

Living with the Land Debate Land Use and Land Reform in Scotland

Have your say on land use and land reform by attending a keynote “question time” event being organised by Scottish Environment LINK. The event will take place on **Tuesday, 1st December 2015** at the **Serenity Cafe, Edinburgh, EH8 8PJ**, from **6-8pm**.

Published in 2011, the Scottish Land Use Strategy set a vision for future land use in Scotland, ensuring the sustainable use and management of our land resources to help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Five years on, we are awaiting the release of a revised Land Use Strategy for consultation and aim to hold a “Question Time” event to reflect on the progress made thus far.

At the same time, the Land Reform Scotland Bill is being reviewed by the RACCE Committee. The Bill focuses on land rights and responsibilities and is currently being developed in isolation of the revised Land Use Strategy. However, land use and land ownership are inextricably linked. Therefore, the Land Use Strategy must inform the Land Reform process and provide a legislative link to the land rights and responsibilities statement in the Land Reform Scotland Bill.

The Question Time event will provide a forum to discuss these issues and the steps required to secure meaningful change in Scotland. Helen Todd (Scottish Ramblers) will Chair and presentations from Calum Macleod (Edinburgh University) and John Thompson (Scottish Environment LINK/Southern Uplands Partnership) will set the scene. You will then have an opportunity to put your questions to a panel of MSPs: Alex Fergusson, MSP, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party; Claudia Beamish, MSP, Scottish Labour; Graeme Dey, MSP, Scottish National Party; Patrick Harvie, MSP, Scottish Green Party and; Tavish Scott, MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats.

Please RSVP to Lisa Webb (lisa@scotlink.org)

