



Agreement on the Conservation
of Albatrosses and Petrels

To: Advisory Committee Members
National Contact Points
Meeting Attendees

AC13 Meeting Circular 4 – Registration reminder, Heads of Delegation Meeting, Seabird Bycatch Workshop and Local Information about Edinburgh

Registration reminder

Parties, Non-Party Range States and Observers are reminded that details of their representatives must be provided to the Secretariat prior to the meeting (e-mail the [Secretariat](#)). All attendees, including sponsored delegates, are requested to complete the registration form available from the [ACAP website](#) as soon as possible, to assist us in preparing for the meetings.

Heads of Delegation Meeting

Advisory Committee Members are reminded that on Sunday, 21 May 2023 at 6 pm a Heads of Delegation meeting will be held at the venue. The Heads of Delegation meeting agenda will be circulated closer to the meeting date. Interpretation will be provided as in previous years.

Seabird Bycatch Data Workshop

As advised in Circular 2, a workshop on bycatch data submitted to ACAP and related indicators will be held on Sunday 14 May, the day before the Seabird Bycatch Working Group meeting. The workshop will be held at the AC13 meeting venue, from 9 am to 4 pm. Outputs of the workshop will be presented to the SBWG11 meeting for further discussion and consideration. The workshop plan and draft agenda are available on the [ACAP website](#).

Local Information about UK and Edinburgh

Information regarding Edinburgh, transportation, currency, local contacts and Social Events is provided in ANNEX 1.



Dr Christine Bogle
Executive Secretary
ACAP Secretariat



Dr Mike Double
Chair
ACAP Advisory Committee

21 April 2023

ANNEX 1. Local Information about the UK and Edinburgh and Social Events

Visa Requirements

See [AC13 Meeting Circular 3](#) for information on visa requirements for delegates attending AC13 for entry into the UK.

Currency

The official currency in the UK is the pound sterling (£), often abbreviated to GBP. Currency can be exchanged in banks, post offices and travel agencies. Debit and credit cards can be used to withdraw cash from ATMs. Credit cards such as Visa and Mastercard are accepted in the UK.

It should be noted that Scotland, one of the four countries comprising the UK, where Edinburgh is located, also uses pound sterling banknotes issued by the Bank of England and the Bank of Scotland. The Scottish banknotes will always be accepted in Scotland, but in some parts of the UK they may not be as readily recognised.

Voltage

In the UK, the standard voltage is 230 V and the frequency is 50 Hz.

Sockets and plug types

The power plug sockets are of type G.



Weather

Edinburgh, like most of Scotland, has a temperate maritime climate. The average maximum daytime temperature in Edinburgh in May lies at 14.8°C (58.64°F), with average night time minimum temperatures of 6.9°C (44.42°F). Rainfall during May is moderate with an average of 50mm (2.0 inches). There are generally around 9 rainy days.

Tips

Some restaurants may include a tip on the receipt, but the payment is optional and typically conditional on good service. If you are wanting to include a tip and it has not been specified, a general rule of approach is to pay 10% of the total amount.

Meeting venue location and airport transfers

The venue for the meeting will be Queen Elizabeth House (address: 1 Sibbald Walk, Edinburgh, EH8 8FT) located in the historic Royal Mile area of Edinburgh. It is approximately 8 miles / 13km from Edinburgh Airport.

Edinburgh Airport has good public [transport links](#) with the [tram](#) being one of the easiest ways to get to and from the airport with fast and frequent services to Edinburgh city centre. Trams depart every 7 minutes, between 7am and 7pm, and every 15 minutes outside these hours, with an end-to-end journey of about 30 minutes. The airport tram stop is outside the main terminal next to the plaza. The last stop on the tram line, St Andrew Square, is the closest to Queen Elizabeth House and is about a 10 minute walk.

The journey from [Edinburgh Airport](#) takes around 35 minutes by car. You can take a taxi or an Uber (app) service if you don't have a pre-arranged transfer. Taxi services are located in the East Terminus facility located across the plaza from the main terminal. View the airport transport map [here](#).

Travelling from London to Edinburgh

For those with international flights arriving at a London airport, there are fast train options taking 4-5 hours from London Kings Cross station (for help getting from the airport to Kings Cross see [Plan a journey - Transport for London \(tfl.gov.uk\)](#)) to Edinburgh Waverley station. Waverley station is a 5 minute walk to Queen Elizabeth House. There are also domestic flight options between London and Edinburgh.

Local information about Edinburgh

For information about Edinburgh and things to do in Edinburgh see the Forever Edinburgh website [here](#).

Local contacts

If you need further information please contact:

Elizabeth Biott - Elizabeth.Biott@defra.gov.uk
Tel: +44 7900 654216

Kristopher Blake - Kristopher.Blake@defra.gov.uk
Tel: +44 7880 441679

Social Events

The UK will host a welcome reception for all AC13 participants on Monday 22 May at 7pm at [Dynamic Earth](#). This venue is close to the centre of Edinburgh and is about a 7 minute walk away from the meeting venue (Queen Elizabeth House).

An optional field trip has been scheduled for Thursday 25 May. The trip includes a visit to the [Scottish Seabird Centre](#), where we will meet some of the team and explore the interactive Discovery Experience, and a [boat trip](#) around the island of Craigleith and the Bass Rock, the world's largest colony of Northern gannets. The Scottish Seabird Centre is a conservation and education charity for Scotland's marine wildlife, habitats and seabirds. It participates in projects which help to protect Scotland's internationally important breeding seabird colonies and improve the quality of the coastal and marine environment.

This field trip has been paid for by the UK and attendance is voluntary. Places on this field trip are limited and so delegates are therefore requested to confirm their participation in advance.

The field trip will commence at 2pm when a coach will pick delegates up from outside the Premier Inn Hotel on East Market Street (1 minute walk from Queen Elizabeth House). It is a 45 minute journey to the Scottish Seabird Centre in North Berwick Harbour. Following a tour

of the centre and Discovery Experience the boat will launch at 5.30pm for a 1 hour 30 minute trip. It is estimated that the coach will arrive back in Edinburgh about 8pm.

Note: Passengers must be fit and agile enough to board vessels unaided and be able to negotiate harbour steps and/ or ladders where required. Further information can be found in the Scottish Seabird Centre [terms and conditions](#). Weather conditions can change quickly and may result in passengers getting wet and / or cold, so suitable protective clothing should be worn, as conditions at sea can change quickly. The boat trip is weather dependent and may be cancelled at short notice due to changing weather and sea conditions.

If you would like to join the trip, please respond by email to Elizabeth Biott Elizabeth.Biott@defra.gov.uk as soon as possible.