

Welcome to the BEFS e-Bulletin.

**Latest:**

BEFS is delighted to announce the appointment of Craig Stirrat as its new Director ([news release](#)). Craig has an impressive track record, having built up considerable experience over 26 years working in the Scottish local authority built environment sector and is the immediate past Chair of the Chartered Institute of Housing Scotland. Craig will start in post on 1st June, and we very much look forward to welcoming him into the Forum.

**Upcoming meetings:**

3rd June: BEFS General Meeting and seminar: Elections and influencing party policy - preparation for Scottish elections 2011 (more information below)

8th July: BEFS Historic Environment Working Group Meeting

2nd September: BEFS AGM and Congress

Please get in touch with the BEFS office for further information on forthcoming meetings and events.

Short-cut to sections:- [Consultation](#) | [Publications](#) | [Scottish Government News Release](#) | [News Release](#) | [Recent Parliamentary Questions](#) | [Recent Parliamentary Answers](#) | [Other parliamentary activity](#) | [Events](#) | [Training](#) | [Job Vacancies](#) | [Other updates](#)

## Consultation

### **The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2010: Consultation Paper (SG 21/05/10)**

This consultation paper sets out the Scottish Government's proposals for the consolidating and updating Part II of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (the 1999 EIA regulations), the regulations which apply the EIA Directive to the Scottish planning system. Consultation period 21 May - 27 August 2010. [Read more](#)

### **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial Waters**

The Scottish Government has carried out a Strategic Environment Assessment of the potential for offshore wind developments in Scottish Territorial Waters. This has informed the development of a Draft Development Plan setting out short, medium and long term options for future development. The Environment Report explains the likely significant environmental effects of the Draft Development Plan. Views on both the Draft Development Plan and the Environmental Report are now being sought from all interested parties and members of the public. Consultation period 19 May - 16 August 2010.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial Waters: Volume 1: Environmental Report (SG 19/05/10). [Read more](#)

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial

Waters: Volume 2: Appendices (SG 19/05/10) [Read more](#)

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial Waters: Non-Technical Summary (SG 19/05/10) [Read more](#)

Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial Waters (SG 19/05/10) [Read more](#)

Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial Waters - Covering Letter (SG 19/05/10) [Read more](#)

Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial Waters: Non-Technical Summary (SG 19/05/10) [Read more](#)

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## Publications

**The Coalition: our programme for government** (Cabinet Office 20/05/10)

The Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister have launched the government's five-year policy programme. [Read more](#) & [document](#)

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## Scottish Government News Release

**Sir John Elvidge to retire** (SG 21/05/10)

Sir John Elvidge, Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government, has announced that he will retire, after seven years in the post, towards the end of June. [Read more](#)

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## News Release

**UNESCO World Heritage List applications** (dcms 25/05/10)

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport is preparing a tentative list of natural, cultural and mixed sites for potential nomination for inscription on the [UNESCO World Heritage List](#). This list will be submitted to UNESCO in 2011, with a view to putting forward nominations to the World Heritage Committee from 2012. The closing date for applications is 11 June 2010. [Read more](#)

**£7 Million to help repair England's historic places of worship** (EH 24/05/10)

English Heritage (EH) and the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) have announced funding of just under £7 million to help restore 68 historic Grade II listed places of worship in England. Places of worship from a range of faiths and denominations are set to benefit from the organisations' joint Repair Grants for Places of Worship programme. [Read more](#)

**English Heritage's historical archive catalogue now online** (EH 24/05/10)

For the first time the public will be able to search online a catalogue describing more than a million historical photographs and documents relating to England's historic buildings and archaeological sites held by the National Monuments Record (NMR), English Heritage's public archive. [Read more](#)

**2010 RIBA Awards** (A+DS 20/05/10)

The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland announced in March Scotland's shortlist of 16 buildings, the largest ever submission to the UK's most prestigious awards. The result is a fantastic list of very varied projects and geographical spread, including a masterplan, housing, major conservation work, hospital and education provision and even a distillery. At a time when life has been challenging for the architectural profession and construction industry these projects truly demonstrate that good architecture can have a huge positive impact on peoples' lives and Scotland's economy. [Read more](#)

#### **New guidance on oak tree disease published (FC 18/05/10)**

New advice for woodland owners worried that their oak trees might be suffering from acute oak decline disease has been published by the Forestry Commission. Symptoms of acute oak decline include dark fluid bleeding from splits in the bark on tree trunks, and as affected trees approach death there is a notable deterioration of the canopy, or tree tops, and 'dieback' of the branches. The condition can kill a tree in as little as four or five years, and it has been found affecting hundreds of trees across central and south-east England and parts of Wales. [Read more](#)

#### **Oxford study finds that ivy can protect walls (EH 18/05/10)**

The received wisdom that ivy destroys buildings has been overturned by a new study carried out by Oxford University and commissioned by English Heritage. English Heritage commissioned a team of Oxford University academics to research the likely effects of ivy on historic buildings. In the three-year project, Oxford researchers analysed the effects of ivy growing on buildings in five different parts of England and discovered that the plant plays a protective role. They found that an ivy canopy was like a thermal shield, combating the extremes of temperature which often cause walls to crack. [Read more](#)

#### **Consultation underway on guidelines for marine protected areas (SNH13/05/10)**

Users of Scotland's marine environment are being given the opportunity to comment on draft guidelines for identifying marine protected areas (MPAs) in the seas around Scotland. A network of MPAs is provided for in the new Scottish Marine Act and the UK Marine and Coastal Access Act. The role of the network will be to ensure the sustainable management of marine habitats, species, geology and landforms. Draft guidelines for selecting individual areas have been drawn up by Marine Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), with input from fishing, energy, conservation and other interests. They include a draft list of priority marine features for which MPAs could be selected. Examples include flameshell beds, northern sea fan communities and coral gardens. [Read more](#)

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## **Recent Parliamentary Questions**

### Parliamentary Questions

Questions marked with a (^) are initiated by the Scottish Executive in order to facilitate the provision of information to the Parliament.

Questions in which a member has indicated a declarable interest are marked with an "R".

S3W-33730 Peter Peacock: To ask the Scottish Executive to what extent planning authorities are bound by the recommendations arising from examination reports on strategic development plans and local development plans as set out in Planning Circular 1 2009: Development Planning. (SP18/05/10)

S3W-33771 Stuart McMillan: To ask the Scottish Executive what assistance it provides to cultural and heritage events in the West of Scotland. (SP 20/05/10)

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## Recent Parliamentary Answers

Questions marked with a (^) are initiated by the Scottish Executive in order to facilitate the provision of information to the Parliament.

Q S3W-33406 Elaine Murray: To ask the Scottish Executive how an owner-occupier of a C(S)-listed building can apply for it to be delisted. (SP 29/04/10)

A Answered by Fiona Hyslop (Monday, May 10, 2010): An owner-occupier may apply for a building to be delisted by writing to Historic Scotland's Listing Team, giving the address of the property and setting out why they consider it no longer meets the criteria for inclusion on the list. The team will then investigate the case, consulting as required, making any changes necessary, and keeping the proposer informed at each stage.

Q S3W-33479 David Stewart: To ask the Scottish Executive what guidance has been issued on the proposed use of the Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation for charitable organisations. (SP 04/05/10)

A Answered by Fergus Ewing (11/05/10): The Scottish Government recently consulted on policy proposals developed by the Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIOs) Working Group for the implementation of the SCIO. In light of the responses received and views expressed at consultation events, we will develop draft SCIO regulations, built on the policy foundations of the SCIOs Working Group's preferred model. These will be tested in the public arena during a shorter, targeted consultation exercise later in the year, before the provisions are finalised for laying in Parliament. We will work closely with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) on the development of guidance on the SCIO. Until then, background information on the SCIO and consultation material is available on the Scottish Government [website](#)

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## Other Parliamentary activity

### Bills in Progress

#### Historic Environment (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill (Ex)

Introduced 4 May, Lead committee - Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee  
Stage 1 (Subordinate Legislation Committee) 8 June

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## Events

### Elections and influencing party policy: preparation for Scottish elections 2011 - BEFS seminar and discussion

3 June, 3.30pm, at RICS, 9 Manor Place, Edinburgh

SCVO will start working on a third sector election manifesto early summer 2010. What should BEFS do to prepare for the elections and to influence party policies? What can individual organisations do? What are the key issues and asks to raise?

Andy Myles, parliamentary officer Scottish Environment LINK, will provide food for thought on Elections and influencing party policies: advice on preparing for elections, producing manifestos, influencing contents of

party manifestos, other ways to influence party policies.

Please contact BEFS if you wish to attend this seminar and discussion.

### **SAGS Annual Conference and AGM June 2010**

*Day 1:* Friday 18th June, Parish Halls, George Street, Glasgow

There will be presentations from senior health board and local authority managers who have practical experience of implementing allotment and community cultivation projects. There will be opportunities for discussion with experts.

*Day 2:* 19th Saturday June, Victoria Halls, Dunblane

The theme this year is sustainable gardening. Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP and Jim Tolson MSP will chair the morning and afternoon sessions respectively. [Read more](#)

### **Power to the People - The built heritage of Scotland's hydroelectric power**

Conference and Publication Launch

22nd June, Perth

This one day conference and tour marks the publication 'Power to the People' and celebrates the creation of many internationally important buildings and infrastructure, demonstrating architectural as well as engineering achievement, spanning the last 100 years. [Read more](#)

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## **Training**

### **The structural repairs of historic buildings**

21st-22nd June, Inverness

The aim of this masterclass is to provide professionals with a sound understanding of the philosophy of conservation and a better understanding of the relationship between structural engineering and conservation, of safety issues and of the aesthetics of conservation based structural repairs. This is a not to be missed opportunity for anyone involved in the structural repair of historic buildings.

### **C1 Making and using traditional mortars**

29th-30th June, Penicuik House, Penicuik, Midlothian

2 day workshop provides a sound understanding of the correct mix proportions and mixing techniques to use traditional mortars successfully.

### **C2 Traditional masonry repairs**

21st-23rd June, Penicuik House, Penicuik, Midlothian

3 day workshop builds on the knowledge and skills gained on the 'C1 Making and using traditional mortars course'. The workshop aims to enable you to complete seamless rebuilding and repair of traditional masonry to match original work

### **Drystone walling**

17th-18th June, Charlestown Workshops, Fife

2 day workshop aimed at anyone who would like to learn the basics of dry stone walling to give you a thorough understanding of the techniques required to produce quality drystone work.

If you would like further information or to make a booking please visit [website](#)

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## **Job Vacancies**

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## **Other updates**

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Information in the Bulletin is extracted from a number of websites; including the Scottish Government (SG); the Scottish Parliament (SP); Architecture and Design Scotland (A+DS); Historic Scotland (HS); Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH); Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO); English Heritage (EH); Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE); Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG); Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS); Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA); National Assembly for Wales (NAW); Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS); Scottish Building Standards Agency (SBSA); Heritage Alliance (HL). For further information, links are provided to the relevant documents.

If you have any questions or comments on the above, or would like to submit information to be included, please get in touch with Anne Wilkinson [awilkinson@befso.org.uk](mailto:awilkinson@befso.org.uk) or tel: BEFS Office on 0131 220 6241. We hope that you find the Bulletin useful, however if you wish to be removed from the circulation list, please get in touch.

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