

# Scottish Policy Group



**BRITISH  
ECOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY**

# Linking Ecologists and Policymakers

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

## WHAT IS THE BES SCOTTISH POLICY GROUP?

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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

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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 A PINT EVENTS

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Our Pie and a Pint (PAAP) events bring together ecologists, policymakers and conservationists in an informal setting to debate topical issues usually over a “Pie and a Pint”. We hold them twice a year usually in the Spring and Autumn. Follow us on twitter and sign up to our newsletter to stay up to date with details of our events.

## PROVIDING ROBUST ECOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

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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 and consultation responses.

## SUPPORTING MEMBERS

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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 GET INVOLVED WITH THE SCOTTISH POLICY GROUP?

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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? Get involved with us to benefit from:

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

[Sign up to our newsletter](#) and [follow us on twitter](#) to stay up to date.

## POLICYMAKERS: WHY USE THE BES SCOTTISH POLICY GROUP?

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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.



## ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

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Our voluntary Committee is composed of ecologists from research institutes, universities, government agencies and NGOs. See our website for the current committee membership.

## GET IN TOUCH AND JOIN THE SPG

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[www.britishecologicalsociety.org/SPG](http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/SPG)

**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER:** @BES\_SPG

If you want to volunteer at one of our next events please contact us.



## ABOUT THE BRITISH ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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The British Ecological Society is the world's oldest ecological society, with over 6,000 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](mailto:policy@britishecologicalsociety.org)

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

Follow @BESPolicy on Twitter to keep up to date with our work.

Join us and be part of our growing international society:  
[britishecologicalsociety.org/join](http://britishecologicalsociety.org/join)

Follow @britishecoldsoc on Twitter to keep up to date with events and opportunities.

Explore our world class journals and publications at:

[britishecologicalsociety.org/publications](http://britishecologicalsociety.org/publications)