over 2007 has done so much to implement the Steering Group's vision. Sincere thanks are also due to the conference reference group (representatives from Perth & Kinross, South Lanarkshire, Aberdeen City and Moray Councils), whose attention and advice brought the conference to a safe landing.

And last, but by no means least, thanks to the SSN Steering Group and members in all of Scotland's 32 local authorities for making the SSN such a positive, dynamic and solutions-focused network. It's reassuring to know that over the past five years, the Network's strength, reputation and ability has grown. I hope this conference is a further sign of that growth and of ever better things to come.

Alan Speedie
Chair, Sustainable Scotland Network
October 2007



The Sustainable Scotland Network



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

The health of the network is a result of our active membership, as well as strong partnerships and collaborative working across the public sector and beyond. Our recently established Local Footprints Scotland and the Sustainable Scotland Network work: a joint project between WWF Scotland and the Sustainable Scotland Network supporting local authorities (and working with seven councils in 2007-08), with funding and support from Eco Schools Scotland, the Improvement Service, the Scottish Government and ScottishPower. We take a similar approach across our other programme priorities of Best Value & Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Procurement for Sustainability.

At the core of our work is a service that enables our network members to share expertise and experience in delivering sustainable development objectives locally. Our monthly newsletter, re-launched website, regular events programme and this very conference facilitate this communication, and bring our mandate to life: local authorities working together for a sustainable Scotland.



Exhibitors:

- AEA ENVIRONMENT/ENVIROWISE
- COMMUNITIES SCOTLAND
- CRICHTON CARBON CENTRE
- ENERGY SAVING TRUST
- ENVIRON
- ICE ENERGY HEAT PUMPS
- KEEP SCOTLAND BEAUTIFUL
- LOCAL FOOTPRINTS PROJECT
- SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT
- SUS IT OUT
- THE IMPROVEMENT SERVICE
- UKPHA
- VIPRE



Agenda day one



Chair: Prof. James Curran, Chair of the Scottish Sustainable Development Forum and Director of Entrading.

- 9.00** Registration and refreshments
- 9.45** Welcome and introductions
- 10.00** **HOW TO... Shape the Future of Scottish Government Action on Climate Change**
- John Swinney MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Sustainable Growth, The Scottish Government
- 10.45** Coffee break
- 11.15** **HOW TO... Link Global and Local Climate Action**
- Dr. Keith Allott, Head of Climate Change, WWF UK
 - Chris Leigh, Director of Cities and Regions Programme, The Climate Group
- 12.30** Lunch and exhibitions
- 13.30** **HOW TO... Understand Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation**
- Professor Colin Galbraith, Director of Policy & Advice, Scottish Natural Heritage
- 14.15** **HOW TO... Become a Well-Adapting Council**
- Parallel seminars, organised with the UK Climate Impacts Programme
- **HOW TO...** Create Your Local Climate Impacts Profiles
 - **HOW TO...** Embed Climate Change Adaptation into Your Risk Management
 - **HOW TO...** Adapt Your Spatial Planning
- 15.30** Coffee break
- 16.00** **HOW TO... Provide Corporate Leadership for a Greener Scotland**
- John Mason, Director of Climate Change and Water Industry and Environmental Quality, The Scottish Government
 - Ronnie Hinds, Chief Executive of Fife Council and SOLACE Representative
- 16.45** Close of Conference Day 1
- 18.00** Conference Dinner at David Bann's
- 20.30-late** Conference Social at The Caves (see back page for details)

Agenda day two

Chair: Prof. Jan Bebbington, Vice-Chair (Scotland), Sustainable Development Commission



9.00 Registration and refreshments

9.45 Welcome and introductions

10.00 **HOW TO... Mainstream Mitigation Excellence**

■ Ray Morgan, Chief Executive, Woking Borough Council

■ Cllr Alison Hay, Regeneration and Sustainable Development Spokesperson, COSLA

■ Phillip Mind, Climate Change Commission, Local Government Association

11.15 **HOW TO... Select the Right Tools for the Right Jobs**

Launch of mitigation and adaptation tools guidance and database

■ Dr Helen Chalmers, CAG Consultants

11.30 Coffee break

12.00 **HOW TO... Go Beyond Business as Usual**

Parallel seminars outlining practical ways for local authorities to improve their performance on climate change mitigation

■ **HOW TO...** Get to Grips with Carbon Neutrality

■ **HOW TO...** Decentralize Your Energy Supply

■ **HOW TO...** Procure Low-Carbon Schools

13.00 Lunch and exhibitions

14.00 **HOW TO... Inform the Scottish Climate Change Bill**

Your chance to contribute to a 'pre-consultation' on the Scottish Climate Change Bill

■ Susie Gledhill, Head of the Climate Change Bill Team, The Scottish Government

Small group facilitated discussions on consultation questions

15.30 **HOW TO... Take Stock and Take Action**

■ Dr Dave Reay, University of Edinburgh & Author of 'Climate Change Begins at Home'

16.00 End of Conference

Speakers' Biographies

Professor James Curran **Director, Entrading**

James has worked in environment his whole life – from research into clouds, building an automatic weather station on Cairngorm, studying pollution in the sea, managing hydrological stations and assessing flood risk and installing flood warning schemes. He then became Head of Science with SEPA, and also Head of Environmental Strategy. Maybe best known for speaking out widely and for many years on the threats of climate change, he left SEPA in 2006 to create Entrading, an eco-store in the centre of Glasgow selling environmental household goods.

John Swinney MSP **Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth, The Scottish Government**

Born in 1964, John Swinney MSP is the Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth. John joined the Scottish National Party in 1979 and went on to graduate from Edinburgh University with an MA (Hons) in Politics. He has worked for the Scottish Coal Project, Development Options and Scottish Amicable.

Prior to his election as Westminster MP for North Tayside in 1997, he held a number of posts in the SNP at local and national level. In 1999, he became the MSP for Tayside North, while remaining as the constituency's MP until standing down from Westminster at the 2001 General Election. Having served as the SNP's Deputy Leader since 1998, he became Leader in 2000. After relinquishing his post in 2004, John became Convener of the Scottish Parliament's European and External Relations Committee.

He was re-elected as an MSP at the 2007 Scottish Parliament election before his appointment as Cabinet Secretary. John has two children and is married to Elizabeth Quigley. He lives near Blairgowrie in his constituency and his hobbies include cycling and hill walking.

Dr. Keith Allot **Head of Climate Change, WWF-UK**

Dr Keith Allott is head of WWF-UK's climate change programme, a team which works on issues including the Climate Change Bill, UK energy policy, emissions trading, climate change adaptation, international climate change negotiations and aviation. Before joining WWF, Keith

spent most of his career working as Deputy Editor at ENDS, the leading publisher of information and analysis on UK and EU environmental policy. He also worked for the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution and contributed to its 2000 report on Energy & Environment - the source of the Government's current target to reduce the UK's CO2 emissions by 60% by 2050.

Chris Leigh **Director, Cities and Regions, The Climate Group**

Chris is a career UK government policy advisor with over 15 year's experience of developing and implementing EU and UK environmental policy. Currently on secondment from DEFRA, the UK Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Chris directs The Climate Group's work on cities and states and regions, and is managing the process of establishing their presence in India.

For the five years prior to joining The Climate Group in June 2006, Chris headed up the UK Government's national climate change policy work. He also led the negotiations for the UK on the development of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme and subsequently managed the UK Government's implementation of the Scheme. Chris spent much of the previous ten years in the UK's Environment Department working on a wide range of environmental protection policy issues. He has wide experience of the EU environmental legislative process and has led the UK negotiations in the EU on a number of EU environment directives.

Professor Colin Galbraith **Director of Policy and Advice, Scottish Natural Heritage.**

Colin Galbraith is responsible for the delivery of policy advice on the natural heritage and for the management of the Research Programme for Scottish Natural Heritage. He has a scientific background relating to species ecology and management.

He has been (2001-2006) Chair of the Scientific Council on Migratory Species (a UN Convention with 102 Parties or member countries), dealing with the ecology and conservation of migratory species at the global level. Currently he is Vice-Chair of the Council. He was a member of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, an assessment of global biodiversity funded by the UN and World Bank.

Speakers' Biographies

John Mason

Director of Climate Change and Water Industry and Environmental Quality in the Scottish Government

John Mason was born in 1956 and brought up and educated in Chichester in West Sussex. He graduated from Oxford University in 1978 with a degree in geography and from University College London in 1980 with a postgraduate degree in town planning. He has been a Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development since 1997.

He initially worked for Kent County Council as a town planner before moving to the former Department of the Environment in London in 1985. He joined the former Scottish Office in 1990 and has held a series of policy posts since then dealing with housing, industry and tourism, culture and sport. He was Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister in 2001/2. He took up his current post in January 2006 as Head of Environment Group now titled Director of Climate Change and Water Industry and Environmental Quality Directorates due to restructuring. His responsibilities cover climate change, the water industry, environmental protection, flood prevention, waste and pollution reduction and international environmental commitments.

Ronnie Hinds

Chief Executive, Fife Council

Ronnie is married with two children. After attending universities in Edinburgh, Canada and Oxford, he started work with the Greater London Council in the early '80s during the Ken Livingstone era.

Ronnie qualified as an accountant just as the GLC was being abolished and worked for a couple of London boroughs before coming back to Scotland to join Lothian Region until they were abolished in 1996. Following this, he worked for the City of Edinburgh Council as Head of Financial Services and North Lanarkshire Council as Director of Finance. In between, he was Controller of Audit at Audit Scotland from 2000-2003. In June 2006, Ronnie took up the post of Chief Executive, Fife Council. He describes this as his ideal job and Fife as Scotland's best kept secret – for now!

Professor Jan Bebbington

The Sustainable Development Commission Scotland

Professor Jan Bebbington was appointed as the Sustainable Development Commission's Vice-Chair, Scotland in July 2007. She was born in New Zealand but emigrated to Scotland in 1991. During her time in

Scotland she has worked in the Universities of Dundee and Aberdeen before taking up a chair in Accounting and Sustainable Development in the School of Management at the University of St. Andrews.

Her research interests focus around the dual themes of corporate reporting on sustainable development and full cost accounting and modelling. In the area of full cost accounting Professor Bebbington has worked with many organisations who are seeking to model their sustainable development impacts. She is also the Chair of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants Social and Environmental Committee and Associate Director of the Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting Research and was previously external advisor to the Scottish Cabinet Sub-Committee on Sustainable Scotland.

Ray Morgan

Chief Executive, Woking Borough Council

Ray Morgan has had a career in the public sector for over 30 years. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and is Chief Executive of Woking Borough Council.

Ray joined Woking Borough Council as Director of Finance in 1989 and since that time has championed many key initiatives and been instrumental in the development of many of the authority's key strategies namely: Asset Management; Equalities and Diversity; Implementation of Electronic Government; Partnership Development; and Waste Management and the Council's Climate Change Strategy. Ray is also Director of the Thamesway Group of Companies producing both energy and housing projects. Ray was appointed Chief Executive in April 2006.

Cllr Alison Hay (Argyll & Bute)

COSLA's Regeneration and Sustainable Development Spokesperson

Formerly a civil servant, Alison is currently Depute Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrat Group on Argyll and Bute Council and was Leader of the Council itself from 1999 to 2001. She is a SEPA Agency Board Member, and director of the Scottish Low Pay Unit. She is a former member of the Highlands and Islands Film Commission. Other local interests include being Chair of Auchendrain Museum Trust and a GRAB Board Member (Group of Recycling in Argyll and Bute).

Speakers' Biographies

Phillip Mind

The Local Government Association

Phillip joined the LGA this January, as a Senior Policy Consultant, and leads on the Climate Change Commission, welfare reform and culture. He authored the recent LGA publications "Taking Part Counts" and "Welfare Reform – the case for devolution".

Previously Phillip worked at HM Treasury where he led the policy development on youth volunteering that culminated in the publication of the Russell Commission report "A national framework for youth action and engagement" and the Chancellor's Budget 2005 announcement of up to £150 million to implement it.

Before that he was Associate Director of The Giving Campaign, a national campaign to encourage charitable giving in the UK, on secondment from HM Treasury.

Phillip joined the Treasury in 1990, straight from university. He also held other policy posts covering the new information legislation, privacy and data-sharing; how to combat financial crime and money laundering where he was a member of the G7 Financial Crime Experts Group; and project managed the Budget and Spending Review process between 1996 and 1998.

Phillip read Economics at the LSE and has an MA in Information Studies from Loughborough University. He is married with four children, a keen windsurfer, mountain biker and a qualified football coach and referee.

Dr. Helen Chalmers

CAG Consultants

Helen is managing the team of consultants from MWH and the Scottish Institute of Sustainable Technology (SISTech) who were commissioned by SNIFFER (the Scotland and Northern Ireland Forum for Environmental Research) to evaluate a range of climate change tools that could help local authorities deliver the commitments in Scotland's Climate Change Declaration. The project, which was funded by the Scottish Government, has produced a database and guidance to help Scottish local authorities choose 'The Right Tools for the Right Jobs'. The database and guidance will be made available on-line following the SSN Conference 2007.

Helen is a senior consultant at CAG, one of the UK's leading consultancies specialising in policy advice, research and evaluation in relation to sustainable development, regeneration and community engagement. CAG Consultants advised on the development of Scotland's Climate Change Action Pack, and are the

authors of the Nottingham Declaration Climate Change Action Pack and Getting on Target: Sustainable Energy Benchmarking and Toolkit for Local Authorities. Helen, and CAG Consultants have, and are currently working with a range of local authorities to develop climate change strategies. Before joining CAG in January 2007, Helen worked for the Environment Agency.

Susie Gledhill

Head of the Climate Change Bill Team, The Scottish Government

Susie graduated in Economics from Cambridge University, and after a spell doing sustainable development voluntary work in Nepal she joined the Sustainable Development Team in the Scottish Government. Since then she has worked in a number of diverse policy areas in the Scottish Government, including sexual offences, the Ryder Cup bid, hate crime, and minuting Cabinet. Most recently she managed Scotland's Climate Change Programme and she now leads the Climate Change Bill team, working to introduce a Bill with mandatory targets for emissions reductions.

Dr. Dave Reay

The University of Edinburgh

Dave is a Natural Environment Research Council Fellow in the School of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh. He studies greenhouse gas emissions in environments ranging from the Southern Ocean to evil-smelling drainage ditches.

He is author of Climate Change Begins at Home (Macmillan) and the forthcoming children's book Your Planet Needs You (also Macmillan). He is lead editor of Greenhouse Gas Sinks (CABI Publishing), creator of the climate change website Greenhouse Gas Online (www.ghgonline.org), and author of numerous academic and popular articles about climate change.

Dave is a regular media commentator on climate change issues, and a frequent guest speaker on climate change issues in the UK and overseas. He lives in a house well above sea level with his wife, daughters, and Florence the Labrador.



HOW TO... Become a Well-adapting Authority

The following three seminars will run simultaneously, allowing each delegate to attend one seminar only.

Seminar 1A

HOW TO... Create Your Local Climate Impacts Profile

Speakers:

- Gerry Metcalf, Knowledge Transfer Manager, UK Climate Impacts Programme
- Representative from local authority participating in the Scottish LCLIP project

This seminar will explain what a Local Climate Impacts Profile is, how it can be developed and how it can be used to inform local authority planning and performance. The seminar will also look at what the forthcoming UKCIPO8 scenarios offer for improved climate change adaptation at local level.

The experience of local authorities that have developed and used LCLIPs will be explained and an outline will be given of how the Scottish LCLIPs project will develop and share good practice. Gerry will explain how the UK Climate Impacts Programme will promote and support the LCLIP work.

This is the ideal seminar for any local authority officer or elected member wanting to know how to get their climate change adaptation 'baseline' organized.

Seminar 1B

HOW TO... Embed Climate Change Adaptation in Risk Management

Speakers:

- Evelyn Kaluza, Corporate Risk Manager, Oxfordshire County Council
- Dr. Swenja Surminski, Policy Adviser on Climate Change, Association of British Insurers

This seminar will explain how the Local Climate Impacts Profile (LCLIP) was developed in Oxfordshire, describing the process undertaken and the lessons learned. It will then illustrate how climate change risks are being embedded into Oxfordshire County Council's approach to Risk Management. The seminar will highlight some of the key Risk Management issues facing Oxfordshire County Council and explain how the LCLIP and other climate change adaptation information is being used to

inform decision making. Swenja Surminski will outline the Association of British Insurers leadership role on risk analysis and informing public policy on the insurance risks of climate change impacts. Swenja will provide an analysis of the climate risks affecting the insurance industry and the implications for local government policy and practice.

This seminar will help orientate local government thinking on how best to include climate change adaptation measures into on-going risk management processes, decisions and actions.

Seminar 1C

HOW TO... Adapt Your Spatial Planning

Speakers:

- Phil Matthews, Sustainable Development Commission Scotland (Chair)
- Doogie Black, ESPACE Project Officer, Hampshire County Council
- Claire Barnett, Principal Consultant - Climate Change, Entec UK Ltd

With information on climate change impacts, trends and scenarios improving, how can the planning system and planning professionals respond positively to the challenge of climate change adaptation? Moving on from last year's SSN Conference, 'Planning Solutions for a Sustainable Scotland', this seminar will explore the challenges of planning for climate change adaptation.

The ESPACE Project (www.espace-project.org), hosted by Hampshire County Council, is a 'public sector learning' initiative, aimed at influencing the philosophy and practice of spatial planning to incorporate climate change adaptation effectively. Doogie Black will provide an insight to the project, an overview of its recommendations, and an explanation of how the adaptive capacity of local authority planning services can be enhanced. Having previously worked for the Met Office's Hadley Centre, Claire Barnett is now Principal Consultant on Climate Change with Entec UK Ltd. Claire will explain how Entec is addressing the climate change adaptation agenda in its own work with local authorities and developers and will provide a perspective on effective approaches for integrating climate change adaptation into land-use planning.

Day 2 Seminars



from 12.00 - 13.00

HOW TO... Go Beyond Business As Usual

The following three seminars will run simultaneously, allowing each delegate to attend one seminar only.

Seminar 2A

HOW TO... Decentralise Your Energy Supply

Speakers:

- Harry Mayers, Energy Saving Trust Scotland (Chair)
- Janice Pauwels, City of Edinburgh Council
- Jake Wilson, Greenpeace UK

This seminar will provide an overview of both the theory and application of decentralised energy supply. Decentralised energy scenarios demonstrate the potential greenhouse gas emissions reductions that can accrue through strategic approaches to energy generation and consumption that are based on local energy use patterns.

Greenpeace UK's work on decentralised energy with City of Edinburgh Council mapped a path to a decentralised energy strategy based on proven technologies and within existing policy constraints and targets. This session will describe the predicted benefits of a local authority pursuing this path, and will provide a practical overview of the process of strategic implementation, based on very recent experience from CEC.

Seminar 2B

HOW TO... Get to Grips with Carbon Neutrality

Speakers:

- Phil Matthews, Sustainable Development Commission Scotland (Chair)
- Charlie Henderson, Carbon Neutral North East
- Liz Bogie, Scottish Enterprise

With a number of local authorities, businesses and charities aspiring to a 'zero-carbon' future, this seminar will provide participants with a robust understanding of methodologies for carbon neutrality. The Sustainable Development Commission's work on this theme will frame the session, defining the terms in common usage and the processes by which a local authority can begin a 'carbon neutral journey.'

Scottish Enterprise will clarify their approach to translating corporate objectives into practice, and for determining and accounting for direct vs. indirect carbon emissions in a large public sector body. Carbon Neutral North East's example will provide participants with a thorough understanding of the financial costs and organizational challenges of pursuing such an approach, as well as the very real opportunities for carbon savings - and the catalyzing effect of such an innovative approach on Councils' responses to climate change. Additionally, the role of regional offsetting will be explored as a model for Scottish local authorities.

Seminar 2C

HOW TO... Procure Low-Carbon Schools

Speakers:

- Andy Oliver, 3-Rs Project Manager, Aberdeen City Council
- Renate Powell, The Carbon Trust

There is growing awareness of the potential for local authority capital expenditure and procurement to address carbon analysis, climate change mitigation & climatic resilience. This seminar will focus on the role of specification in ensuring robust low-carbon standards for the built environment, through case studies of PPP school build projects.

With the Scottish Government's Scandinavian Standards Group refocusing attention on this area, the role of local authorities in using local new-build projects to meet climate change objectives is brought into sharp focus. This session will explore the local experience of cutting-edge, creative project management that demonstrates 'the art of the possible' for local authority PPP school-build projects. Aberdeen City and Inverclyde Councils have incorporated innovative approaches to specification as a route to delivering high-quality school environments with a minimal carbon footprint. Their experience will articulate the challenges in maintaining the focus on reduced energy consumption, and the lessons that can be drawn from this for climate-friendly procurement practices.

HOW TO... Inform Scotland's Climate Change Bill

This year, SSN's annual conference will provide an opportunity for all participants to contribute to a 'pre-consultation' session on Scotland's Climate Change Bill. The consultation on the Bill is due to begin in early 2008: SSN has a unique opportunity to inform the developing shape of this vitally important policy development.

The detail of the session – including the questions that will be discussed – is included in your conference pack. Questions will focus on themes such as:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions across our communities
- Reducing our own estate's emissions
- Support to deliver on our commitments made in Scotland's Climate Change Declaration

The main session will take place in the afternoon of Conference Day Two (Friday 9th), but there will be plenty of opportunities to contribute throughout the event, with a graffiti wall for you to stick comments and ideas to, and conference broadcasts being recorded and collated by Mark Hunter of Tartan Podcast.

Conference Sponsors

The Improvement Service

The Improvement Service is focused on improving the efficiency, quality and accountability of public services in Scotland through learning, sharing knowledge and delivering improvement solutions.



It aims to support continuous improvement by building on the expertise within local authorities and working in partnership with stakeholders in the public, private and voluntary sectors. It provides advice and support in the following areas: Best Value, efficient government and performance management, elected members' development, knowledge management, capacity building and management development, partnership and joint working, Shared Services and the Customer First programme. The core objectives are to: promote a learning culture and support collaborative working across local authorities and their partners; build capacity and improve skills; promote good practice; promote the use of knowledge management to support sharing and learning, e-governance and business re-design; identify good practice and learning from other areas to share with Scottish local government.

The Improvement Service was established as a partnership between the Scottish Executive, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE). It is a Company limited by guarantee. For more information go to www.improvementservice.org.uk.



Sustainable Development Commission Scotland

The Sustainable Development Commission Scotland is the Government's independent advisor on sustainable development.

The Commission reports to the First Minister of Scotland on key policy areas including: energy, the economy, climate change, governance and food. We help government, local authorities and businesses put sustainable development at the heart of what they do.

Commissioners and secretariat work with Scottish Government departments and agencies to promote sustainable development. We also work with a vast range of other organisations, such as the Scottish Sustainable Development Forum and the Sustainable Scotland Network. The two Scottish-based Commissioners are Jan Bebbington and Hugh Raven. Secretariat support is led by Scottish Director, Maf Smith. For more information go to: www.sd-commission.org.uk/scotland

The Conference Venue

All conference sessions take place in Our Dynamic Earth.

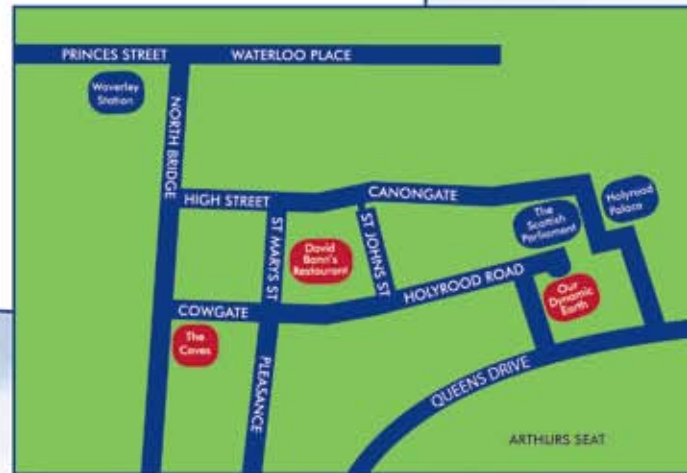
- Plenary sessions will take place in The Biosphere.
- The three parallel seminars each day will take place in Biosphere (Green), Biosphere (Blue), and the Salisbury Room. Room allocations will be announced prior to the seminars each day.
- Lunch will be served in the O-Zone.
- Exhibitions will be in the O-Zone.
- Tea and coffee will be served in the O-Zone

The Conference Dinner

For those who have pre-booked to attend the conference dinner, this will take place at David Bann's restaurant located at 56-58 St. Mary's Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SX. David Bann's is approximately 10 minutes walk from Our Dynamic Earth. It is marked on the map alongside. Doors open at David Bann's at 5.30pm, with dinner starting promptly at 6.00pm.

The Conference Social

The SSN Conference Social has become a high-point of our annual event, providing space for delegates to come together informally and relax after a hard-day's conferencing. This year, we've booked The Caves in Edinburgh, where fabulous fusion ceilidh ensemble Hud Yer Wheesht will lead a night of music and merriment on Thursday 8th November. Entry is free to all SSN members, friends and family. We hope to see you at The Caves (see map and flyer in delegate pack for location), Niddry Street South, Edinburgh, from 8.30pm until late.



Contacts

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Conference Contact

Throughout the conference you will be able to contact the SSN staff on 07966 815669 or 0777 9086713. Please use this number for any urgent enquiries or emergencies.

Conference Sponsors



SSN conference water bottles have been provided by Scottish Water. Please use your bottle regularly and fill it with clear and fresh Scottish tap water.



The SSN would also like to thank The Co-operative for providing Fairtrade wine for the conference dinner.

If you have any queries or require any more information please contact Blueprint Conference and Events, 3 Duckburn Park, Dunblane, FK15 0EW Tel: 01786 826550 Fax: 01786 824287
E-mail: ssn@blueprintconference.com Web: www.blueprintconference.com/ssn

Staff from Blueprint Conferences will be available throughout the conference to help with any questions. We also have a number of volunteers from Keep Scotland Beautiful on-site to help throughout the event.