



ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

“Building Capacity for Sustainable Communities”

Wednesday 12 November 2025

Radisson BLU Hotel, Glasgow

- 09.00 – 09.45 **Registration & Refreshments – Market Place Networking**
- 09.45 – 10.00 **Welcome & Introductions – Nicky Marr, Conference Host**
- 10.00 – 10.10 **Ministerial Address (Pre-recorded)**
A recorded message from Gillian Martin, MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy, welcoming delegates and setting the tone for the conference.
- 10.10 – 10.30 **Round Table Conversations / Ice Breaker**
A chance for delegates to share their thoughts and experiences at their table around “Building Capacity for Sustainable Communities”
- 10.30– 11.05 **Keynote: “Together We Can End Furniture Poverty”**
Claire Donovan, Director, End Furniture Poverty
- 11.05 – 11.35 **Break – refreshments, networking and exhibition viewing in The Market Place**
- 11.35 – 12.20 **Sofa Policy Session: How Do We Prioritise Reuse in Scotland?**
- Iain Gulland, Chief Executive Officer, Zero Waste Scotland
 - John Ferguson, Committee Member, RMAS and Head of Binn Eco Park
 - Claire Downey, Chief Executive, Rediscovery Centre
 - Michael Cook, Chief Executive Officer, Circular Communities Scotland
- 12.20 – 12.50 **Member Spotlights**
- Inverness Training & Reuse Village – James Dunbar, Chief Executive, New Start Highland**
- Textiles, Waste & A Whole Lot More – Emma Duncan, Founder and Creative Director, Creation Mill**
- 12.50 – 13.00 **Q&A with Members**
- 13.00 – 14.15 **Lunch – networking and exhibition viewing in The Market Place**

Please see overleaf

- 14.15 – 15.00 **Breakout Session 1 - Attend One Breakout from Below**
1. **The Show Must Go On: Building Climate Resilience in Your Organisation and Community** - Chiara Fingland, Climate Development Officer, SCVO and Izi Robe, Project Support Officer, Verture
 2. **Fostering a Strong Volunteer Base: Priorities for our National and Local Landscape** – Rosie Wylie, Head of Innovation and Operations, Volunteer Scotland and Marie-Anne Brown, Manager, Magpie
 3. **Building Your Capacity Through Collaborations & Partnerships** – Simon Cook, Director, Re-Set Scenery and Nicola Aeberli, Development and Partnerships Manager, Circular Communities Scotland
 4. **Lights, Camera, Impact: Building Confidence in Video Production** - Lucinda Broadbent, Executive Producer and Catalina Bingham, Film-maker and Production Manager, Media Co-op
 5. **Surplus Goods and the Third Sector: Opportunities and Challenges** - Dr Nicki Souter, Director, Nicki Souter Associates – **Running only Once**
- 15.15 – 16.00 **Breakout Session 2 – Attend a Second Breakout from the first 4 options above and the below breakout**
5. **Circular Textiles in Practice: Barriers, Breakthroughs and Next Steps** – Dr Lynn Wilson, Creative Director and Founder, Circular Design Synergy Ltd
- 16.00 – 16.15 **Building Capacity for Sustainable Communities** - Michael Cook, Chief Executive Officer, Circular Communities Scotland
- 16.15 – 16.30 **Closing Remarks** – Mark Morgan, Vice-Chair, Circular Communities Scotland
- 16.30 **Conference Drinks**
Continue your conversations and networking over a post-conference drink with us downstairs in the Grahamston Bar

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