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FORTH ESTUARY FORUM

e bulletin

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Forth and Tay Estuary Forums first joint conference 2017

Join us for the first ever joint conference of the Tay and Forth Estuary Forums which will be held on Friday 15th September in Dundee.

More details can be found [here](#).

To book your place please complete and return a [booking form](#) or contact the Forth Estuary Forum on 01383 420104, or
e mail info@forthestuaryforum.co.uk

SNH publish position statement on marine planning

See <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/A2357115.pdf> for an SNH position statement on Marine Planning.

It sets out the SNH key messages and their view on what marine planning is/could be, what it can do for nature, and what that in turn can do for people and businesses.

BBC publishes article on Longannet Power Station as part of their 'Lost Scotland' series

Longannet Power Station in Fife was the UK's second-largest power station until it closed in 2016.

[**Abandoned Scotland**](#) went to find out what it's like inside a power station after the generators are turned off.

This is a very interesting article, with photographs of the power station now it has been shut down. It can be seen [here](#).

Plans in place for demolition of Longannet Power Station

THE company chosen to dismantle Longannet Power Station has asked Fife Council for a screening opinion before starting work on the Kincardine site.

Brown and Mason Limited (BAM) have been appointed by Scottish Power to demolish and raze the majority of buildings, as well as the power plant building itself and chimney stack.

Longannet closed in March 2016 and the demolition process is expected to take four years to complete.

In a letter to Fife Council, BAM state their belief that the process would not be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

It states: "As the council will be aware, EIA development is development that is 'likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors as its nature, size or location'.

"As will be demonstrated by this screening report, no significant effects on the environment are predicted by the proposed development.

"That being the case, it is considered that the proposed development is not EIA development, a screening opinion to that effect may be adopted, and RPS may be used."

The project commenced on February 6 and demolition requires removal of all asbestos-containing materials, removal of all plant, demolition of identified buildings and auxiliary structures, removal of services and grading of ground levels across the site.

More information can be found [here](#).

Queensferry Crossing could host more walks

More local people living near the Queensferry Crossing may get the chance to walk over the bridge.

There were 226,000 applications for the 50,000 walk tickets for the 2-3 September “Queensferry Crossing Experience”, more than half of them from locals. Transport Scotland declined to give details of any extra walks but told The Scotsman: “Consideration is being given to what further can be done to accommodate local communities and we expect announcements on this will follow around the start of August.”

This could involve more walks before the bridge opens to traffic on 30 August. However, it may involve community groups being allocated places, rather than some of the estimated 90,000 locals who were unsuccessful in the ballot being given places.

More information can be found [here](#).

Picture perfect puffins

To celebrate puffin season, conservation and education charity, the Scottish Seabird Centre, launched a puffin photo Facebook competition. A different winner was selected each week, with 150 images submitted over the 4-week competition, and it was up to award-winning photographer, Tom Langlands, to select each week’s winners.

Tom said: “Puffins are a ‘red status’ bird in terms of conservation - this means that they are of greatest concern with numbers having declined rapidly in recent decades. It is therefore wonderful to see so many amazing images of these ‘clowns of the sea’ - not just because all the contestants took great puffin pictures but mainly because they got out there and saw the birds in their natural habitat.



“Taking great images is a nice thing to do and it also has the added advantage of raising awareness of wildlife. It was a pleasure and an honour to see so many wonderful puffin images from a host of different places. I had a lot of fun judging the competition and I do hope that everyone who took part got pleasure from it too.”

The four winners were William Dickson (Kirkcaldy), Craig Newton (Edinburgh), Beverley Thain (Peterhead) and Neil Henderson (Cornwall), who each received a photography voucher to the value of £50.

Tom Brock OBE, Chief Executive of the Scottish Seabird Centre, added: “As a conservation and education charity, we focus on encouraging people to engage with nature in a fun yet sustainable way.

“Our visitors are able to control the interactive live cameras to see puffins in their natural habitat, with a further chance to see them on one of our boat trips. Notably, the Isle of May is the biggest puffin colony on the east coast of Britain with around 90,000 on the island.

“Congratulations to all the winners and those commended. Seeing everyone’s stunning images has really reinforced how wonderful puffins really are, and how important it is that

we look after this threatened species for future generations.”

£1bn Edinburgh City Deal set to create 21,000 jobs

Edinburgh's £1.1 billion City Deal will result in thousands more people in employment and thousands more with new homes, council leader Adam McVey claimed as the long-awaited agreement was signed in the Capital.

The package, which took more than two years to negotiate, involves £350m of investment for innovation, £65m for new housing, £25m for skills, £120m for a flyover at the Sheriffhall roundabout, £20m for roads in West Edinburgh and £20m for a new 1000-seater concert hall off St Andrew Square. The deal, which also covers the Lothians, Fife and Borders, is being funded by £300m each from the UK and Scottish governments, with the councils and universities committing a further £500m.

The investment included in the deal is expected to create around 21,000 jobs in the region. At a signing ceremony, Cllr McVey said: “It’s a good deal for Edinburgh, for the region, and makes sure what is special about Edinburgh remains special and we build on that success. “In the years ahead, there will be thousands of people in employment and thousands of people in houses because this City Deal makes it possible.”

More information can be found [here](#).