

NSCA Scotland

Annual Review 2006



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 14 corporate bodies and more than 80% of Scottish Local Authorities.

Honorary Officers 2005

President:	Prof Andrew Hursthouse, University of Paisley
Vice President:	Alastair Brown, Glasgow City 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
Immediate Past President:	Tom McDonald, Glasgow City Council
Honorary Secretary/Treasurer:	Lorraine Tulloch

Ordinary Committee Members

Annie Danskin, BMT Cordah	Anne McDonald, Individual member
Councillor Russell Imrie, Midlothian Council	Prof George Morris, Scottish Executive
Ann Jobson, West Dunbartonshire Council	Dr Mike O'Leary, Individual Member
Councillor Barry McCulloch, North Lanarkshire Council	June Ross, Highland Council
James Crawshaw, Glasgow City Council	Councillor Gillie Thomson, Stirling Council
Nigel Kerr, East Dunbartonshire Council	Martin Valenti, SEPA
David Paris, Renfrewshire Council	Graeme Webster, Falkirk Council
Frances McChery, Individual Member	Dr Bernadette McKell, Individual Member

Staff

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

NSCA Scotland—Presidents Report

It gives me great pleasure to present the Annual Review for NSCA Scotland. This plan reviews the achievements of the Division in 2006 and presents members with details of the work undertaken by the staff, the Office Bearers and Executive Committee members.



This year was a busy year for the Division and also saw us say goodbye to our first Policy Officer Carolyn Vannan, who left for a full time job with SEPA. I would like to thank Carolyn for her hard work and valuable input over her 18 months with us.

I would also express thanks to Lorraine Tulloch who as Honorary Secretary has been instrumental in ensuring the continued success of the Division, this is despite being based in London and managing the Division remotely. Clare Carruthers, our Admin and PR Manager continues to ensure the success of the Division with enthusiasm and commitment.

2007 looks to be a year of change for NSCA and the Scottish Division will play a full part in ensuring this is to the benefit of Scottish members. I would encourage all members to support NSCA and get involved wherever possible to ensure a strong and active Division.

Prof Andrew Hursthouse, NSCA Scotland President 2006-2007

Electronic Events

During 2006 NSCA Scotland further expanded its use of electronic communication to reduce use of paper.

Delegates at conferences were not issued with papers but all presentations were available for a limited period after the event on the NSCA website. All delegates received an email with a direct link to the site where the papers are held. This will minimise the amount of paper issued as delegates can choose to download only the presentations they were particularly interested in.

We hope to continue to expand our ability to use electronic resources to communicate with members and delegates and welcome any feedback or ideas.

Media Profile

NSCA Scotland continued to work to raise its media profile last year. We were quoted in various newspaper articles on contaminated land, noise and air quality. Including Sunday Post, Scotsman, Sunday Herald, Sunday Times. We continued to engage through the radio and undertook a number of radio interviews for Central, Q96, Forth and SAGA as part of Noise Action Week.

Air Quality and Development Control

During 2006 NSCA updated its guidance on "Air Quality and Development Control". This informal guidance has been used extensively by local authorities and has been cited at a number of public inquiries. The guidance is designed to act as general information source for planners, air quality specialists and developers and provides an overview of both the planning and local air quality management regimes.

NSCA Scotland also ran a workshop on Air Quality and Planning where delegates from Environmental Health and Planning came together to look at case studies including the development of air quality policies for inclusion in local plans. Discussions on mitigation, Air Quality assessments, and the benefits of Supplementary Planning Guidance were also part of the day and some interesting conclusions reached. The collated results were then circulated to all delegates

Consultations

During 2006 NSCA Scotland engaged effectively with policy makers by working closely with the Scottish Executive on a number of policy areas. We also responded to many consultations on behalf of our members and to support the aims and objectives of the Division. These included

- Rail Strategy for Scotland
- Noise Management Guides
- Radioactively Controlled Waste
- Preventing Household Waste in Scotland
- Extension to traffic regulation conditions applying to public service vehicles

Honorary Secretary's Report

2006 proved to be another interesting year for NSCA Scotland. We continued to reap the full benefits of having a Policy Officer post as we responded to consultations and could engage and participate in many partnerships. We also had many enthusiastic and active members within the Executive Committee which ensured we were represented well at a national level within NSCA.

NSCA has faced some challenging times recently and is currently undertaking a strategic review of how it is managed, financed, administered and governed as well as its strategic direction. The Scottish Division Executive Committee participated in a strategic review session facilitated by the Acting Chief Executive. The Division will continue to work to ensure the success of the Society and the Division.

I would finally like to thank Clare, Carolyn and the Executive Committee for their support this year while I was based in London and for continuing to ensure the Division ran smoothly during my three month leave of absence.



Lorraine Tulloch
Honorary Secretary/Treasurer,
NSCA Scotland

Events in 2006

Environmental Justice in Scotland – 20th February 2006

Over 40 delegates attended this event which was chaired by Lord Hunt of Chesterton. Speakers covered a wide spectrum of issues involved in working towards environmental justice. Key issues included the development of policy in the area of environmental justice, the practical implementation of that policy, an examination of how environmental inequalities might contribute to health inequalities, how we can work towards alleviating the environmental inequalities which afflict some areas of Scotland, and how to ensure that priority regeneration communities in Scotland are provided with the tools that will enable them to affect and improve their local environment.

Air Quality & Planning Workshops – 27th & 28th February 2006

BMT Cordah and NSCA Scotland delivered the Air Quality and Planning Workshops at the end of February in Glasgow and Perth. The workshops followed the previous successful format of contaminated land workshops and included working on a number of case studies and undertaking group exercises. The events were well attended (22 at Glasgow and 16 at Perth) and some interesting policy debate was facilitated on the day.

Contaminated Land Legal Workshop – 31st May & 1st June 2006

This was the second set of contaminated land legal workshops and these were created and delivered by Bishops Solicitors. Two events were held in Glasgow and Perth. Forty delegates attended over the two days and the training was well received. This continues to be an area where NSCA Scotland leads the training within Scotland.

What does Better Regulation Mean for Scottish Regulators – 7th September 2006

An excellent programme of speakers covered this very topical event which examined what the better regulation regime may mean for Scottish regulators and business. The event was chaired in the morning by NSCA President Lord Julian Hunt, and in the afternoon by Dr Campbell Gemmell, Chief Executive of SEPA. It was well attended with representatives from all the main regulatory bodies including the Scottish Executive, SEPA, Trading Standards, Local Authorities, in addition to representatives of utility companies, solicitors and consultants. With an excellent line up of influential speakers the conference was destined to cover some contentious issues and address some key areas for Scotland's future regulatory systems.

Contaminated Land Risk Assessment of the Water Environment – 4th & 5th October 2006

These workshops were attended by a total of 24 delegates representing 17 local authorities and SEPA. The workshops dealt with the issue of Controlled Waters and the programme had been drawn up by the Land Quality Advisory Group and Land Quality Management.

Scottish Noise and Nuisance Conference – 6th October 2006

NSCA Scotland, SEPA and the Scottish Executive collaborated to convene a free noise conference for practitioners in October. It was held at Victoria Quay and NSCA undertook administrative duties in preparation for the event.

The event was opened by Rhona Brankin, Deputy Minister for Environment and Rural Development, who launched a new leaflet – Neighbour Noise Between Flats – the influence of laminate and hardwood flooring. Presentations included sound insulation in dwelling, aviation noise, odour nuisance and noise mapping and action planning for Scotland. Workshop groups were asked to discuss mapping and action planning and there was general acceptance of the Scottish Executive as the competent authority for mapping, and agreement that the Executive or SEPA should lead action planning, with local authorities (environmental health and planning), BAA and Transport Scotland as key stakeholders.

Financial Summary for 2006

Income

Total Income - £55,782

Grant - £17,000

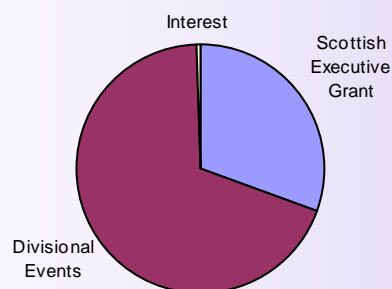
We have benefited from support from the Scottish Executive Air Noise and Nuisance Team

Events - £38,470

Includes income from our conferences and workshops.

Interest - £312

From our building society account.



Expenditure

Total Expenditure - £47,940

Events - £28,693

Includes organisation of conferences and seminars

Admin and support - £6,628

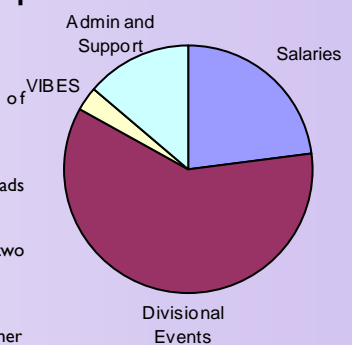
Includes office costs and overheads

Salaries - £11,119

The costs to the Division for two part time staff

VIBES - £1,500

Support to VIBES Award as partner



Divisional Performance

In the Strategic Plan 2005-2008 a number of annual deliverables were set to indicate delivery of the Division's objectives. A summary of performance is presented here:

Annual Deliverables	Actual Performance
Increase membership within the Scottish Division	7.5% decrease in total membership 3% decrease in local authority membership 7% decrease in corporate membership 9% decrease in individual membership
Increased input of Policy Advisory Groups to policy developments within the Division	Contaminated Land Advisory Group continued to meet and provided useful input to consultation responses and the format and content of the Contaminated Land Workshops. Air Quality and Noise Advisory Groups were delayed in their creation and advice on such issues was sought on an ad hoc basis from appropriate members. These groups will be fully operational early in 2007.
Work with NSCA nationally to identify and increase benefits of NSCA membership	We have attended Council and Trustees meetings raising these issues. We have offered input to the Good Governance group looking at issues around the workings of the Society.
Participate in consultation and working group opportunities	6 Scottish Executive consultation documents responded to. Participation in CLA:IRE meetings and SGV Task Force technical workshop Continued to attend SPCCCC
Increase communication and engagement on a political level	We circulated a briefing to MSPs ahead of a debate in Spring 2006 on air quality issues. The material circulated was quoted by MSPs during the debate.
Develop and maintain successful partnership working	We worked with a significant number of partners during 2006 including CLA:IRE, SPCCCC, We have continued to develop and maintain partnerships to achieve environmental improvements including the joint event held with the Scottish Executive. We have also worked with the following organisations during 2006: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eventful Scotland (joined as a partner during 2006) • Scottish Federation of Housing (event support) • CLA:IRE • 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
Undertake a minimum of four seminars/conferences/workshops each year	3 conferences 2 contaminated land workshops 1 air quality workshops
Update and develop Scottish leaflets	Noise leaflets were updated for Noise Action Week.
Promote and support Noise Action Week within Scotland	Substantial media interest was generated within Scotland resulting in a number of newspaper articles and radio interviews
Provide financial management and steering group participation for VIBES Award	We continued to provide financial management of the Award and participated in Steering Group meetings

NCSA Scotland

c/o Environmental Protection Services

Glasgow City Council

231 George Street

Glasgow

G1 1RX

Tel 0141 287 6530

Fax 0141 287 6529

Email clare.carruthers@eps.glasgow.gov.uk