

NSCA Scotland

Annual Review 2005



environmental protection, improvement, innovation

Scotland

National Society for Clean Air and Environmental Protection

Annual Review

NSCA in Profile

NSCA is the environmental protection charity that brings together organisations across the public, private and voluntary sectors to promote a balanced and innovative approach to understanding and solving environmental problems.

NSCA is both active and influential in the fields of air quality, noise, land quality, local environment management and industrial regulation. It is a registered charity with over 100 years' experience of environmental campaigning, public information provision, producing educational resources and policy formulation.

Its membership in the UK includes over 350 corporate bodies—business and environmental organisations, and 60% of UK local government—in addition to individual members.

NSCA Scotland in Profile

The Division operates in support of the UK organisation by providing valuable input to NSCA's work at a national level. NSCA Scotland operates within Scotland engaging with the Scottish Executive, local government, SEPA and various other organisations on environmental issues and policy.

This work is undertaken by the staff, honorary officers and Committee Members listed below and is supported by a grant from the Scottish Executive.

Membership of the Division includes 13 corporate bodies and more than 85% of Scottish Local Authorities.

Honorary Officers 2005

President:	Tom McDonald, Glasgow City Council
Vice President:	Kevin Thomas, North Ayrshire Council
Honorary Vice President:	Sarah Boyack MSP, Scottish Parliament Dr Campbell Gemmell, SEPA Councillor Alex Mosson, Glasgow City Council Councillor David Munn, North Ayrshire Council Councillor David Stevenson, Glasgow City Council Brian Wilson MP, House of Commons
Immediate Past President:	Calum MacDonald, SEPA
Honorary Secretary/Treasurer:	Lorraine Tulloch, formerly Glasgow City Council now Individual Member

Ordinary Committee Members

Aileen Brodie, Aberdeen City Council	Anne McDonald, Individual member
Alastair Brown, Glasgow City Council	Prof George Morris, Scottish Executive
Annie Danskin, BMT Cordah	Dr Mike O'Leary, Individual Member
John Harris, Individual Member	David Paris, Renfrewshire Council
Dr Owen Harrop, Individual member	June Ross, Highland Council
Prof Andrew Hursthouse, University of Paisley	Councillor Gillie Thomson, Stirling Council
Councillor Russell Imrie, Midlothian Council	Martin Valenti, SEPA
Ann Jobson, West Dunbartonshire Council	Graeme Webster, Falkirk Council
Councillor Barry McCulloch, North Lanarkshire Council	

Staff

Policy Officer, Scotland: Carolyn Vannan
Administration & Public Relations Manager: Clare Carruthers

NSCA Scotland—Presidents Report

It gives me great pleasure to present the first Annual Review for NSCA Scotland. This plan reviews the achievements of the Division in 2005 and presents members with details of the work undertaken by the staff, the Office Bearers and Executive Committee members.

This year was a successful year for the Division and I was delighted to welcome NSCA Scotland's first Policy Officer—Carolyn Vannan. This has been an aim of the Division for many years and we are already starting to see the benefits of an increased staff within Scotland

As 2005 was my final year as President I would like to thank the Executive Committee for their support and commitment. I would also express my personal thanks to Lorraine Tulloch who as Honorary Secretary has been instrumental in ensuring the continued success of the Division, Clare Carruthers and Carolyn Vannan the NSCA Scotland staff who have worked hard this year and whose enthusiasm and commitment ensures the successful operation of the Division

I would wish the Division all the best for the future and hope you as members will continue to support and input to the Division.

Tom McDonald, NSCA Scotland President 2003-2005

Chairman of Council's Review of the Year

I have been lucky enough to visit some of the NSCA Divisions during my time as Chairman of Council, and I am always impressed by the hard work which our members, all environmental protection specialists put into developing the work of the Society. It is thanks to you all that NSCA enjoys a reputation as an environmental organisation which speaks with real authority.

When the Divisional Secretaries met recently in Brighton we identified a number of areas where we continue to lead the field—in air quality, noise and increasingly in contaminated land.

This year has also seen us take important steps to consolidate our work on waste and our Vice Presidents Michael Meacher and Lord Hunt hosted the first meeting of CLARCC—the new standing Conference on Local Authority Response to Climate Change.

Against this successful expansion, we have to recognise that successful developments require new resources. If we want NSCA to continue its key role in UK environmental policy and practice, we need to identify the income to support our work. During this year I welcomed a new Chief Executive, Martin Joseph, who is giving top priority to securing a solid basis for NSCA's finances. I am looking to all the membership to help him—by recruiting more members, developing new research projects, extending our events, and identifying new sponsors and donors. We have an exciting programme of work which is vital for this country, and ultimately the planet which sustains us. This can only happen with your continued support.



Calum MacDonald
Chairman of Council 2003-2005

Noise Action Week 2005 (NAW)

Noise Action Week 2005 marked the first week long campaign as the established Noise Action Day was expanded to provide a wider timeframe in which participants can get involved. NSCA Scotland launched Noise Action Week in Scotland with a one day conference "Noise – The Big Issues". Over 90 delegates, Scottish television, radio and press were keen to hear opening remarks from Lewis Macdonald, Deputy Minister for Environment and Rural Development, who presented his views on noise and antisocial behaviour in Scotland.

Successes - Scottish participants were enthusiastic in the activities held in 2005, but most importantly in trying to ensure that their activities were successful, increased numbers of authorities are showing good examples of cross departmental and cross service working. Environmental Health Officers are clearly working alongside mediation, social behaviour, police and other services to ensure the public are provided with the best advice.

The wide range of innovative activities provided by Scottish local authorities indicated that support for NAW is strong and that officers are prepared to devote time and energy to the campaign. New initiatives included an educational event at the Glasgow Science Centre, and a radio jingle competition run by West Dunbartonshire Council. It was also encouraging to hear of future work planned to maintain the profile of noise issues.

Other effective campaigns run throughout the UK included travelling roadshows, schools workshops; and radio and bus advertising campaigns. Some local authorities even donated and destroyed confiscated equipment, whilst others ran competitions and promoted their services using displays and stands. Overall, participants reported that they found the initiatives worthwhile and enjoyable.



Some Noise Action Week 2005 activities on the Shetland Isles.

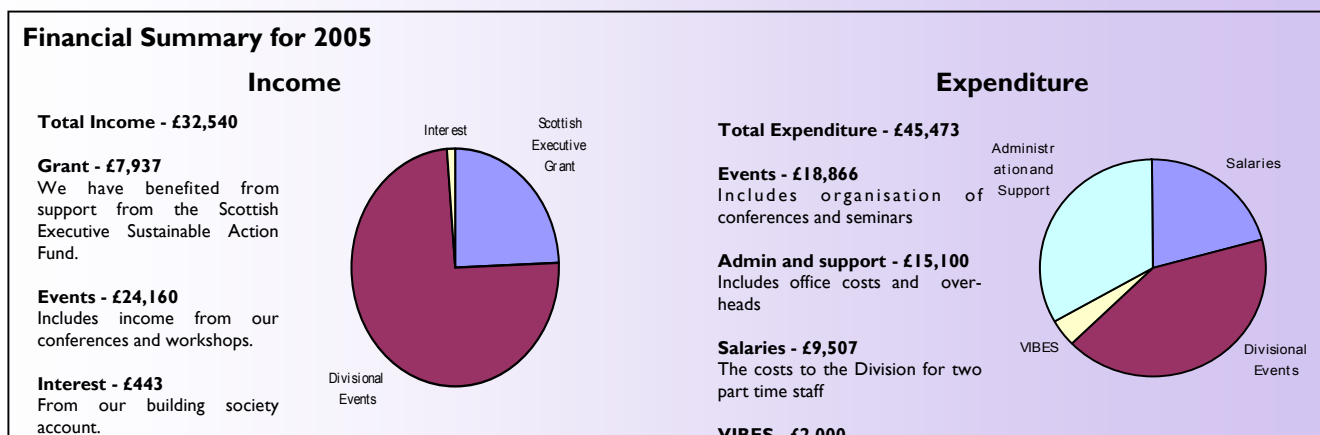
Events in 2005

- Introduction to Contaminated Land Workshops** 22 & 23 February 2005—Glasgow
 15 delegates attended this 2-day workshop directed at all those working for Local Authorities who wished to improve their understanding of the assessment, investigation and management of contaminated land, both in the context of the Part IIA regime and the planning and redevelopment process.
- Environmental Information Regulations—Are they Working?** 28 February 2005—Glasgow
 50 delegates attended this half day seminar which was chaired by Prof Richard Macrory. The conference provided a good overview of the different aspects of EIR which would be relevant to pollution control professionals. This included legal issues, the approach of environmental health services and journalists' experiences so far.
- Noise—The Big Issues** 23 May 2005—Glasgow
 Over 90 delegates attended the Conference to launch Noise Action Week in Scotland, along with Scottish television, radio and press. Lewis Macdonald, Deputy Minister for Environment and Rural Development, presented his views on noise and antisocial behaviour in Scotland. Other topics covered included the environmental noise directive, an update on the Noise Mapping Project, recent laminated and wooden flooring research, Good Practice in Delivery of Antisocial Behaviour Noise Service, Anti Social Behaviour Scotland Act and Environmental Noise Directive.
- Chemistry for Contaminated Land** 9 & 10 November 2005 —Glasgow & Perth
 A total of 28 local authority and SEPA staff attended these 2 one-day workshops is directed at all those working for Local Authorities who wish to improve their understanding of the fundamental subject matter relevant to land contamination issues. The course aims to improve knowledge of the subject matter and the application of this knowledge in the risk based approach for the assessment and management of land contamination.

Electronic Membership Pilot Scheme

In September 2005 NSCA Scotland introduced a pilot electronic membership scheme for individual members. In this scheme individual members would receive all correspondence by email including Briefing and events advertising. E-membership allows instant communication on events and enables e-consultation on key policy or hot topics.

70% of individual members have opted to take part in the pilot scheme. At the end of the six months trial period, participants will be surveyed for feedback. At that stage consideration of whether to continue and further develop the scheme will be taken. If successful it will be rolled out UK wide.



Honorary Secretary's Report

2005 has proved to be a very exciting and refreshing year for NSCA Scotland where change and development have allowed us to build on the Division's successful history whilst always looking to the future. The appointment of our first Scotland based part time Policy officer has enabled us to increase our profile and political contacts as well as become involved in more partnerships and participate in consultations and joint working with a number of other agencies.

I have started a process of change in the operation of the Division via the establishment of Policy Advisory Groups for air quality, noise and land quality to enable us to develop the Division's training and education programmes whilst maintaining an overview of legislative and technical practice in these key interest areas. These groups will allow the Division to identify opportunities to support our members in these areas and improve our ability to successfully input to the national NSCA Committees. If you are interested in participating in any of the groups please contact me or the policy group leads: Contaminated Land—Ann Jobson, Noise—Martin Valenti, Air Quality—Lorraine Tulloch. They can be contacted via the NSCA Scotland office.

The Executive Committee are keen to improve the efficiency and sustainability of our operations and this has led us to the trial of the electronic membership scheme (see above) and the introduction of CD ROMs for distribution of delegate papers at events. These two developments have proved popular and with your help we will continue to identify opportunities to make such improvements.

All of this work would not be possible without the dedication of our staff, Clare and Carolyn, and the members of the Executive Committee and I would express my thanks for their commitment and support.



Lorraine Tulloch
 Honorary Secretary/Treasurer, NSCA Scotland

Divisional Performance

In the Development Plan for 2005 a number of performance measures were set to indicate delivery of the Division's objectives. A summary of performance is presented here:

Objective	Performance Measure	Actual Performance
Maintain and increase membership through membership sub-committee	Report % increase in membership and report % increase by category	6% decrease in total membership 0% increase in local authority membership 7% decrease in Corporate membership 8.5% decrease in individual membership
Plan, develop and implement a range of seminar/workshops on environmental issues and associated legislation	Report on attendance rate, income and delegate evaluation	4 events hosted 156 delegates attended in total £6,631.59 income generated from events Delegate evaluation forms continue to be issued and analysed. Feedback indicates events are well received and topical.
Prepare and apply to the Scottish Executive for financial support from the annual Sustainable Action Fund to cover financial year 2005/2006	Report on success of application	Application was successful and NSCA Scotland continued to receive financial support in 2005/06
Continue to ensure NSCA Scotland is represented at all national organisational and policy committee meetings	Report on % attendance rate	Trustees — 80% attendance Council — 100% attendance Land Quality Committee — 100% attendance Air Quality Committee — 25% attendance Noise Committee — 50% attendance Divisional Secretaries Meeting — 100%
Develop and promote Noise Action Week to ensure its success in Scotland	Report on number of participants and media coverage	20 Participating organisations Media coverage on TV, Radio, national and local newspapers. Including Central Radio; SAGA Radio
Maintain partnership with VIBES and provide financial management for the Award	Report on progress	Continued as a Steering Group Partner. Provided financial management of Award from Summer 2005 onwards.
Develop and maintain standing of NSCA within Scotland	Report on number of NSCA Briefing Notes with Scottish articles Report on number of press releases issues and resulting media coverage Report on number of consultations responded to	10 Briefing Notes contained Scottish articles 2 Press Releases issued + 2 web news articles 2 Consultations responded to
Employ a part-time Policy Officer to support the work of NSCA Scotland	Report on achievements	Part time Policy Officer appointed in April 2005. Role has included circulating briefings to MSPs, responding to consultations and developing partnerships.

Partnerships

We have continued to develop and maintain partnerships to achieve environmental improvements. As well as our member organisations, we have worked with:

- Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland
- Scottish Pollution Control Coordinating Committee
- Healthy Environment Network
- Vision In Business for the Environment of Scotland (VIBES)
- Scottish and Northern Ireland Forum For Environmental Research (SNIFFER)

We have also participated in various National Working Groups including antisocial behaviour and noise.

Committee Members

During 2005 we have said goodbye to Committee members who have been strong supporters of the Division for a number of years. In recognition of their commitment and support we were delighted to award them the following:

- Kevin Thomas, North Ayrshire Council—Honorary Membership
- Owen Harrop, BMT Cordah—Honorary Membership
- John Harris—Certificate of Commendation

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