



centre for research on
families and relationships

CRFR Policy Scoping Seminar

Environment

Phoebe Cochrane

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Key Points

- There are a number of environmental policy developments that are of importance to families and relationships. Areas which might be of interest to CRFR could include:
- Under 'Sustainable development' conservation policy should be associated with benefits to local people- two aims which have traditionally often been viewed as incompatible. Relationships between user groups in such arenas may be interesting.
- Climate change initiatives are encouraging people to reduce their energy consumption and carbon footprints which can involve lifestyle choices and changes for families.
- Peripheral rural communities in Scotland, which have often been characterised by lack of employment, out-migration and low income levels, have the potential to benefit from being located near renewable energy sources.
- National Parks and other parks near population centres, with their focus on access, aim to impact on health and well-being.
- Policies relating to waste hope to impact on household purchasing decisions and other behaviours.

1 Introduction

'Environment' and 'environmental' have broad interpretations and environmental policy covers any policy area that acts on our surroundings. As such environmental policy clearly affects how families and communities live and interact now and in the future. The environment is characterised by many public goods¹, and many transboundary issues, which means that its management requires significant regulation and policy as well as international cooperation. It is a set of issues that need to be tackled at the international level through to the local and individual level. This paper outlines a number of environmental policy areas and developments at a number of these levels and highlights areas where CRFR might have particular interest.

2 Organisations

There are a large number of environmental organisations and it is outwith the scope of this paper to examine them in depth. The main organisations are mentioned in this section. Where specific organisations advise government on policy or implement government policy, they are mentioned in the relevant policy sections.

2.1 International

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (<http://www.unep.org/>) and the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (<http://www.ipcc.ch/>) are the main international organisations involved in the environmental policy development.

International non-governmental organisations such as Greenpeace, World Wildlife Fund, World Conservation Union, World Business Council for Sustainable Development and International Institute for Sustainable Development are also involved in developing environmental policy.

2.2 EU

The European Environment Agency (EEA) is an agency of the European Union whose task is to provide sound, independent information on the environment. It acts as a major information source for those involved in developing, adopting, implementing and evaluating environmental policy, and also the general public.

2.3 Scotland

The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) is the main environmental regulator, whilst Scottish Natural Heritage advises the Scottish Executive on conservation and natural heritage issues.

A number of NGOs are active in environmental issues. Scottish Environmental Link is a forum for Scotland's voluntary environment organisations with over 30 members (<http://www.scotlink.org/index.htm>). Stop Climate Chaos Scotland is a coalition of organisations campaigning on climate change. (<http://www.stopclimatechaos.org/scotland>).

The Scottish Government publishes key environmental statistics annually which cover public attitudes, global atmosphere, air quality, water, marine, radioactivity, waste, land, and biodiversity.

¹ goods not affected by markets: goods or services that can be used by any one person without affecting the supply to all other people, and for which it is impractical to charge individually

3 Overarching policy areas

3.1 Sustainable Development

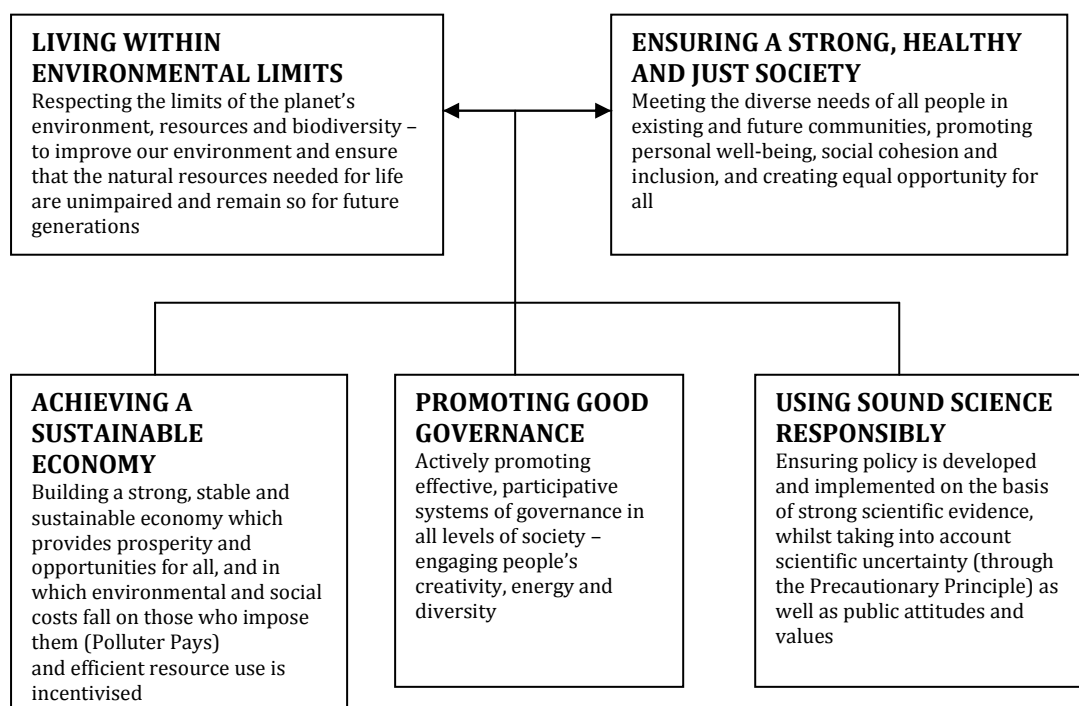
International

The concept of sustainable development came to the fore after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. It was novel in highlighting the need to integrate environmental, social and economic objectives. Two outcomes of the conference were statements on the relationship between sustainable environmental practices and the pursuit of social and socioeconomic development: *Agenda 21* and *The Rio Declaration*.

UK and Scotland

The Scottish Government's Sustainable Development Strategy, *Choosing our Future* (Scottish Executive, 2005) sits within a UK framework² and includes a shared set of principles to underpin all policy development. The UK and Scottish Governments have independent watchdogs on sustainable development – The Sustainable Development Commission UK and the Sustainable Development Commission Scotland.

UK Shared Framework: Principles for Sustainable Development



Source: Scottish Executive, 2005

There are a broad set of performance indicators for the Scottish Strategy which fall into six areas:

- Well Being
- Supporting Thriving Communities
- Natural Heritage and Resources
- Scotland's Global Contribution
- Learning
- Context

More information on each indicator is available at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/SustainableDevelopment/measuring-progress>

² One Future Different Paths – The UK Shared Framework for Sustainable Development.

'Sustainable places' is one of the three outcomes of the 'greener' objective in Scotland Performs³. Under this outcome, the Government pledges to create sustainable communities through developing mixed and affordable housing which supports housing demand and sustainable economic growth. Ensuring infrastructure to support new communities, good public transport links and high standards of environmental performance are also seen as integral to achieving sustainable places
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/scotPerforms/outcomes/susplaces>

3.2 Climate Change

International

The Kyoto Protocol, which entered into force in 2005, is the only global international agreement on climate change. It commits the signatories to reducing their combined emissions of the six main greenhouse gases by 5.2 per cent below 1990 levels over the period 2008-2012. An international meeting at Copenhagen in December 2009 aims to shape the international response to climate change from 2012.

EU

The EU climate change policy is set out in '*Strategies on Climate Change: The way ahead for 2020 and beyond*' (EU, 2007) which advocates practical action to prevent temperatures from increasing to more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels (<http://europa.eu/scadplus/leg/en/lvb/l28188.htm>). The Strategy suggests that the EU should immediately commit to reduce its own emissions by at least 20% by 2020 and sets three targets to be met by 2020:

- improving the EU's energy efficiency by 20% by 2020;
- increasing the share of renewable energy to 20% by 2020;
- developing an environmentally safe carbon capture and geological storage policy. (http://europa.eu/pol/env/index_en.htm)

UK

The UK Climate Change Act (2008) sets a statutory target for the UK as a whole to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050 and provides a framework for shared action. A new expert body, the Committee on Climate Change, has been created to assess independently how the UK can optimally achieve its reduction goals, to advise the UK Government on setting carbon budgets and report to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Scotland

Whilst much energy policy is reserved, the Scottish Government has responsibility for reducing emissions, encouraging energy conservation, approving new power stations, and the promotion of renewable energy. Furthermore the Scottish Government has responsibility for aspects of transport, planning, agriculture, forestry, water, soil and building standards, all of which affect emissions levels.

Environmental Impact, reducing the local and global impact of consumption and production is one of the 'outcomes' under Scotland Performs (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/scotPerforms/outcomes/envImpact>). Specific actions mentioned include:

- Introduce a Climate Change Bill to place our commitment to reduce Scotland's emissions levels by 80% by 2050 on a statutory footing.

³ 'Scotland Performs' (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/scotPerforms>) follows the National Performance Framework, which was published as part of the 2007 Spending Review. See Annex 1 for a full list of the outcomes and associated actions under the *greener* objective.

- Ensure that policy options and public spending decisions contribute to reducing emissions and to the action needed to help mitigate climate change.
- Fund initiatives by farmers and others to reduce climate change emissions from land management practices and to manage our rural environment more effectively.
- Support the delivery of ten megawatts of marine energy from our waters by 2010, helping to make Scotland the world leader in wave and tidal power;
- Triple the funding for community renewables and microgeneration to reach £13.5 million a year by 2010-11.
- Establish a Climate Challenge Fund to inspire community-based action to tackle climate change - £27.4 million over the period 2008-11.
- Publish Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy to ensure an effective response to the unavoidable impacts of climate change in order to safeguard our communities, and protect Scotland's long-term environmental and economic prosperity.

The **Scottish Climate Change Bill** (currently before parliament – deadline for completion of stage 2 is 12 June) will introduce legislation to reduce emissions by 80% (from 1990 levels) by 2050 and 50% by 2030. Pressure groups, lead by Stop the Climate Change Chaos Coalition are currently urging the Government to adopt a target for 2020 of a 42% cut, instead of the recent amendment which puts this target at 32%.

The Scottish Government is currently considering how emissions reductions might be realised over the next 40 years and have set a target to Generate 50% of Scotland's electricity from renewable sources by 2020 and 20% of Scotland's total energy use to come from renewables by 2020⁴:

The Renewables Obligation Scotland⁵ places an obligation on electricity suppliers to provide an increasing amount of their electricity from eligible renewable sources. The Scottish Government wishes to maximise the benefits for communities from renewable energy, believing that, as well as financial benefits, communities can gain through increased community cohesion and confidence, skills development, and supporting local economic regeneration. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/Energy/19185/Communities>

The Community Renewable Energy Toolkit aims to encourage and help communities consider how they can lead their own renewable energy projects and advice and financial support is currently provided via the Communities And Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES)⁶.

As well as making better use of the nation's substantial renewable energy resource, the Scottish Government aims to reduce emissions from transport, housing, business, land management and other sources and improve waste management and recycling. Land management and recycling are explored in later sections.

Emissions from large business and public sector organisations including local authorities, retailers and central government are targeted through 'emissions trading'.

⁴ This target is on the Government website

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/climatechange/scotlands-action> . To generate 50% of electricity from renewables is one of the national indicators in Scotland Performs. Although not stated, it is likely that the 20% of total energy from renewables by 2020 target is from the target in the EU Strategy on Climate Change.

⁵ Scottish Statutory Instruments 2007 No. 267 Electricity. The Renewables Obligations (Scotland) Order 2007.

⁶ CARES is managed for the Scottish Government by an independent charity, Community Energy Scotland: <http://www.communityenergyscotland.org.uk/index.asp> All legally constituted community organisations and non-profit distributing organisations are eligible to apply

All 32 Scottish local authorities are signatory to **Scotland's voluntary Climate Change Declaration**, committing them to contribute to the delivery of Scotland's and the UK's climate change programmes. The Declaration commits local authorities to specific actions, including addressing greenhouse gas emissions from their own operations and encouraging and working with others in the local community to take a action to reduce emissions and to adapt to the impact of climate change.

A Climate Adaptation Framework is being developed by the Scottish Government. The second stage of the consultation was launched in April 2009.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/climatechange/scotlands-action/adaptation/AdaptaitonFramework>

There are a large number of climate change related community initiatives. As well as many individual projects, there are a number of projects which are a part of wider community network movements.

- Some communities have joined the *Transition Network* which supports groups to develop projects which lead to emissions reduction.
- Another national movement, the *Carbon Rationing Action Groups network*, is made up of member groups which aim to reduce their carbon footprints.
- Working towards being '*Carbon Neutral*' is taken on by some communities which can involve a range of activities such as advice on energy saving measures, installing specific energy saving technologies, reducing food miles, campaigning for more sustainable transport services, and improved recycling services.
- The Climate Challenge Fund is one of the main current funding mechanisms for community projects.

Natural Scotland, a major Scottish Government public information campaign, aims to raise awareness of the positive impact small changes we make in our lives can have on Scotland's environment. (<http://www.infoscotland.com/infoscotland/44.1.3.html>) It provides help and advice on reducing waste, saving energy, transport and travel and greener shopping.

3.3 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

EU

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001) stipulates that plans and programmes which are liable to have significant effects on the environment must be subject to an environmental assessment prior to their adoption.

Scotland

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 came into force in 2006. SEA in Scotland is seen as a key component of sustainable development, establishing important new methods for protecting the environment and extending opportunities for participation in public policy decision making.

Strategic environmental assessments:

- systematically assess and monitoring the significant environmental effects of public sector strategies, plans and programmes
- ensure that expertise and views are sought at various points in the process from SNH, SEPA, Historic Scotland and the public
- require a public statement as to how opinions have been taken into account

4 Specific policy areas and initiatives

4.1 Countryside, National Parks and Natural Heritage

Natural heritage issues are integrated into policy on the major countryside land uses such as farming and forestry.

EU

Rural development policy for the period 2007 to 2013, and policy measures available to Member States and regions, are set out in Council Regulation (EC) No. 1698/2005. Under this Regulation, rural development policy for 2007 to 2013 is focused on three themes (known as "thematic axes"). These are:

- improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector;
- improving the environment and the countryside;
- improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of the rural economy

Scotland

Rural land use policy in Scotland is delivered through the Scotland Rural Development Programme 2007-13 (approved by the European Commission in 2008). Its implementation is one of the government actions under the '*Environment*' outcome of Scotland Performs. In addition, to *fund initiatives by farmers and others to reduce climate change emissions from land management practices* is one of the actions under the '*Environmental impact*' outcome.

The Scotland Rural development Programme is centred on five key outcomes:

- Improved business viability (supported under Axis 1),
- Enhanced biodiversity and landscape (supported under Axis 2),
- Improved water quality (supported under Axis 2),
- Tackling climate change (supported under Axis 2) and,
- Thriving rural communities (supported under Axis 3).

Six priorities are set out under Axis 2 (supporting the environmental outcomes enhanced biodiversity and landscape, improved water quality and tackling climate change):

- maintain traditional agricultural landscapes and encourage high nature value farming, crofting and forestry systems through support for farming and forestry holdings in upland and remote areas, and to ensure the viability of land management businesses in these areas for the delivery of environmental and social benefits;
- protect and enhance biodiversity, with particular focus on species and habitats under Natura 2000 and SSSI designations (see section 5.2), and improve and landscapes and the historic environment, recognising their wider role in underpinning the economic and social activities;
- tackle climate change and protect communities from other environmental hazards through woodland creation and land management practices that mitigate and facilitate adaptation to climate change;
- improve water quality by reducing water pollution, and protecting soil quality, and achieve effective management of water resources through, for example, the reversion of arable land to unfertilised grassland, and the construction of farm wetlands to help treat low-level contaminated water; and,
- support to enhance animal health and welfare, thereby promoting the social and environmental performance of the industry (and bringing economic benefits to producers and the food industry), including its contribution to the Scottish landscape, and enhancing the ability of society, industry and the environment to cope with animal diseases. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/04/01115039/4>

National Parks and other landscape designations

Scotland's two National Parks (Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, and Cairngorms, established in 2002/3) are '*central to rural economic development and recreation, sustainability, and the conservation of their diverse natural habitats.*' There was a strategic review of Scotland's two National Park Authorities in 2008. The Government is currently consulting on the recommendations made in the report. (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Countryside/16131>)

Scottish National Parks have four main aims. They are:

- To conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage;
- To promote the sustainable use of the natural resources of the area;
- To promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public; and
- To promote sustainable social and economic development of the communities of the area.

There are other landscape designations such as National Scenic Areas (NSAs) and Country Parks. One of the indicators for Scotland Performs is to increase the proportion of adults making one or more visit to the outdoors per week.

4.2 Wildlife and Habitats

International

The Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992 was an outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development conference in 1992. Signatory countries (which includes the UK) have an international obligation to conserve and protect Biodiversity.

EU

The European Community and its Member States are contracting parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and EU Heads of State and Government undertook in 2001 to halt the decline of biodiversity in the EU by 2010 and to restore habitats and natural systems. In May 2006, the European Commission adopted a communication on '*Halting Biodiversity Loss by 2010 – and Beyond: Sustaining ecosystem services for human well-being*'. The Communication underlined the importance of biodiversity protection as a pre-requisite for sustainable development, as well as setting out the *EU Biodiversity Action Plan* (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/index_en.htm). Natura 2000 is the centrepiece of EU nature & biodiversity policy. It is an EU-wide network of nature protection areas established under the 1992 Habitats Directive. The aim of the network is to assure the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

UK

The UK biodiversity Action plan was published in 1994 and outlines the UK response to the Convention on Biodiversity.

In addition, policy making follows '*the Ecosystems Approach*' which offers a strategic approach to policy-making and delivery on the natural environment. It focuses on maintaining healthy ecosystems through the development of cross-sectoral policy and decision-making at appropriate scales, where environmental limits are respected, and proper account is taken of the value of environmental systems for the well-being of people.

Scotland

Scotland's biodiversity strategy, *Scotland's Biodiversity: It's in Your Hands* (Scottish Executive, 2004) sets out how the government will conserve biodiversity. Implementing the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy is one of the actions under the '*environment*' outcome of Scotland Performs.

The overall aim of this strategy is: to conserve biodiversity for the health, enjoyment and wellbeing of the people of Scotland now and in the future and it has five major strategic objectives:

- Species & Habitats: To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats.
- People: To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity, and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.

- Landscapes & Ecosystems: To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban, rural and marine environments through better planning, design and practice.
- Integration & Co-ordination: To develop an effective management framework that ensures biodiversity is taken into account in all decision making.
- Knowledge: To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.

With regard to the second objective, focussing on people, the vision of the strategy is that a sense of stewardship and responsibility for biodiversity is embodied in Scottish culture, particularly amongst users, managers and corporations and that more people understand and enjoy the social, economic and environmental benefits of biodiversity. Also, an increased awareness and understanding of biodiversity issues amongst those involved in land management and their closer engagement in advising on strategies is sought. The aim is that more people should have first hand experience of and learn about biodiversity and become involved. (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/05/19366/37245>)

The *It's in your hands* strategy was produced in partnership with the Scottish Biodiversity Forum (SBF), an umbrella group or partnership of individuals and organisations with an interest in biodiversity. The Scottish Biodiversity Implementation Team (based with Scottish Natural Heritage) is in place to assist with the delivery of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy on behalf of the Scottish Biodiversity Forum.

To help deliver the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and Scotland's Biodiversity Strategy, Scotland is split into 25 local biodiversity plan areas. Each area has a local biodiversity action plan contact, often at the local council. Plans are developed by local partnerships, to stimulate effective local action for priorities identified in the UK plan, as well as for species and habitats which are particularly cherished or valued in local areas of Scotland.

Protected areas

The protection of species, ecosystems and habitats is enhanced through a range of 'protected area' designations:

- Wetlands of International Importance as wildfowl habitat (Ramsar)
- Natura 2000 is the centrepiece of EU nature & biodiversity policy (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index_en.htm). It is an EUwide network of nature protection areas established under the 1992 Habitats Directive.
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are exemplary places in the UK for nature conservation.
- National and local Nature Reserves are sites that are important for nature.

Links to each of these protected area designations can be found from the Scottish Natural Heritage website page <http://www.snh.org.uk/about/ab-pa00.asp>

4.3 Marine and Coastal

Half of the UK's biodiversity found in its surrounding waters. The marine and coastal waters around Scotland are important to the sustainable future of the country. They contain distinctive and important habitats, supporting a diverse range of species, which need conserving and enhancing, as well as providing food from fisheries, energy and mineral resources, routes and harbours for shipping, tourism and recreational opportunities, and sites of cultural and historical interest. They are often particularly valuable to remote rural areas. The Scottish Government's aim is for clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse marine and coastal environments, managed to meet the long term needs of nature and people.

Scotland

To introduce Scottish marine legislation is one of the actions under the 'environment' outcome of Scotland Performs. The Marine (Scotland) Bill was introduced to Parliament on April 29, 2009. It introduces a framework for the sustainable management of the seas around Scotland, ensuring the need to protect the seas is integrated with economic growth of marine industries. It introduces:

- **Marine planning:** a new statutory marine planning system to sustainably manage the increasing, and often conflicting, demands on our seas
- **Marine licensing:** a simpler licensing system, minimising the number of licences required for development in the marine environment to cut bureaucracy and encourage economic investment
- **Marine conservation:** improved marine nature and historic conservation with new powers to protect and manage areas of importance for marine wildlife, habitats and historic monuments
- **Seal conservation:** much improved protection for seals and a new comprehensive licence system to ensure appropriate management when necessary

Consultation responses indicate that, in general, consultees were in favour of measures proposed in the bill. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/01/22160605/0>

The Sustainable Seas Task Force was set up by the Government in 2008 (see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/1057/0056598.pdf> for a list of members). It represents the main users of Scotland's seas and reflects the diversity of interests in the marine environment. It was involved in developing the legislation and was established to contribute to a holistic and integrated approach to marine management.

The Scottish Coastal Forum was formed by Government and plays an important role in gathering information about approaches to coastal management and disseminating good practice (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/16440/Scottish-Coastal-Forum/members>). The SCF encourages debate on coastal issues at national level and seeks opportunities for better co-ordination of development opportunities, avoiding conflict and safeguarding natural assets.

4.4 Pollution and Waste

Pollution

International

- The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) is a global UN treaty to protect human health and the environment from POPs.

EU

European policy on various types of pollution can be found at http://europa.eu/pol/env/index_en.htm

UK

The Environmental Protection Act 1990, introduced the system of Integrated Pollution Control (IPC) which takes a holistic environmental approach to regulating major industrial processes: emissions to all environmental media (air, land and water) plus a range of other environmental effects, must be considered as a whole in order to minimise their environmental impact. The Act also introduced Local Air Pollution Control (LAPC) for less polluting processes where emissions to air are regulated.

Scotland

Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations 2000, commonly referred to as the PPC Regulations. PPC controls aim to bring integrated approach to environmental protection

and ensure activities that may have a significant impact on the environment are strictly regulated.

SEPA (The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency) is Scotland's environmental regulator and is responsible for a range of activities to ensure emissions are prevented, minimised or rendered harmless. Local authorities are responsible for addressing a number of local environmental pollution issues.

Specific regulations associated with pollution can be found at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/waste-and-pollution/Pollution-1>.

Air quality

Air quality is discussed further as it was thought it may be of more interest to CRFR than other forms of pollution.

EU

Improving air quality is identified as a key objective of EU environmental legislation due to the impact of air pollution on people's health and, on the environment. European policies target various types and sources of pollutant. Also, in 2005 the Commission proposed a thematic strategy for reducing the number of deaths linked to air pollution by 40% (of 2000 levels) by 2020.

UK

Devolved Administrations and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) work to ensure objectives set out in the Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are achieved. This strategy is under review and responses to the review consultation can be accessed: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/airquality/strategy/index.htm>

Scotland

The air quality objectives set out in the Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations 2000 and the Air Quality (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2002 provide the statutory basis for the system of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM).

The Government recommends that Local Authorities develop local air quality strategies. Whenever it appears that one or more of the air quality objectives is unlikely to be met by the required date, the local authority concerned must declare an Air Quality Management Area, covering the area of concern. The Local Authority then investigates emissions and develops an air quality action plan. Local Transport Strategies are closely related to LAQM, as, where air quality objectives have been exceeded, it is generally due to transport related pollution.

Waste

Scotland

More than 20 million tonnes of waste is produced each year in Scotland and the Scottish Government is committed to reducing Scotland's local and global environmental impact by moving towards a *Zero Waste Scotland*. To '*vigorously pursue our zero waste policy, setting challenging targets for reduction in municipal waste sent to landfill; allocating £150 million to the Zero Waste Fund and consulting on a range of potential legislative measures*' is one of the actions under the '*environmental impact*' outcome of Scotland Performs.

In January 2008, the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment proposed new recycling/composting targets for municipal waste of a minimum of 50 per cent by 2013; a minimum of 60 per cent recycling by 2020; and a minimum of 70 per cent by 2025. In addition to this a cap on energy-from-waste of 25 per cent and a 5 per cent limit on landfill of municipal waste by the year 2025 were proposed.

A consultation paper on potential measures to implement Zero Waste was published in July 2008. Responses to the consultation and an analysis of responses have now been published (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/12/19095020/0>).

The Household Waste Prevention Action Plan (Scottish executive and SEPA, 2007) is still in use, although under review. The 2007 plan shows how the Government aims to halt the growth of household waste by 2010. It aims to raise awareness amongst consumers about the waste implications of their purchasing decisions and about alternatives to disposing of useable items. Waste Aware Scotland is responsible for raising public awareness about '*reduce, reuse and recycle*' and changing public attitudes to waste (<http://www.wasteawarescotland.org.uk/html/index.asp>). The Community Recycling Network (CRN) is mentioned as a key government partner in working with communities to reduce waste. CRN '*exists to build a stronger community recycling sector in Scotland which can create real social, environmental and economic benefit within our local communities*' (<http://www.crn.org.uk/index/about-us>). Another government partner is WRAP which helps individuals, businesses and local authorities to reduce waste and recycle more, making better use of resources (http://www.wrapscotland.org.uk/about_wrap_scotland/index.html).

ANNEX 1

1 Scotland Performs Objective: Greener

2 Outcomes under Greener objective:

- We value and enjoy our built and natural **environment** and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- We reduce the local and global **environmental impact** of our consumption and production.
- We live in well-designed, **sustainable places** where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.

3 Actions under outcomes:

Environment

- Improve the water environment and drinking water quality through support for Scottish Water's record £2.5bn investment programme, and reduce pollution and flood risk through additional funding for the Scottish Environment Protection Agency.
- Implement the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy, including movement towards a wider ecosystem approach to nature conservation.
- Enter into rural development contracts under the £1 billion plus Scotland Rural Development Programme to help farmers, crofters and others to conserve, enhance and manage the rural environment.
- Introduce Scottish marine legislation, to ensure the sustainable management of seas and coasts and to balance the competing interests for use and protection of the sea.
- Allocate resources from Historic Scotland's £50 million budget to undertake historic building conservation projects that will allow future generations to enjoy Scotland's historic assets.

Environmental impact

- Introduce a Climate Change Bill to place our commitment to reduce Scotland's emissions levels by 80% by 2050 on a statutory footing.
- Ensure that policy options and public spending decisions contribute to reducing emissions and to the action needed to help mitigate climate change.
- Fund initiatives by farmers and others to reduce climate change emissions from land management practices and to manage our rural environment more effectively.
- Support the delivery of ten megawatts of marine energy from our waters by 2010, helping to make Scotland the world leader in wave and tidal power;
- Triple the funding for community renewables and microgeneration to reach £13.5 million a year by 2010-11.
- Ensure the Forestry Commission can invest £15 million a year in new woodlands to help increase forest cover to 25% as rapidly as possible.
- Vigorously pursue our zero waste policy, setting challenging targets for reduction in municipal waste sent to landfill; allocating £150 million to the Zero Waste Fund and consulting on a range of potential legislative measures.
- Establish a Climate Challenge Fund to inspire community-based action to tackle climate change - £27.4 million over the period 2008-11.
- Address the challenge of sustainable food in a new National Food Policy.
- Improve sustainable procurement, for example urging all public bodies in Scotland to specify fresh, locally available, seasonal produce.
- Invest in public transport; and support local authorities with plans for communities that are less car-dependent and incorporate green space that encourages more walking and cycling.
- Publish Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy to ensure an effective response to the unavoidable impacts of climate change in order to safeguard our

communities, and protect Scotland's long-term environmental and economic prosperity.

Sustainable places

- Work in a broad partnership with developers, local authorities and local communities to deliver a range of economic, physical, social and environmental improvements. Develop a housing policy which supports sustainable economic growth.
- Ensure that planning policy encourages the development of sustainable, mixed communities - drawing together the various elements required to achieve that goal.
- Buildings and infrastructure of the future must be sustainable - respecting the needs of the environment while being well-placed to cope with its future demands.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/scotPerforms/objectives/greener>