



LINKING ECOLOGISTS AND POLICYMAKERS



SCOTTISH
POLICY
GROUP

BRITISH ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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- Promoting the use of ecological knowledge as part of a multidisciplinary approach to policymaking
- Providing robust ecological evidence
- Supporting ecologists to understand and get involved in policymaking, and supporting policymakers in understanding ecology

WHAT IS THE BES SCOTTISH POLICY GROUP?

We are a group of BES members who promote the use of ecological knowledge in Scotland by highlighting its value to decision-makers, and supporting ecologists to develop their policy skills and knowledge.

PROMOTING THE VALUE OF ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

We highlight the benefits of using robust ecological evidence to inform policies. We run a variety of events to facilitate interaction between ecologists and policymakers, from policy-focused research conferences to our ever popular “Pie and a Pint” series of informal get-togethers.

PIE AND PINT EVENTS

Our Pie and a Pint events bring together ecologists, policymakers and conservationists in an informal setting to debate topical issues over a “Pie and a Pint”. Recently we have trialled innovative methods for resolving conservation conflicts, and debated the role of protected areas and the place of people in rewilding.

PROVIDING ROBUST ECOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

We act as a focal point to provide ecological evidence to the Scottish Government, Scottish Parliament and wider society. In addition to responding to requests for information, we also aim to proactively provide ecological evidence about upcoming issues through policy briefings.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

We act as a hub, bringing together ecologists and policymakers to enhance mutual understanding. We support ecologists in Scotland to build their skills, improve their knowledge, and enhance the impact of their work through training workshops and briefings on the latest policy developments.



ECOLOGISTS: WHY JOIN THE BES SCOTTISH POLICY GROUP?

Do you want to increase the impact of your work on Scottish policymaking, or help others increase theirs? Do you want to improve your knowledge of the Scottish policy landscape and how you can contribute?

Join us to benefit from:

- Invitations to exclusive networking and policy engagement events
- Opportunities to develop contacts at the science-policy interface
- Dedicated briefings on the latest Scottish policy issues
- Exclusive training opportunities
- A forum to exchange ideas and develop novel applied research

We are open to all BES members.

Contact Ruth.Mitchell@hutton.ac.uk to join the group and subscribe to our regular newsletter.

POLICYMAKERS: WHY USE THE BES SCOTTISH POLICY GROUP?

We offer access to ecologists with a wide range of expertise working across Scotland and beyond, and can provide briefings and information on the latest scientific evidence on a wide range of issues.

As an organisation we do not adopt policy positions or campaign on particular issues, but focus on making the best scientific evidence accessible to decision makers, and communicating the value of ecological knowledge.

We welcome enquiries from anyone who uses ecological knowledge in their work including parliamentarians, and those working in government or NGOs.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ruth Mitchell (Chair)
James Hutton Institute

Nils Bunnefeld
University of Stirling

Rob Brooker
James Hutton Institute

Juliette Young
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

Chris Pollard
University of Stirling

Isabel Jones
University of Stirling

Sian Williams
RSPB

Martin Ford
Aberdeenshire Council

Jeanette Hall
Scottish Natural Heritage

CONTACT US

Ruth.Mitchell@hutton.ac.uk
british ecological society.org
@BES_ScotPol



ABOUT THE BRITISH ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The British Ecological Society is the world's oldest ecological society, with over 5,000 members.

As the independent voice of the UK's ecological community, we have a unique role in informing policy.

We support our members and combine their expertise to promote the value of ecological knowledge and evidence-informed solutions.

The Scottish Policy Group is one of our growing number of Policy Networks for members, including our new Wales Policy Group.

For more information contact:
policy@britishecologicalsociety.org

To stay up to date with developments in international environment and science policy:

- Follow @BESPolicy
- Subscribe to the Policy Blog:
britishecologicalsociety.org/blog

Join us and be part of our growing international society:
britishecologicalsociety.org/join

Follow @britishecocolsoc to keep up to date with events and opportunities.

Explore our world class journals and publications at:
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