



**RTPI**

mediation of space · making of place

# Spatial Dimensions of Climate Change

13 November 2008 • The Royal Society of Edinburgh



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## The Annual Conference of the Royal Town Planning Institute in Scotland

The scientific evidence on climate change makes local action imperative. Climate change is one of the most serious threats, facing Scotland and the world. 'The science is clear. Climate change is happening. The impact is real. The time to act is now'

*UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, 12 December 2007*

Against the background of a new Climate Change Bill and the proposed Climate Change Adaptation Framework this conference will explore how we place adaptation and mitigation

at the heart of spatial planning. It will examine the role of spatial planning in creating, protecting and managing energy efficient communities; in reducing emissions and the impacts of climate change; and in supporting actions at national, strategic, local and community levels.

This conference provides the opportunity for practitioners and stakeholders to share ideas and inspiration about mitigation and adaptation solutions, to hear about recent policy developments and to

consider the implications for planners, their statutory partners, developers, politicians and communities. Four related sessions will explore the role of strategic and local spatial planning in achieving a zero carbon economy; in creating energy efficient communities; in developing new approaches to the assessment of impacts; and in supporting innovative action at the community level.

The Institute would like to thank the following for their sponsorship of this event:



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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**13 November 2008****The Royal Society of Edinburgh**

22-26 George Street

Edinburgh, EH2 2PQ

Tel: 0131 240 5000

Nearest Station: Waverley

Registration and coffee: 9.15–9.50; close 4.30

The RSE is located in the heart of Edinburgh, behind Princes Street on the corner of George Street and Hanover Street, about 5 minutes walk from Waverley Station. For more information on directions and for a location map, please go to [www.royalsoced.org.uk](http://www.royalsoced.org.uk)

# Conference

## Why you should attend this conference

Climate change is one of the most serious threats facing Scotland and the world today. Alex Salmond, Scotland's First Minister, has said that 'Scotland will aim to become a global leader in developing solutions to the challenge of climate change,' and in his foreword to the consultation on 'Adapting our ways: managing Scotland's climate risk', Stewart Stevenson, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change said 'we must act to safeguard our communities and the long-term prosperity of our environment and economy from the negative consequences of a changing climate. We must develop a well-adapting Scotland.'

Action to ensure that Scotland is adapting effectively to the impacts of climate change will involve active participation by everyone. Planners and the planning system will have a crucial role to play in providing leadership and co-ordination; and in ensuring that adaptation and mitigation are integrated at appropriate levels of decision making.

This Conference provides a timely opportunity to discuss the way ahead; to identify core principles and priority actions for climate adaptation; to prepare ourselves for the pivotal role to be played by spatial planning in integrating actions across sectors; and to consider how we can work with and support communities through the work of the Climate Challenge Fund.

The Conference provides the opportunity for policy-makers, practitioners, stakeholders, and community representatives to share ideas and inspiration, to hear about current policy initiatives; to discuss new approaches across key sectors; to gain inspiration from projects at strategic and local community levels; and to consider ways of enhancing resilience to change, and achieving appropriate adaptation actions.

## Benefits of attending

This Conference will:

- 1 provide you with the latest information on the Climate Change Bill and associated actions to establish Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy;
- 2 help you understand the implications of adaptation, risk management, monitoring and mitigation for spatial planning;
- 3 stimulate your thinking on innovative practice, partnership actions and community engagement; and
- 4 provide an opportunity to share ideas on the role of spatial planning in enhancing resilience to change and achieving adaptation actions.

## Who should attend?

- Planners working in the public, private, voluntary, academic and community sectors
- Students of planning in full-time and part-time education
- Members of other professional groups with an interest in spatial planning
- Developers and infrastructure providers
- National, local and community politicians with an interest in the planning system

9.15 Registration and coffee

9.50 **Welcome and Introduction from the Chair**

*Roger Kelly, Convener, RTPI in Scotland*

9.55 **Opening Address: Climate Change – Scotland's Response**

*Philip Wright, Deputy Director, and Head of Climate Change Division, Scottish Government*

10.15 **Questions and Discussion**

### Session 1

This session explores the key issues for spatial planning, and discusses ways in which we can place adaptation and mitigation at the heart of strategic spatial planning in Scotland

10.25 **Climate Change and Carbon Management**

*Evan Williams, Technical Director of Sustainability, RPS*

10.45 **Mitigation and Adaptation in the Transport Sector and Implications for Spatial Planning**

*Dr Malcolm Reed, Chief Executive, Transport Scotland*

11.05 **Risk Management and Spatial Planning**

*Sandy Gillon, Environmental Sustainability Manager, Glasgow City Council*

11.25 **Questions and Discussion**

11.40 Tea/coffee break

### Session 2

This session explores the ways in which we can work towards a zero carbon economy and achieve energy efficient settlements. It considers planning's response to issues of settlement and building design, energy consumption and waste disposal, and the role of forestry and green networks in mitigation and adaptation strategies.

12.00 **Addressing Energy Efficiency in the Built Environment**

*John Stocks, Manager, Carbon Trust-Scotland*

12.20 **Energy from Waste: Why do we need it? How do we do it?**

*John Ferguson, Strategic Projects Manager, Scottish Environment Protection Agency*



# programme

12.40 **The Right Tree in the Right Place – Using Woodlands to help tackle Climate Change**

**Simon Hodge**, Head of Policy, Forestry Commission Scotland

1.00 **Questions and Discussion**

1.15 **Lunch**

### Session 3

This session explores new approaches to data collection, new ways of monitoring and assessing progress, and mitigation and adaptation tools for policy evaluation at strategic and local levels

2.05 **Introduction to Afternoon Session**

**Roger Kelly**, Convener, RTPI in Scotland

2.10 **SEA and the Spatial Implications of Climate Change**

**John Fox**, Environmental Consultant, Halcrow Group Ltd

2.30 **Local Climate Impacts Profiles: an Emerging Climate Change Tool for Local Authorities**

**Vanessa Kind**, Programme Manager, Climate Change, Scotland and Northern Ireland Forum for Environmental Research (SNIFFER)

2.50 **Questions and Discussion**

3.05 **Tea/coffee break**

### Session 4

This session explores actions at the community level through the work of the Climate Challenge Fund.

3.25 **Climate Challenge Fund: Sustainable Places Designed by Communities**

Introduction by **Jon Rathjen**, Team Leader, Sustainable Places, Greener Scotland Directorate

3.30 **Case Studies in Local Action**

**Speakers from the Climate Challenge Fund Projects**

4.10 **Questions and Discussion**

4.20 **RTPI Presidential Address and Closing Remarks**

**Janet O'Neill**, President, RTPI

4.30 **Close of conference**

## Conference speakers

**John Fox** is an environmental specialist, currently managing Halcrow's Strategic Environmental Assessment projects in Scotland. He has recently led on a range of Scottish Government policy level SEAs, including the Forward Strategy for Scottish Agriculture: Next Steps, the Scottish Soil Framework and the Consultation Proposals for the Scottish Climate Change Bill. John has also delivered spatial and transport plan SEAs for Local Authority clients in Scotland.

**Simon Hodge** is Head of Policy for Forestry Commission Scotland, which serves as the Scottish Government's Forestry Directorate. Simon's background includes 8 years of practical forest management and 5 years of forestry policy responsibilities, as well as 10 years in forest research and extensive involvement with wider land use issues within the Scottish Government. He manages a number of rural development projects in East Africa for an Edinburgh-based NGO.

**Vanessa Kind** is Programme Manager for SNIFFER's climate change topic area. Prior to her work with SNIFFER she was a socio-economist for the Scottish Environment Protection Agency's sustainable development unit. Vanessa is originally from Nova Scotia, Canada, and has lived in Scotland for the last 8 years.

**Janet O'Neill** is RTPI President for 2008. The main theme of her Presidency is education and lifelong learning, and she also takes a special interest in International issues. She is the senior partner at O'Neill and Associates which she set up in York in 1982 following local government experience in strategic planning, local planning and development control. She specialises in assessing development potential for corporate clients and other institutions and acts as an expert planning witness at public inquiries. Janet is a member of the General Assembly of the Royal Town Planning Institute. She is also an External Examiner at Westminster University Planning School and has presented at RTPI National Conferences and the Planning Summer School.

**Jon Rathjen** works in the Greener Scotland Directorate in the Scottish Government with responsibility for delivery of the Sustainable Places theme one of 5 themes within the Greener Scotland Strategic Objective. Jon is responsible for the Climate Challenge Fund (£18.8m) 2008-11. Immediately before this current post Jon worked on the sustainable development of Scotland's built environment within the context of Choosing Our Future – Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy.

**Dr Malcolm Reed** is Chief Executive of Transport Scotland. He was previously Director General of Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive, a position he held since 1997. Before that Malcolm spent 17 years with Strathclyde Regional Council as Chief Policy Planner, Senior Executive Officer in the Chief Executive's office, and then Assistant Chief Executive.

**John Stocks** was appointed the Carbon Trust's first Manager for Scotland in 2002. A chartered electrical engineer with extensive experience of both energy utilisation and generation, John worked previously with ScottishPower and British Steel. Over the last 5 years he has successfully developed the Carbon Trust's activities in Scotland, helping organisations to reduce Scotland's carbon footprint and to commercialise the Scottish low carbon technologies of tomorrow.

**Evan Williams** is Technical Director of Sustainability at the international consulting firm RPS. He is based in Glasgow. Until recently Evan was Manager of Economics and Sustainable Development policy work at the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA). He has more than 12 years' experience as an environmental economist.

**Philip Wright** is Deputy Director, Climate Change, within the Climate Change and Water Industry Directorate of the Scottish Government, responsible for climate change policy in Scotland through a Scottish Climate Change Bill and working with the UK Government on the UK Climate Change Bill. Formerly with Lothian Regional Council and the former Scottish Office, Philip is also a member of Ofgem's Environmental Advisory Committee and Chairman of the Scotland and Northern Ireland Forum for Environmental Research (SNIFFER).

### Climate Challenge Fund

*The Climate Challenge Fund aims to help Scottish communities make a real difference by significantly reducing their carbon emissions. The Fund was proposed by the Scottish Green Party during the 2007 election, and adopted by the Scottish Government as part of the budget negotiations. The Climate Challenge Fund offers grants to a range of community organisations to help with the planning, learning, communication and most importantly action to reduce carbon emissions. The projects can involve a range of actions, from helping to use less energy, or walk and cycle more, to local sustainable food. The projects should be delivered in the context of the wider environmental, social and economic dimensions, that give people new skills, improve health, help them to work together or provide better community facilities, but carbon reduction must be at the heart of every proposal.*

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**Reduced conference fees**

A limited number of places are available at a reduced rate for student members of the Royal Town Planning Institute who at the time of the conference are in full-time education, and for Members of the Institute who at the time are unemployed/retired or licentiates. Bookings for these places must be made via our Customer Services team on 0845 082 1171 as proof of situation is required. Please contact Annette O'Donnell at the RTPI in Scotland on 0131 226 1959 for further details.

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