



December 12<sup>th</sup> 2009

## Weekly Media Review - Week beginning 7 December

### 1) Europe

- Scotland's potential for establishing a renewable energy industry has been given a boost following the announcement by EU Commissioners of funding made available for projects in Scotland.
  - [Nation's green energy assets hailed](#)
  - [EU windfall for Scotland's energy sector](#)
- Liberal Democrat MEP George Lyon outlines his policy agenda in the European Parliament for the coming year focussing in particular on the introduction of stringent cross-border regulation of financial services industries.
  - [To regulate, or not to regulate, that is the question](#)
- SNP MEP Alyn Smith informed fellow members of the European Parliament of Scotland's climate change strategy in a briefing note.
  - [Smith Briefs Europe On Scotland's Climate Change Ambition](#)

### 2) Renewing Democracy

- The London-based think-tank Demos published a controversial report outlining the structure and costs of a proposed mandatory civic service programme aimed at young people.
  - [Service Nation](#)

### 3) City Regions

- Both Liberal Democrats and the SNP have criticised Labour for cutting Glasgow City Council's budget in an effort to streamline the city's public sector.
  - [Glasgow deserves better](#)
  - [People of Glasgow let down by Labour and SNP - Brown](#)
  - [Jobs and services hit as city slashes spending](#)
- Debate in the Scottish Parliament this week focussed among other things on rural issues such as flood prevention as well as farmer's markets in the west of Scotland.
  - [RURAL AFFAIRS AND THE ENVIRONMENT](#)

#### 4) Public Service Reform

- The Scottish Parliament's Finance Committee has endorsed the general principles of the Public Services Reform Bill, which is part of a broader proposed public service reform programme.
  - [PUBLIC SERVICES REFORM BILL RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE](#)
- Amidst widespread criticism of disproportionately high pay for senior civil servants both the UK and Scottish government commit themselves to curbing public sector pay and introducing a more transparent remuneration system.
  - [Gordon Brown announces plans to name and shame public sector excessive earners](#)
  - [Call for Holyrood to join crusade against excess](#)
  - [Top Scots public servants feel the heat](#)

#### 5) Energy&Environment

- With climate change being in the focus of news media during the Copenhagen summit, the issue was also subject of a comprehensive debate in the Scottish Parliament on Scotland's position and strategy in combating climate change.
  - [CLIMATE CHANGE](#)
- As world leader's head to Copenhagen to broker a global deal to combat climate change the Scottish government sets out its own climate change action plan. Later in the week the prospect of the First Minister Alex Salmond discussing climate policy with California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger received media attention.
  - [Scotland to set out own climate mission at talks](#)
  - [Salmond & Arnie to discuss Climate Change](#)
- The Scottish Green Party released an appeal to the Scottish government to re-think its position on aviation expansion in Scotland.
  - [First Minister Challenged on Aviation Expansion](#)