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THE NORTH SEA Conference 2014

25 – 27 June 2014
Aberdeen City and Shire,
Scotland / UK



The North Sea Region Programme
2014–2020



Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL



VisitAberdeen

Welcome to the **NORTH SEA CONFERENCE 2014**

This year, the North Sea Region Programme, the North Sea Commission and Aberdeen Shire and City welcome you to a conference focused on future perspectives and opportunities for the region.

The conference will feature interactive workshop sessions and plenary sessions with a strong focus on discussion and debate. The plenary sessions will be held in the form of facilitated discussions between invited guests on stage and the plenary audience, with room to post questions.

WORKSHOPS

DAY 1 from 13:45 – 16:50: THE FRAMEWORK FOR NSRP 2014-2020

The workshops on day one are focused on explaining and discussing the framework of the 2014-2020 North Sea Region Programme. The sessions will take outset in the themes of the NSR Programme and address both content and finance related issues, and the types of projects foreseen in the coming period.

DAY 2 from 13:50 – 16:10: STAKEHOLDER SESSIONS

The stakeholder sessions on day two are based on ideas and proposals submitted by stakeholders and participants. They are led by the individual session holders. Each session will be 20 minutes long.

For further information about the workshops and sessions, please refer to separate leaflets.

STUDY TOURS — THURSDAY, 26 JUNE 09.00 – 13.30

(Pick up from major hotels and AECC venue will be arranged)

1 CULTURE AND TOURISM

Coastal Heritage

This tour aims to demonstrate how cultural heritage, the physical landscape and food and drink can be linked together in an integrated tourism package to help grow the tourism sector in the North Sea Region. The tour includes a visit to the Dunnottar castle, an optional marine wildlife boat trip and lunch in the town of Stonehaven.

2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Subsea Cluster

The tour will visit one of the leading sub-sea companies, Subsea 7, where a presentation on the industry will be delivered by a representative of Subsea UK. Following the presentation, delegates will be given the opportunity to view Subsea 7's facilities and experience its simulators which train operators of Remotely Operated underwater Vehicles (ROVs).

3 ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE

Sustainable Heating

The biomass sector offers a growing economic opportunity for Aberdeenshire, where many rural communities are faced with rising energy bills due to reliance on oil, electricity and gas as fuel for heating. Delegates will travel to Banchory to visit and learn about HOBESCO, which owns and operates a number of biomass heating systems in the north-east of Scotland. A presentation will be delivered by the Scottish Government on its Heat Map project and the tour concludes with a visit to HOBESCO's Biomass Energy Centre, which generates heat from wood fuel.

4 MARINE RESOURCES

Sustainable Maritime Industries

Visit the UK's premier white and pelagic fishing port, Peterhead, to learn about ambitious plans to develop the port and the fishing sector. The tour begins with a visit to the Merchants Quay Fish Market and also includes visits to a pelagic fishing vessel, a processing factory and the Scottish Maritime Academy.

5 TRANSPORT

Sustainable Mobility

Board a hydrogen-powered bus to Marischal College, Aberdeen City Council's Headquarters, where a presentation will be given on the Care North project. Care North aims to develop a comprehensive, strategic and practical approach to urban and regional accessibility in the North Sea Region in the context of climate change and declining oil supplies.

Delegates will then travel to the site of the new town of Chapelton of Elsick. Plans of the new development will be presented and discussed, highlighting innovative approaches to integrating sustainable transport into the fabric of the new community. The final stop is the town of Stonehaven, which plans to develop a marina.

For further information on the study tours, please refer to separate description.

DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE

Venue: Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre (AECC)
Bridge of Don | AB23 8BL, Aberdeen | <http://aecc.co.uk/>

11:00 Registration opens

12:00 Lunch

13:00 WELCOME – THE NEW PROGRAMME AND THE NORTH SEA

- + 2014-2020 presentation
- + Welcome from Aberdeenshire and to the North Sea Conference
- + Three generations of Aberdonians

13:45 INTERACTIVE SESSIONS – THE FRAMEWORK FOR NSRP 2014-2020

- + A number of sessions focused on explaining and discussing the framework for the 2014-2020 NSR Programme and the Cooperation Programme of the same, as well as the role of the North Sea Commission

Thematic workshops:

- + Priority Axis 1 - Thinking Growth
- + Priority Axis 2 - Eco-Innovation
- + Priority Axis 3 - Sustainable North Sea Region
- + Priority Axis 4 - Green Transport and Mobility
- + North Sea Commission and CPMR

Teas and coffees will be available in the sessions. Attendance by first-come first-served principle, no separate registration for workshops.

16:50 CLOSING PLENARY – DAY 1

- + Moderated session with questions and reflections on sessions and issues discussed during the first day of the conference, related to 2014-2020.

17:30 End of Day 1

17:45 Bus transfer to hotels and dinner venue (schedule available online: www.northsearegion.eu)

19:30 Dinner at Ardoe House Hotel Entertainment

23:00 Bus transfer to City Centre/Hotels

DAY 2 – THURSDAY 26 JUNE

Venue: Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre (AECC)
Bridge of Don | AB23 8BL, Aberdeen | <http://aecc.co.uk/>

09:00 STUDY TOURS (LUNCH SERVED)

Please note: Pick up from major hotels will be arranged (schedule available online: www.northsearegion.eu)

1. Culture and Tourism – Coastal Heritage
2. Economic Development – The Subsea Cluster
3. Energy & Climate Change – Sustainable Heating
4. Marine Resources – Sustainable Maritime Industries
5. Transport – Sustainable Mobility

13:30 Teas and coffees will be served in the workshops area upon return from study tours

13:50 STAKEHOLDER SESSIONS

See separate menu for titles and summaries of the sessions.

- + A number of 20 minute sessions structured around themes and topics for the 2014-2020 programming period, with the aim to share ideas, partner search and forward networking in order to pave the way for project ideas and future projects applications.

Attendance by first-come first-served principle, no separate registration for workshops.

16:10 OPEN CAFÉ

Exhibition area: Refreshments served at thematic stations where participants can further elaborate on initiated discussions from the stakeholder sessions earlier in the afternoon.

17:00 CLOSING PLENARY

17:30 Closing plenary ends

17:45 Bus transfer to hotels

19:30 Dinner at AECC Conference Centre Conference highlights video

22:30 Bus transfer to City Centre/Hotels (schedule available online: www.northsearegion.eu)

MORE INFORMATION

About the programme for the conference and practicalities: www.northsearegion.eu
About the North Sea Region Programme: www.northsearegion.eu
About the North Sea Commission: www.northsea.org
About Aberdeen City: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk
About Aberdeenshire: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk
About the venue: <http://aecc.co.uk/>

BY INVITE ONLY

DAY 3 – FRIDAY 27 JUNE

Venue: Ardoe House, Aberdeen, Scotland / UK

08:30 – 10:30 NSC GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PART 1

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 13:00 NSC GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PART 2

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:00 NSC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING