



Annual Review 2013

Message from SCCS Chair

Last year, Stop Climate Chaos Scotland (SCCS) pushed for good intentions on meeting emission targets to be translated into committed action. A key opportunity for the Scottish Government came this year when they published their plans, across all sectors, to meet emissions targets up to 2027.

The plans are still in draft form but, as they stand, are very unlikely to deliver on the commitments in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act of 2009. As you will gather from this review, a big effort from SCCS has gone in to pushing for plans that will deliver.

At the international level, we have seen some exciting initiatives around the world and some frustrating intransigence too. The UN has agreed to adopt a new global climate change agreement by 2015; a key moment. The demand for justice across a world, where those who did not create the climate problem are already paying the price for those who did, has not gone away. We have continued to voice the demand for climate justice.

Good things do happen. The Scottish Government published a coherent, research-based guide to achieving low carbon changes in individual behaviour. However, the good work will only be useful if it is followed up with the resources and policies, both essential on any reading of the guide, to deliver change.

The evidence that interventions to reduce emissions do not diminish but rather foster economic, health and other benefits has continued to mount supporting our arguments for win-win policies that will build a positive low carbon future.

This year saw the publication of *Beacons: stories for our not so distant future*, a collection of short stories from award-winning writers with original responses to the climate crisis. A big thank you to board member, Mike Robinson, and all those others who made it happen. All the royalties go to support the work of Stop Climate Chaos, so please buy it!

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland continues to achieve more together than we could apart. A huge amount has been achieved with minimal resources so thank you to everyone involved in making that happen.

The example we set in a small country like ours can inspire others, the personal example we set can change others. But getting it done and setting an example must be through actions not only words.



Tom Ballantine
Chair of Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Public Campaigning

'Get your Act together!' campaign

In October 2012, SCCS brought together people from every region of Scotland to the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh to meet collectively with their MSPs. The 'Get your Act together' mass climate lobby was said to be one of the most exciting and engaging events to take place in Parliament in recent times.

The event was busy and created a considerable buzz in Parliament during that lunchtime. We received excellent feedback from MSPs, participants and SCCS member organisations' staff, with MSPs indicating they appreciated the opportunity to be connected with 'real people' rather than lobbyists.



Marco Biagi MSP talks to his constituents at the mass lobby, ©SCCS/Colin Hattersley Photography

Every region in Scotland was represented on the day with over 50 MSPs attending to talk to their constituents about climate change issues. A wide range of SCCS member organisations were represented one way or another at the event which helped to stress the diverse nature of our coalition.

"It was really good - its the first time I've ever done anything like that. I found it very empowering. Highlands and Islands constituent

"Lunchtime meeting very impressive"
Chic Brodie MSP

"I found the debate with Glasgow folk really engaging, and I'm sure that experience was felt by other MSPs too,"
Patrick Harvie MSP

"the Stirling folk were asking all of the right questions and putting me under pressure"
Bruce Crawford MSP

"Thanks for a great campaigning day - enjoyable and successful. MSPs seemed very receptive."
Glasgow constituent

The campaign increased Parliamentary awareness of climate change and highlighted the public support from across Scotland for more action in this area. The event took place shortly before Parliamentary scrutiny of the Scottish Government's draft climate action plan, and was an opportunity to highlighted some of the key concerns raised about that plan.

Stop Climate Chaps Scotland: Informing and influencing policy

Scottish Government's plan for reducing emissions

SCCS has been the key stakeholder engaging with the Scottish Government and Parliament on the preparation and scrutiny of new draft plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and meeting climate change targets between now and 2027 – also known as *Low Carbon Scotland: the Report on Proposals and Policies (RPP2)*.



Scottish Parliament at Holyrood, Edinburgh

SCCS has been engaging with the Scottish Government on the development of this plan since early 2012. In June that year, we held workshops with MSPs and researchers from each of the political parties represented in the Scottish Parliament, to highlight particular areas which SCCS collectively agreed must be addressed in the new plan. This focused on the need to secure a plan which is credible, ambitious and transparent and suggested measures to secure emissions reductions from the transport, housing and land use sectors. We also participated in stakeholder events organised by the Scottish Government team who were preparing the plan.

The Scottish Government published its draft plan for reducing emissions at the end of January 2013. By this time, it had been confirmed that Scotland missed its first climate change target to reduce emissions in 2010 – in fact emissions increased during that year. This further emphasised the need for leadership from Government in delivering on its climate ambitions.

The new draft plan was widely criticised, particularly by SCCS who took a strong position, saying it was not a credible nor sufficiently ambitious plan to ensure Scotland meets our legally-binding emissions targets set under the Scottish Climate Change Act and lacked transparency to enable proper scrutiny. We achieved a great deal of media coverage for this including the top story on BBC Reporting Scotland, Scotsman, Herald, Sunday Herald and BBC Radio Scotland.

This was followed by a 60 day period of Parliamentary scrutiny of the plan by four Parliamentary Committees. SCCS engaged with all four Committees, providing substantial evidence, written and oral briefings and seeking further opportunities to highlight our concerns in the media. This culminated in Committees' reports which recommended the Government make changes to those plans, addressing some of our key concerns. This was also highlighted in the Parliamentary debate on 26th March 2013.

The final Scottish Government plans for reducing emissions, which must take into account recommendations from Parliamentary Committees and input from stakeholders, is expected to be published in summer 2013. SCCS will be looking for considerable improvements to have been made.

Stop Climate Chaps Scotland: Informing and influencing policy

Pushing for ethical public spending in Scotland: Procurement Reform Bill

Each year in Scotland, over £9bn of public money is spent on goods and services through procurement by local and central Government and other public bodies. This presents a massive opportunity to source and purchase from sustainable sources, helping to reduce Scotland's carbon footprint, and contribute to our emissions reduction targets.

For a number of years now, the prospect of a new law in Scotland to ensure green or sustainable procurement has been on the cards. When SCCS campaigned together in 2011 in the run-up to the Scottish Parliamentary elections, we identified this as one of our top priority issues in our manifesto. To our delight, a commitment to deliver on this – a Sustainable Procurement Bill - was included in the SNP manifesto, the party which, of course, went on to win an overall Parliamentary majority in those elections.

In autumn 2012, the Scottish Government consulted on the proposed Procurement Reform Bill. SCCS and other stakeholders expressed major concern about the apparent shift of focus away from opportunities presented by sustainable procurement.

SCCS has since joined with other large civil society coalitions – Scottish Trades Union Congress (STUC), Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO), Enough Food for Everyone IF campaign and Scottish Fair Trade Forum – to strongly voice our collective concerns about the direction the Bill is taking. We have called for ethical and sustainability issues to be at the heart of the legislation in order to ensure a culture change in the way procurers go about their business.

SCCS engaged with MSPs to inform the Parliamentary debate on the proposed Bill which took place in April 2013. This included statements from the Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure and Capital Investment, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, who has overall responsibility for this legislation, who said that:



Nicola Sturgeon MSP

"...There will be no shift in emphasis away from sustainable procurement. I and others have talked about ethical procurement, which is an important part of a sustainable approach. Good procurement will be sustainable procurement, and sustainability, whether environmental, social or economic, sits at the heart of what I describe as the value for money triangle of cost, quality and sustainability. That is at the heart of our approach to procurement and it should be at the heart of the bill as well."

SCCS continues to engage, in collaboration with other civil society partners, with the Scottish Government on this issue as the draft Bill is being prepared. We hope to engage with the Bill process as it passes through Parliament to try to ensure the above statement is reflected in the final legislation.

Stop Climate Chaps Scotland: Informing and influencing policy

Delivering on Climate Justice

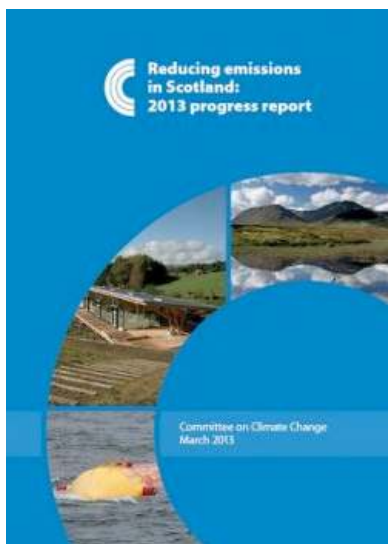
Climate Justice is a concept that international development groups working on climate change have been discussing for a number of years now. With regard to that agenda, climate justice refers to the need to address the inherent unfairness that those the world's poorest communities who are most affected by increasing and more severe droughts and floods and who are least equipped to respond, have done the least to cause the problem in the first place. As a matter of justice, richer countries like Scotland have a duty to enable those affected to adapt to those changes and to rapidly reduce the greenhouse gases we are responsible for.



First Minister, Alex Salmond, and Mary Robinson at the launch of the Scottish Climate Justice Fund

To this end, Stop Climate Chaos has long called the establishment of a Scottish Climate Justice Fund. This was one of the main asks of our 2011 alternative election manifesto. In part as a result of our efforts, in May 2012, the Scottish Government launched its Climate Justice Fund, providing funding to some of those communities overseas who are already most affected by climate change impacts. The first round of funding has been awarded to support climate change adaptation projects in Zambia and Malawi. Stop Climate Chaos will continue to push for the fund to be increased to match the Scottish International Development Budget (currently £9m a year).

Government's climate change advisors publish their report on progress



Each year, the Scottish Government's advisors on climate change, the UK Committee on Climate Change (UKCCC) – which also advises the UK Government - publishes a report on Scotland's progress towards meeting climate change targets. In 2013, this coincided with Parliamentary scrutiny of the Scottish Government's draft climate change plan (see above for more on this).

SCCS was concerned that while the Committee report highlighted some of the concerns we shared about the lack of action e.g. stating 'the early target years reflect low levels of implementation and a significant increase in effort will be required in most sectors to meet future targets', this was in contrast to the unduly positive tone of their accompanying press release, which was titled: 'Scotland makes good progress in implementing its climate change strategy'. We wrote a letter to the CCC to highlight our concern about their press work around this report presenting a distorted picture of its findings.

All of SCCS briefing papers are made publicly available on our website at www.stopclimatechaos.org/sccs-policy.

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Low carbon behaviour change



Publication of Beacons: stories for our not so distant future

This short story book was launched on 7th March 2013 and is the result of seven years of work to bring together literary voices on the pressing issue of climate change.

One of the critical issues in creating action around climate change is to engage people more fully on this subject. This short story book has attempted to help do that, by challenging some of the UK's leading authors to communicate the topic. This appeal to the left brain, the fingers, gut and soul of readers hopes to reveal concerns about sustainability in a way that constant reiteration of the science cannot.

Using their imaginations, authors as diverse as Alasdair Gray, Joanne Harris, Janice Galloway and A.L. Kennedy have contributed to this collection of short stories, to produce a new contribution in the effort to move towards a more sustainable society. The royalties from sales of the book will be donated to Stop Climate Chaos.

Scottish Government's Behaviours Framework

On 4th March 2013, the Scottish Government published its Behaviours Framework, setting out how best to engage with the public on the issue of climate change, and enable them to take up low carbon behaviours. Stop Climate Chaos welcomed the Framework as a considerable step forward from the Government's previous Public Engagement Strategy. The Framework sets out some good principles for achieving low carbon behaviour change, however we highlighted concerns that this isn't reflected in, and in fact is in some cases contradicted by, Scottish Government policy.

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Enabling change in other countries

Sharing Scotland's example with other countries

Scotland's climate change law, the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, remains the strongest in the world, with targets to reduce emissions by 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels. The legislation also provides a strong example in: its duty on all public bodies; inclusion of emissions from international aviation and shipping; a requirement to report on consumption as well as actual emissions produced in Scotland, among other things. Because of this, since the legislation was passed in 2009, SCCS has worked with our international networks to promote this example in other countries, particularly those in Europe who are considering their own climate laws.

Over the past year, the Republic of Ireland has been progressing its own climate legislation. SCCS has worked with colleagues there to share information about the Scottish Climate Change Act and how we collectively campaigned for that. We have also worked with them to seek opportunities for Scottish stakeholders to speak to the Irish Government and/or Parliament about the Scottish approach to climate change.

Rio Connection campaign

In June 2012, an international conference took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil as a follow up to the Earth Summit of 1992. Through our Rio Connection campaign, SCCS joined with our colleagues at SCC in England and Wales to raise the public profile of this important event and ask politicians across the UK to support more action on sustainability. We also organised a media stunt with the Scottish Environment Minister, Stewart Stevenson MSP, who was attending the summit to share the example set by Scotland's climate change laws.



The main outcome of the summit was a document called 'The Future we Want' which reconfirmed commitments to sustainable development and included agreement on the need to set Sustainable Development Goals and the role that the green economy might play in future.





New website

After many months in the planning, a new Stop Climate Chaos, including Stop Climate Chaos Scotland, website was launched in December 2012. The new site is much improved from the old one, with clearly defined sections for news, events, campaigns etc. There is also better read across from social media and better representation of the wide coalition of organisations we bring together. The website now also includes a section with answers to the most frequently asked questions on climate change.

The web address remains www.stopclimatechaos.org/scotland

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:

<p>2006 Stop Climate Chaos Scotland is established.</p> <p>2007 Membership of the coalition continues to grow.</p> <p>2008 Over 20,000 people respond to the public consultation on Scotland's forthcoming climate change legislation. SCCS takes a leading role.</p>	<p>2009 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>2010 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>2011 We run our campaign on the Scottish Parliament elections, including the first ever live online debate on climate change.</p>  <p>We campaign 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>2012</p>  <p>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> <p>Our mass lobby of the Scottish Parliament, as part of the 'Get your Act together' campaign brings together constituents from across Scotland with over 50 MSPs from all five political parties.</p>	<p>2013 A new short story book about climate change is published, creating a new dialogue on the topic.</p> 

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland: Working together on climate change

New members who joined this year

Welcome to the following organisations who joined Stop Climate Chaos during the year:



Stop Climate Chaos Scotland Financial Summary

(latest available figures: FY 2012-13)

Total incoming resources = £35,937

Total resources expended = £31,212

Funds at 31st March 2013 = £8,849

A copy of our full accounts is 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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