

December 2008

Hello

Welcome to the latest Forward Scotland bulletin, keeping you up to date with developments in the sustainable development community in Scotland and beyond in recent weeks. If you've been forwarded this bulletin and would like to receive it directly please email bulletin@forward-scotland.org.uk. You can download a pdf version of this bulletin from our [website](#).

Feature of the Month

Men are from Mars women care about Earth

The failure to successfully address gender inequality may well lie at the heart of our failure to progress towards sustainable development. Women are consistently reported as being more concerned about the environment and social equity than men but are not found in any great number in the key decision making roles.

Our report, [Making the Connections: Gender and Sustainable Development](#) looks at gender issues and introduces a proposition that if more women were in positions of decision making their different attitudes to sustainable development would have led to radically different conditions today.

Initiatives

Help for Scottish social entrepreneurs

A £1 million fund to help aspiring social entrepreneurs launch new ventures is ready to begin operating from March next year. Enterprise Minister Jim Mather said that the £1 million Social Entrepreneurs Fund would provide support to help get new social enterprises off the ground with individuals setting-up and running businesses with a social and/or environmental purpose eligible to apply. [More info](#)

Top Scottish community recycling organisations invited to enter CRNS awards

The 4th Community Recycling Network for Scotland (CRNS) awards are now accepting nominations. The awards will recognise those organisations that have made the biggest impact on local communities across Scotland in the past year. **Nominations close: 16th January 2009.** [More info](#)

Batty Charitable Trust

Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 are available to support community and grass root projects. Grants are usually awarded for a one year period. Applications can be made at any time. [More info](#)

Become a 'Master Composter'

The Edinburgh Master Composter project aims to increase the number of households composting at home. If you would like more information on volunteering as a Master Composter (training will be provided) or if you would like some free advice then [email](#) Changeworks. [Click here](#) to find out about Master Composter schemes across Scotland.

Bank of Scotland Social Entrepreneur Awards

Two awards schemes are open to any not for profit organisation within the UK whose primary purpose is to support a matter of public interest or to further social and / or environmental goals for non-commercial purposes and which has been operating for at least two years. **Applications close: 23rd February 2009.** [More info](#)

Grant and award schemes that appear in this section are not managed by Forward Scotland. Therefore please check the 'More info' to ensure eligibility and gain more information.

News

Rural projects capture the imagination- 26 Nov

Over £28 million has been granted under the Rural Priorities scheme - less than four months since the full application process opened for business. Rural Priorities is part of the £1.6 billion Scotland Rural Development Programme (SRDP), which delivers sustainable economic development for communities in Scotland's countryside. [More info](#)

Green energy research centre - 25 Nov

A new hub putting Scotland at the heart of European green energy research has been launched in Brussels.

The Scottish European Green Energy Centre (SEGEC) will play a pivotal role in putting Scotland at the centre of European research, development and deployment of clean energy technologies, such as carbon capture and renewable heat. [More info](#)

Blueprint to help fuel poor - 19 Nov

A new Energy Assistance Package is to be made available for the one million Scots who are 'fuel poor.' Health Secretary Nicola Sturgeon announced that the new package, which was the central recommendation of the Scottish Fuel Poverty Forum, will replace the Central Heating and Warm Deal programmes in a drive to tackle all aspects of fuel poverty, not just energy efficiency. [More info](#)

Scotland bosses call to keep focus on climate change - 11 Nov

Twelve senior Scottish businessmen and women have joined together to encourage more businesses in Scotland to do their bit to limit the damage of climate change – and reap the business benefits of improved energy and resource efficiency as a result. [More info](#)

Comrie steps up climate change fight - 11 Nov

The Perthshire town of Comrie has launched a community-led project to reduce its carbon footprint. Comrie, near Crieff, is undertaking a street-by-street home insulation project in partnership with Scottish and Southern Energy, which will also save householders money on their heating bills. The community is also looking at the sustainable development of nearby land, composting, food production and a local transport plan. [More info](#)

Reducing Scotland's carbon footprint - 4 Nov

The Scottish Government have announced that a further £1.1 million has been allocated to 18 community projects across Scotland as part of the next round of investment from the Climate Challenge Fund. Read the [press release](#) or find out about the successful projects [here](#). The Climate Challenge Fund is providing £27.4 million to communities over three years to cut their carbon emissions at local level.

Events

Climate Change March - 6 December, Glasgow

Organised by the Scottish Climate Change Campaign as part of the Global Day of Action during the United Nations Climate Talks in Poznan. This international event will call on world leaders to take urgent action on climate change. There will be speakers, music, workshops and activities before, during and after the event. [More info](#)

Climate Campaign Training Day - 6 December, Inverness

Friends of the Earth Scotland are running a free training day to give people the skills, knowledge and confidence to take part in their Big Ask Scotland campaign. [More info](#)

Publications

Scotland could do better - again

Published on 26 November 2008 the [Sustainable Development Commission](#) has sent a 'could do much better message' to the Scottish Government. Progress made in some areas, moving backwards in others but positively the structures that govern our lives may be moving in a good direction. [More info](#)

Scottish house condition survey 2007

The Scottish Government report on key indicators of the Scottish housing stock including energy efficiency and housing quality. [More info](#)

Wind farm planning advice

Provides advice to planning authorities on supplementary planning guidance for wind farms, particularly on the process of preparing spatial frameworks for wind farms over 20 megawatts capacity. [More info](#)

Reports on energy and climate change

Three new reports have been published looking at energy and climate change have been published. The reports are:

[Mitigating against climate change in Scotland: Identification and initial assessment of policy options](#)

[Scottish energy study - volume 5: Energy and carbon dioxide projections for Scotland](#)

[Grid issues arising from changes to the generation background in Scotland](#)

Consultations

Scottish Climate Change Bill - Forestry Proposals

Consult now on the proposed amendments to the Scottish Climate Change Bill aimed at facilitating options that could increase the contribution of the national forest estate to climate change mitigation. **Consultation closes: 27th January 2009.** [More info](#)

Featured Website

www.favourclub.com is a web site where people from all over the world link together to help each other out. By doing favours for each other, they not only save huge amounts of money, but make lots of new friends as well.

Sustainable Scotland

If you're interested in what's happening with sustainable development in Scotland, then visit the new web portal designed by and hosted by Forward Scotland.

The site provides information for individuals, communities, businesses and policy-makers. For example, by browsing the through the sustainable communities section (which replaces the popular **Community Webnet**) you can access information on funding, best practice, tools and resources. It's mini-web pages provide the facility for every community group in Scotland to have a web presence. Visit now at: www.sustainableScotland.com

FORWARD SCOTLAND

The Lodge, EarlsGate House, St Ninians Road, Stirling, FK8 2HE

General enquiries: enquiries@forward-scotland.org.uk

Bulletin enquiries: bulletin@forward-scotland.org.uk

Tel: 0560 0010 560 / 0870 4711 666