

21st January 2021
**ANNUAL LECTURE
PROGRAMME**

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Welcome

For 16 years the Annual Lecture has been a much-loved highlight of the North East business calendar. We've always welcomed innovation and new ideas and celebrated the best of the region while looking beyond Scotland and to the future for ways to build a stronger and more resilient economy.

We've moved online for our 17th lecture and whilst we can't wait to meet again in person over a dinner in the Marcliffe, we hope you'll agree that this platform is a great way to reconnect our members. We know you value the role SCDI plays in uniting all sectors of the economy and civic society and your ongoing commitment to our work enables us to shape thinking at the highest levels in government and industry. Membership of SCDI sends a message about your organisation's values and your commitment to economic, social and environmental prosperity for all of Scotland's people and places

The aftermath of Brexit brings fresh hurdles to overcome, and despite relief that a deal has been reached, it is now paramount to secure a positive transition and develop new trading avenues for Scotland.

In the year COP26 comes to Glasgow there are real opportunities to transform how we live, work and play to ensure we meet our ambitious climate change targets. We are delighted to be joined by Chris Stark, Chair of the Climate Change Committee, who will certainly be in great demand this year.

Our Clean Growth Leadership Group published a Manifesto, identifying the economic opportunities a Net Zero future offers, and our vision for a prosperous and innovative future for Scotland - the SCDI Blueprint - will be out in the Spring.

Sincere thanks must also go to all our sponsors who feature throughout these pages. These events would be impossible without their support, and to our charity partner Sue Ryder.



As we enter our 90th year as an organisation, the SCDI community remains as passionate and active as ever, and it is my pleasure to welcome you all to another, forward-thinking and exclusive event.

Andrew Ritchie

Chair, SCDI North East Committee

AGENDA

- 1800** Lobby opens
- 1830** Event opens and networking
- 1900** Welcome from SCDI – Michelle Handforth
- 1905** The Best of the North East with Visit Aberdeenshire
- 1910** Lecture from Chris Stark, then Q&A chaired by Sara Thiam
- 2010** Vote of Thanks & Close – Andrew Ritchie
- 2015** Event remains open for networking, if delegates wish

Chris Stark is the Chief Executive of the UK Committee on Climate Change (CCC), the public body tasked by the Climate Change Act to be the independent authority on tackling climate change. Chris leads a team of analysts and specialists, offering expert insight into the challenges of reducing UK emissions and adapting to the changing climate.

Chris led the CCC's work in 2019 to recommend a new 'Net Zero' target for the UK – now brought into law. He regularly speaks on the transition to a zero carbon economy and the need to confront climate change with urgency.

Chris has wide experience in government. He has designed economic policy in Whitehall, including in HM Treasury and the former Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. He was previously Director of Energy and Climate Change in the Scottish Government, leading the development of the Scottish energy and climate strategies.

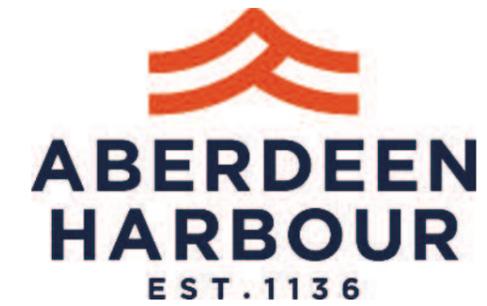
Chris Stark

Chief Executive,
UK Committee on
Climate Change



 @ChiefExecCCC

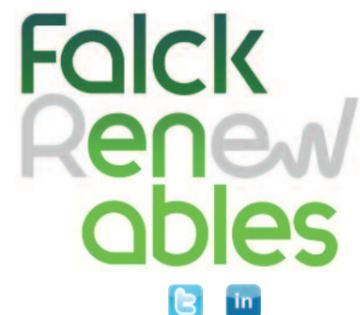
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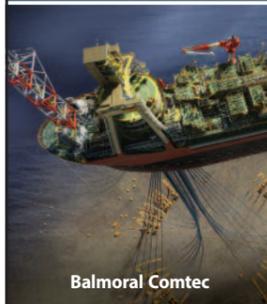
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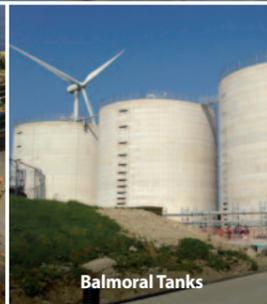
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The company is committed to its local communities and is pleased to be a Principal Partner of SCDI's 2021 Annual Lecture.

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Now we want to go even further to become carbon negative by 2030 by pioneering bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) technology – a negative emissions technology which permanently removes more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere than is produced, creating a negative carbon footprint.

Scotland is already leading the world in the transition to renewable energy, but to meet its ambitious climate goals it must do even more. That's why Drax is progressing plans to expand its iconic 'Hollow Mountain' Cruachan Power Station, a pumped-hydro storage plant in Argyll.

Supporting pumped-hydro storage projects is critical to meeting Scotland's climate goals. With an appropriate investment framework from the UK Government, and planning support from the Scottish Government, projects like Cruachan 2 will be transformational, expanding capacity to support more wind power and creating skilled jobs in rural areas.

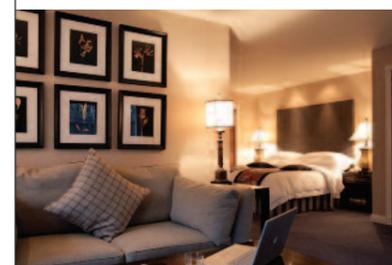


We're collaborating to unlock the potential of floating wind energy in Scotland to create value for the broader Scottish community.



With Falck Renewables' long experience of community engagement and work with local supply chains and BlueFloat Energy's expertise in developing, financing and delivering successful floating wind projects, we are on course to develop new offshore wind projects that really benefit Scottish communities and manufacturers, providing jobs and economic prosperity.

Image shows the OO-Star Wind Floater, developed by Dr.techn.Olav Olsen and owned by Floating Wind Solutions AS.



THE MARCLIFFE HOTEL, SPA AND RESTAURANT



The Marcliffe would like to extend a 'Special Offer' for all SCDI Members and Guests at the SCDI Annual Lecture 2021

A La Carte Dinner Bed and Breakfast for Two with a bottle of Champagne in your room on arrival

£225

The reservation must be made direct with the hotel quoting SCDI2021 when booking.

We look forward to welcoming you to the hotel in the not-too-distant future.

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Robert Gordon University (RGU) has a long track record of working with industry to help develop the workforces of the future. As the North East of Scotland looks to establish its place as a world leader in the energy transition space, RGU is drawing on its internationally renowned expertise to support the Scottish Government's ambition to achieve net zero emissions by 2045 through its education, research and innovation.

The university's Energy Transition Institute (ETI) has played a key role in several major workforce development projects for the energy sector, both in the UK and internationally, which plotted out the changing skills requirements for the industry over the coming years. The ETI was also heavily involved in the delivery of Oil and Gas UK's 'Roadmap 2035 – a blueprint for Net Zero', which involved working closely with the oil and gas industry as it looks to develop a response to climate change and the meeting of government targets.

The university is already playing a pivotal role in the Scottish government's strategy for a "green recovery" by developing skills for the renewable energy sector. RGU offers an extensive course and degree portfolio and its energy-related course offerings are evolving to respond to the skills needs for a sustainable industry driven by net zero and energy transition.

Drawing on its experience of the past and its ambition for the future, RGU will continue to work with the energy sector, combining its expertise on skills with data-driven solutions, ocean-based technologies and an innovative, entrepreneurial approach. Together, we can develop the skills and resources to accelerate the delivery of low carbon solutions and significantly contribute to a sustainable, secure and inclusive energy transition.

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