

18-22 September
#ScotClimateWeek



RAISE AWARENESS OF KEY CLIMATE PROJECTS

Climate Week SEPA Report

18-22 SEPTEMBER 2017

Climate Week 2017

Green Network SEPA

Climate Week at SEPA

Climate Week 2017 is a Scottish Government campaign to raise awareness of, and inspire action on, climate change.

The aim of Climate Week is to get organisations across Scotland hosting one – or several – events that highlight the importance of reducing emissions and adapting to a changing climate.

Climate Week presents a great opportunity to engage and inspire colleagues or the public. SEPA staff saw that Climate Week offered a new opportunity to raise awareness of key climate projects, policies and plans.

Climate Week was also an opportunity to work in partnership with Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) groups active in our areas, so we strengthened the impact of our events by co-producing with other local organisations and sustainable businesses.

SEPA offices ran several events, and we found out what people like/think, got some conversation going and enabled further climate friendly actions.



Staff in 6 SEPA offices ran events across Scotland, informing us on subjects ranging from food to fuel.

6 SEPA Offices

Aberdeen

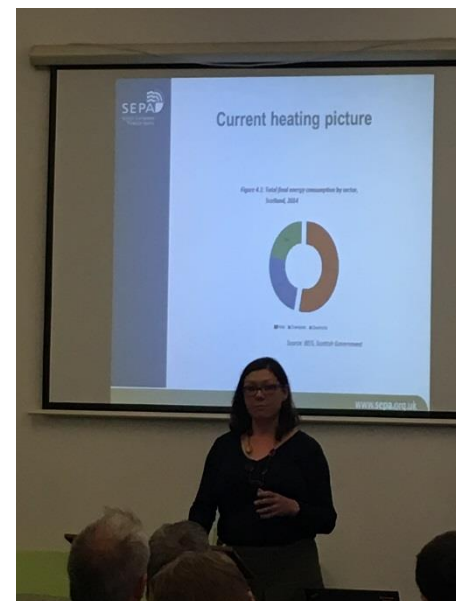
Angus Smith Eurocentral

Edinburgh

Elgin

Stirling

Perth



Scotland Young Planners Event

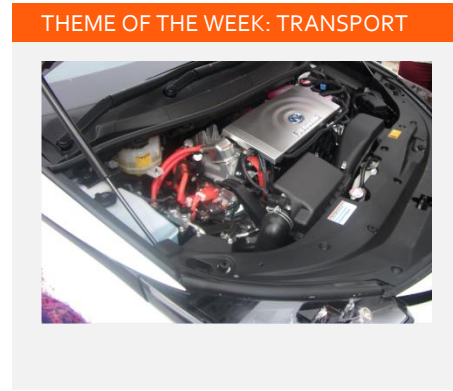
SEPA's Ailie Callan speaking about the District Heating and Heat Networks Guidance, the renewable heat and power ambitions the Scottish Government has set for 2020, and more detail on SEPA's role in planning and the advice that we give on incorporating district heating into development plans and new developments, to The Royal Town Planning Institute.



Ethical products being trialed for the tuck shop, and some of the food samples out ready to try.



Aberdeen



THEME OF THE WEEK: TRANSPORT



We had a week of lunchtime activities with a short talk each day around the theme of transportation followed by samples of locally sourced food to show that good food can be bought locally.

This reduces food miles and supports your local businesses. The cheese shop that has its own dairy herd and creamy making the cheese is within 6 miles of the office.



Aberdeen Bypass construction and its impact on the environment.



The shared stories in Aberdeen

How wildlife is being impacted by the new harbour construction at Nigg Bay, Aberdeen.

Presentation from Sustainable Food Cities Partnership (SFCPA) on sustainability and food poverty.

Fruit & Veg stall raising funds for local social enterprise Community Food Initiatives North East (CFINE).

Car Club information - presented by local car club, Co-Wheels.



The air we breathe and how air quality is affected by transport.



Angus Smith Eurocentral

THE WOODLAND TRUST

Gave a talk about the importance of woods & trees, the activities of the Woodland Trust and how we can get involved with their work from volunteering to plant community tree packs to information on the Street Trees project



Electric vehicle driver training



This has de-mystified the electric car for me and encouraged me in the direction of getting one. I found the car great to drive, once I got used to right-leg-only control, and the instruction was excellent. I hope Dugie has recovered from my hard braking!



R:evolve Recycle ran a textiles workshop, it's worth popping down to have a look at one of their local swap shops! Create, swop, upcycle....

2050 Climate Group Young Leadership Development Programme workshop at ASB



Vegan

Vegan doesn't mean going without. From a packet cake mix made using lemonade to peanut butter sweet potato icing you can make it as simple or extravagant as you like. On the Friday curious and hungry staff discussed recipes and the many nearby restaurants catering for vegans and vegetarians. Reducing your meat and dairy intake in favour of a plant based diet reduces your use of land, water and other resources.



R:evolve Recycle
Click the image to learn more...

Swishing / Workshop

Edinburgh

Edinburgh hosted an Air Quality presentation by SEPA's Ian Wager at Silvan House

The presentation was well attended; including members of staff from Department for Work and Pensions, Scottish Natural Heritage and The Forestry Commission. After the presentation there was wide-ranging discussion including the impact of the proposed ban of petrol and diesel cars and the impact of the traffic speed reduction in Edinburgh on air quality



CAN
AVOID



SNH are now planning monthly seminars exploring "Environmental Solutions for a Changing World" which will be open all staff within Silvan House with the aim of fostering conversation, promoting knowledge and sharing experiences.

Elgin

established a small wild flower area.

A group of us dug over a small area, removing the top layer in turfs which we piled up in different areas of the garden to try and encourage bees and then sowed a mix of wildflowers.

We opted for a compost bin so we can compost more materials and hopefully use the end product in our garden in the future.



Stirling

Stirling Climate Week

At Strathallan House, we're lucky to have two other environmental organisations, Scottish Natural Heritage and Keep Scotland Beautiful, as our neighbours. We wanted to take advantage of this partnership opportunity and work together to run a series of events that could be enjoyed by all. It was great to see so many SEPA employees participating in the livestreams, cinema screenings and activities organised by SEPA, KSB and SNH.

AROUND THE OFFICE

On Monday, KSB invited us to participate in their Climate Conversations workshop to discuss visions of a low carbon Scotland and how we will get there. On Tuesday and Wednesday, there were a handful of opportunities to watch and listen to climate change related livestreams and TED Talks. KSB's Sustainable Scotland Network ran two livestream events – 'How do you decarbonise an economy' and 'Climate Change Communication and Behaviour Change'. The livestreams were promoted in the Stirling Office, but were watched by people across the SEPA offices. Both talks are now available to [watch online](#). Ivana from Scottish Natural Heritage ran a Volunteering Day lunch seminar on Monday, and 'Climate Cinema Screening' - climate change based TED Talks on both Tuesday and Wednesday in Strathallan House.

Finally, on Thursday and Friday we were thrilled to be able to run a Swish - clothes swapping event - and an indoor farmer's market.



Every year in the UK we buy around 2 million tonnes of clothes and throw away 1 million tonnes, all of which comes with a colossal footprint of embedded energy, water and toxins.

SEPA and SNH employees donated their clothes to the event and swished and swapped until we were only left with one clothing rail of clothes! With the generous amount of clothing left over, a donation was made to Women's Aid Stirling along with £45, which was raised throughout the event. On the Friday, staff also had the chance to chat with Caroline, a volunteer from [Transition Stirling](#), who brought along a sewing machine and upcycled products to encourage folk to learn how to mend their clothing. Caroline provided me with a quick tutorial of how to use the sewing machine and I stitched up a pair of my partner's trousers!

Down in the ground floor, we welcomed 7 producers into our office who brought with them their amazing, locally grown or made goods.



The bakery arriving with their loaves by bike

The market was put together with the help of the Forth Environment Link who are responsible for organising the [Stirling Food Assembly](#). It was a great success – as deemed by the sold out goods and the positive feedback from both customers and producers.

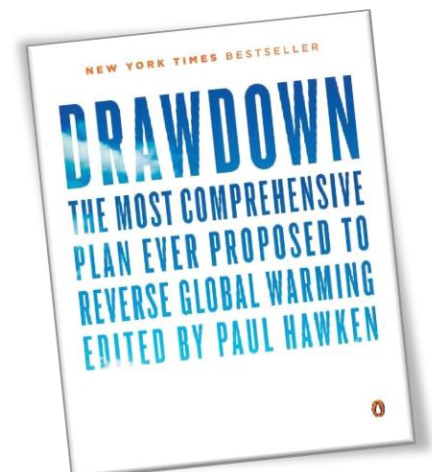


Homemade crown prince pumpkin hummus



Organic vegetables on display

Transition Stirling was also stationed amongst the producers with homemade cordials and dehydrated fruits made with one of the appliances on offer through their [Tool Library](#) and SNH were there providing great tips and advice on home composting. Rebecca had the idea of a lending spree of climate change books – 5 books are now available to borrow. We were delighted to have so many local businesses in our office and to work with KSB and SNH during this fun-filled climate week to help raise awareness of and inspire action on climate change.



Perth

Beekeeping

Pauline asked her beekeeping mentor Mike to do a talk on Beekeeping, the practicalities and threats



Due to climate change, warmer weather is bringing in more pests and further threats to our bee populations; including Asian hornet, and small hive beetle....



Setting up the demonstration hive

The queen bee was removed from her hive along with a group of workers, and brought here to show live bees in action - the conditions in the room sometimes started off an intense buzzing...

The workers left behind in the hive will be frantically feeding up a new grub with royal jelly to create another queen

the drones are currently being ejected as they are no longer needed

Mike will return these bees to their hive after the talk.



Mike brought in a bespoke carrying case of honey bees

..and even brought us in some honey 😊



Climate Week SEPA Report



SEPA biking it for climate week