

# NIEL News

Your guide to the environmental sector

May 2012

## TOP STORIES

### NIEL CONFERENCE AND AGM

**The Partnership Approach: Celebrating Challenge Fund 2012 Outputs**

**Wednesday 20 June 2012 Grosvenor Hall, Glengall Street, Belfast**

**9:00am – 2:00pm**

The Northern Ireland Environment Link Conference (and AGM) this year will be a celebration of the work carried out by NGOs with funding from the NIEA Challenge Fund 2012. All projects will have displays of their projects, and some will present some of their work. There will be plenty of time to discuss the projects and meet and network with other colleagues. The event is free and promises to be very interesting and stimulating, really demonstrating the benefits of working together across sectors to bring positive benefits to the environment and communities.

If you would like to come, please register at: <http://nielconference.wufoo.eu/forms/conference-registration-form/>

## JOBS BASED AT NEIL

### Management and Development Director

**£30,000 pa + 7.5% pension**

Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL) is the networking, policy and forum body for environmental organisations. This senior management position will assist the CEO in the development and management of the organisation.

### Climate NI Officer

**£25,000 pa + 7.5% pension**

Climate NI is an intersectoral partnership promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation in policy and practice. This post will support the work of the group, act as secretariat, develop and deliver events and publications, manage the website and other communications, liaise with climate scientists and other stakeholders throughout the UK and assist the group to become the primary source of climate change information in Northern Ireland.

For further information and an application pack, which will be available from 18 May please download from

# NIEL News

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**Web:** [www.nienvironmentlink.org](http://www.nienvironmentlink.org) or  
**Email:** [sandra@nienvironmentlink.org](mailto:sandra@nienvironmentlink.org) or

**Tel:** Sandra Kilpatrick on 028 9045 5770  
NIEL, 89 Loopland Drive, Belfast BT6 9DW **specifying which post.**

Both posts are full time with funding secured for 2 years.  
**The closing date for applications is 2pm Friday 8 June 2012**

## **NIFMT NEEDS YOUR HELP**

### **Can you help the campaign for an effective Marine Bill for Northern Ireland?**

2012 is an important year for Northern Ireland's marine environment.

The Northern Ireland Marine Bill is currently being debated at Stormont. This crucial piece of legislation will determine how our seas are managed in the future. We are already years behind England, Scotland and Wales in protection for our seas. The NI Marine Bill will introduce powers for the creation of a new type of protected area, called Marine Conservation Zones. These are areas

of the sea dedicated to the protection of species, habitats or features on the sea floor (like caves and reefs).

Full the full story go to: -  
<http://www.nienvironmentlink.org/news/NIMTF-Needs-Your-Help.php>

## **NORTHERN IRELAND'S CRUMBLING HERITAGE**

A survey of at-risk historic buildings is so far behind schedule it's feared many will disappear before the report is completed.

For the full story go to:  
<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/northern-irelands-crumbling-heritage-16156823.html#ixzz1upQ7fMEe>

## **BUILT HERITAGE RESOURCES**

Northern Ireland's built heritage is a valuable resource which requires active protection. This website provides some information which will be useful to those interested in the built heritage or owners of heritage properties.

# NIEL News

Your guide to the environmental sector

May 2012

For further information go to  
<http://www.nienvironmentlink.org/built-heritage/>

## NI POLICY

### ASSEMBLY NEWS APRIL 2012

The latest edition of Assembly News is available on the NIEL website. <http://www.nienvironmentlink.org/news/Assembly-News-April-2012.php>

## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

- [Fish Stocks Could be Hit by Fermanagh Fracking](#)
- [Greenway Contract Terminated](#)
- [NI Climbs up Beach League](#)
- [Torch Relay Challenge Launch](#)
- [Mine Compensation Advised](#)
- [Rivers Agency Win Innovation Award](#)
- [The Humble Bumble Bee](#)

- [Council Boundary Legislation](#)
- [DOE hosts UK Wide Conference on Built Heritage](#)
- [Badger Trust Judicial Review](#)
- [Clean Energy Legislation](#)
- [Athletic Store's Demise](#)
- [Move on Carrier Bag Levy](#)
- [Response to Fracking Report](#)
- [UAHS Photographic Archive](#)
- [RSD Allotment Awards](#)
- [UWT Appoints a New CEO](#)
- [Portrush Power Plant](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

### ENERGISING NORTHERN IRELAND

The Consumer Council have published a report by former GB energy Minister, Lord Whitty.

*Energising Northern Ireland* recommends a far more substantial energy efficiency programme, that home heating oil be included in the remit of

# NIEL News

Your guide to the environmental sector

May 2012

the Utility Regulator (as an interim measure to reducing Northern Ireland's dependency on home heating oil), and that objectives to reduce fuelpoverty and decarbonise energy supply be considered just as important as security of supply. The report can be downloaded [here](#).

## FERMANAGH TRUST WIND REPORT

Research by The Fermanagh Trust has found that communities in Northern Ireland are being financially disadvantaged by wind farm developments in comparison to the rest of the UK. Other models of community benefit, such as community ownership, have also not been made available locally.

Read the full report and summary document [here](#).

## EVENTS

- [BioBlitz 2012](#)
- [New Light on the Vikings in Ireland](#)
- [Grand Garden and Craft Fair](#)
- For more information on events visit [www.nienvironmentlink.org/events/](http://www.nienvironmentlink.org/events/)

## CONSULTATIONS

NIEL responded on behalf of members to a number of consultations during the past month they include:

- Dedicated legislative instrument on invasive alien species (European Commission)
- Marine Bill (Committee for the Environment)
- Proposed Byelaw in relation to Mooring, Anchoring and Diving in Strangford Lough (DOE)

Further information on these consultations can be obtained by contacting [iona@nienvironmentlink.org](mailto:iona@nienvironmentlink.org)

During June/July NIEL plan to submit responses on the following consultations

- UKTAG for WFD - Stakeholder review on environmental standards (DOE)
- Marine Strategy Framework Directive Consultation: UK Initial Assessment and proposals for Good Environmental Status (Defra, the Northern Ireland Executive, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government)

# NI EL News

Your guide to the environmental sector

May 2012

- The Draft Single Use Carrier Bags Charge Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 (DOE)
- Salmon Conservation in the Dcal Jurisdiction - A Public Consultation (DOE)

## FOR INFORMATION

### New round of LIFE funding

LIFE (L'Instrument Financier pour Environment) is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU. The general objective of LIFE is to contribute to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental policy and legislation by co-financing pilot or demonstration projects with European added value.

The current phase of the programme, LIFE+, runs from 2007–2013 and has a budget of €2.143 billion.

Funding proposals must be eligible under one of the programme's three strands: LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance, and LIFE+ Information and Communication.

Applications must be made using the eProposal online tool. Access to the tool and all of the call documents, including the application guidelines, are available on the LIFE + website at

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/eproposalWeb/> and <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm>

The Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is the national competent authority for LIFE+ in the UK. Beta Technology <http://www.betaeurope.co.uk/life.htm> act as the UK National Contact Point for LIFE+ (on behalf of Defra) and provide a range of services to assist applicants in proposal preparation. They are responsible for collecting UK applications on behalf of Defra. Applications need to be with Defra by 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

However, the Department of the Environment must provide a Government view and sign off Northern Ireland Environmental based LIFE+ projects (A8 Form) prior to forwarding to Beta Technology and eventually Defra.

**The deadline for the submission of A8 Forms to the Department (Ken Bradley) is 29<sup>th</sup> June 2012.**

## JOBS

### RSPB SENIOR CONSERVATION OFFICER

Reference number: 410512 Location: Belfast

Interested in using your planning or conservation skills to protect Northern Ireland's wildlife? RSPB are looking for a motivated person to develop and promote RSPB's positions on planning, the safeguard of designated wildlife sites, and protected species. You will be confident working with a wide range of contacts from business to government. The overall aim is to ensure Northern Ireland leads in sustainable development by influencing land-use planning policy, development management and relevant environmental and wildlife legislation. A degree and experience in planning, regulation and/or an environmental discipline such as conservation or geography will be required.

**Salary** £26,000 to £28,000 pa

**Hours & contract information** Hours: Full time  
Replacement post: Yes

Closing date: 25 May 2012, Interview date: 8 June 2012

### How to apply

For complete details of this post (including an application form) please download an application pack. When you return the application form, ensure that you include reference number *410512* on any correspondence.

[PDF version](#) (103Kb, requires [Adobe Reader](#))

[Word version](#) (103Kb, requires Microsoft Word)

### Who to contact

*For questions about this post*

Anne-Marie McDevitt  
anne-marie.mcdevitt@rspb.org.uk  
02890 690838

*Send application forms to*

Susan Kula  
susan.kula@rspb.org.uk  
The RSPB, Northern Ireland Headquarters, Belvoir Park Forest,  
Belfast, BT8 7QT, 028 9069 909