



## Annual Review 2011-12

## Message from SCCS Chair

On the second birthday of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act, it was a good moment to ask where have we got to and where are we going? We have the targets; we have the plans; but does Scotland have the will to deliver? Stop Climate Chaos Scotland (SCCS) has continued to acknowledge and praise the ambition and intention behind plans to reduce emissions. This year we wanted to see more evidence of those good intentions being translated in to required action.

With its 2011 spending review and 2012-13 budget there were big opportunities for the Scottish government to commit to action or fall away. The year brought opportunities for international action to help those who have done the least to cause climate change but most affected by it –or to turn aside. We have seen some progress but there is plenty more to do.

Alongside government and international commitment we need individual action. We have long argued that this requires not just polite suggestions from government, but a proper strategy. We have asked government for a more considered, research-based approach to changing behaviour. We have seen signs this year that the message is getting through.

So a lot has been done, achieving far more together than we could hope to apart. A lot more remains to be done. Our strength has always been our breadth, our numbers and our pooled resources. We will continue with our core message as we go on - an admirable path and target are to be saluted only if the path is kept to and the target met.

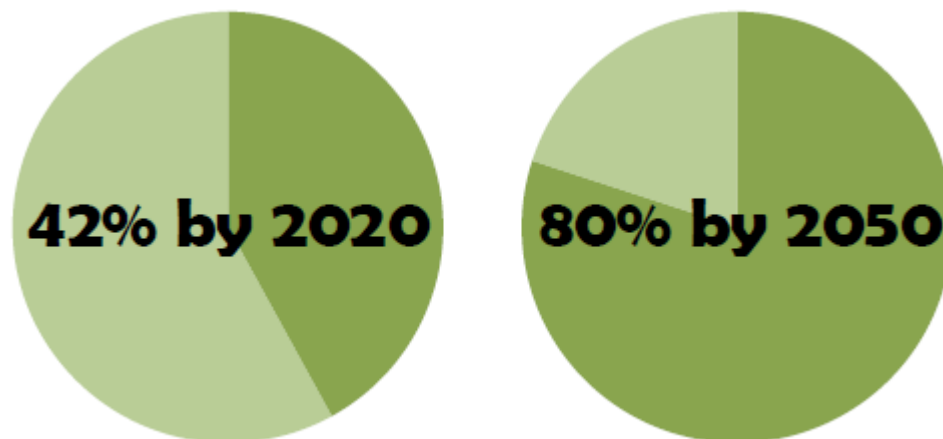


Tom Ballantine  
Chair of Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

## Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Informing and influencing policy

Securing ambitious legislation which commits Scotland to playing its part in tackling global warming was just the beginning of SCCS' work. Now we are focused on making sure this is translated to action on the ground and seeing year on year reductions in Scotland's emissions.

The Scottish Climate Change Act commits Scotland to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions (compared to 1990 levels):



To highlight the importance of Government action to make this happen, just days after the SNP majority Government came to power in May 2011, Stop Climate Chaos marched on the seat of the Scottish Government, St Andrews House, to deliver our message: It's Time to Deliver on Climate Change.

Because there were over 40 new MSPs at Holyrood, SCCS held a 'birthday party' to mark the two years since the Scottish Climate Change Act was unanimously passed by the Scottish Parliament. This highlighted some of the key elements of the Act and the responsibility on all parliamentarians to play their part in ensuring that what it commits to actually happens.



Throughout the year, SCCS continued to provide briefings and evidence to Parliament on issues related to climate change. SCCS briefing papers are made publicly available on our website at:

[www.stopclimatechaos.org/sccs-policy](http://www.stopclimatechaos.org/sccs-policy).

## Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Public Campaigning

How Government spends public money has huge implications for our country's carbon emissions. In recognition of this, SCCS campaigned collectively on the Spending Review 2011 and Budget 2012-13. Of particular concern was how the Scottish Government was funding its own plans for reducing emissions – the draft budget didn't do this and, particularly set aside just 6% of the relevant funding required – according to the Scottish Government's own documents – for low carbon transport.

Our campaign ran for around 6 months and included detailed written evidence to Parliamentary Committees, and letters to Ministers and the Cabinet. Thousands of emails were sent from people across Scotland, calling for the Government to 'put its money where its mouth is'.

The SCCS budget campaign culminated with our 'On Yer Bike!' event, when over 450 cyclists gathered on a rainy January lunchtime to call on Keith Brown, the Transport Minister, to increase the funding allocated to cycling and walking – a key component of plans to reduce Scotland's emissions from transport.



Our campaign worked and the Government listened! £13m was added to the Budget for cycling and walking. This is a huge victory for everyone who got involved with this campaign and underlines that, again, when we work collectively, we are able to influence decision-makers and create positive change.

*"I feel that SCCS ran a very successful campaign, which raised the media profile of the importance of cycling and walking. There is no doubt that the SCCS campaign challenged Ministers' thinking and raised the profile of active travel. The support we received from SCCS convinces me of the importance of wider networks and the quality of work that the coalition produces."*

John Lauder, Director, Sustrans Scotland

## Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Enabling change in other countries

### Climate Justice

SCCS has long campaigned for Scotland to provide funding for climate adaptation work in countries that are already affected by the impacts of climate change. This pressure helped result in the Scottish Government setting up the Scottish Climate Justice Fund to reflect the responsibility Scotland has to help people in poorer countries who are struggling to grow enough food to eat and provide for their families, as a direct impact of increasing global temperatures.



In £1m a year for three years is a good starting point from which Scotland can start to right that historical wrong and play our part in delivering climate justice.

### Sharing Scotland's example



Scotland accounts for just 0.02% of global emissions. So, while we must play our fair part in reducing our emissions, in line with our Climate Change Act, it makes sense to work with our networks in other countries to encourage their Governments to adopt similarly ambitious climate laws.

In summer 2011, we ran a series of workshops with NGO networks across Europe, from Slovenia (see left) to Finland, explaining how SCCS came together to form the largest, and arguably most successful, civil society coalition in Scotland.

We also produced a short film which explains our role in influencing the Scottish Climate Change Act. The film is available on our website at [www.stopclimatechaos.org/scottish-act-film](http://www.stopclimatechaos.org/scottish-act-film)



We also publicly supported the Scottish Government taking part in the UN climate talks at Durban, South Africa. Stewart Stevenson MSP, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, took part to share the story of what Scotland is committed to doing through our climate legislation.

## Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Enabling individual responsibility

SCCS has continued to work to influence the Scottish Government's public engagement strategy to encourage low carbon behaviours among the Scottish population e.g. cycling rather than driving on shorter journeys. We have also developed plans for how we can reach out to our collective membership to help people across Scotland to reduce their own carbon footprints. This work will continue to be a key area of focus for SCCS over the coming years.

## Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Working together on climate change

This timeline shows SCCS' campaigns over the years and the collective successes our coalition has achieved (up until March 2012).

<p><b>2006</b> Stop Climate Chaos Scotland is established.</p>	<p><b>2007</b> Membership of the coalition continues to grow.</p>	<p><b>2008</b> 20,000 people respond to the public consultation on Scotland's forthcoming climate change legislation. SCCS takes a leading role.</p>	<p><b>2009</b> SCCS' tireless work helps secure the most ambitious climate change laws anywhere in the world, passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament.</p>  <p>We organise the largest climate change march ever to take place in Scotland as 8,000+ people gather for The Wave in the run up to the UN talks in Copenhagen.</p>
<p><b>2010</b> SCCS works with international networks and contacts to encourage other countries to commit to ambitious climate legislation, as Scotland has done.</p> <p>We work with colleagues at Stop Climate Chaos in England and Wales to increase Westminster MPs engagement in climate change issues, through the Big Climate Connection campaign.</p>	<p><b>2011</b> We run our campaign on the Scottish Parliament elections, including the first ever live online debate on climate change.</p> <p>SCCS campaigns for public funds in Scotland to be spent in ways that reflect our climate change ambitions. Our campaign helps secure £13m more funding for low carbon forms of transport.</p>	<p><b>2012</b> The Scottish Climate Justice Fund is launched, providing new funding for people in poorer countries who are already suffering from the effects of climate change.</p> 	

## Stop Climate Chaos Scotland Financial Summary 2011-12

Total incoming resources = £30,615  
 Total resources expended = £35,803  
 Funds at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012 = £4,274

A copy of our full accounts are available on request.



## About Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland (SCCS) is a diverse coalition of 60 organisations campaigning together on climate change, including environment, faith and development organisations, student unions and community groups.

We worked together to inform the debate around the Scottish Climate Change Act when it went through Parliament in early 2009. Since then we have continued our engagement with the Parliament to ensure that Scotland meets the ambitious targets set out in the Act.

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