# The Climate Change Plan update

Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero

# UPDATING THE 2018 CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN

- We have updated the 2018 Climate Change Plan with new policies and proposals to meet the increased ambition of our climate change targets, set out in the 2019 Climate Change Act. These include a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030 (compared with 1990) and achieving net zero emissions by 2045.
- The Climate Change Plan sets out the Scottish Governments approach to delivering a green recovery and includes over 100 new policies and proposals and scales up the ambition of more than 40 other policies and proposals since the 2018 plan was published. In line with the 2018 plan, the focus is on the period up to 2032.
- The update follows the 2018 sectoral approach but also recognises the importance of taking a joined up, coordinated approach between the sectors given the interdependencies.
- It sets out an iterative approach, committed to learning by doing. It is clear that there is a significant role for technological innovation, market development and wider take up and adoption, as well as action by others. Alongside the update and refreshed monitoring and evaluation framework was also published.
- This iterative approach will prepare the ground for the next statutory Climate Change Plan, to be completed by early 2025.





# ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

- Our approach to a green recovery has been informed by the latest public opinions and research, including proposals to embed climate positive behaviour changes we have experienced since March 2020.
- Following the delay of the CCPu, the Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, Roseanna Cunningham, requested advice from the Climate Change Committee and established the Sustainable Renewal Advisory Group, recognising the importance of bringing experts together to consider the green recovery from the pandemic.
- We also requested advice on a green recovery from the Just Transition Commission and the Advisory Group on Economic Recovery. Furthermore, we have considered recommendations from a number of organisations, including the Climate Emergency Response Group (CERG), Stop Climate Chaos Scotland, Scottish Environment Link, WWF Scotland and other environmental organisations; from the Infrastructure Commission for Scotland; and from private sector stakeholders including the Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Scottish Renewables, Scottish Power, SSE and EON, among many others.
- Our public engagement included research we commissioned on public views for a green recovery in Scotland. The research findings are based on a nationally representative telephone survey of 1,045 adults across Scotland, and provide robust data exploring views on potential actions to reduce carbon emissions and support our recovery. The actions tested with the public received high levels of support and respondents highlighted the benefits that these measures can have for our jobs, the economy and wellbeing, as well as climate change.
- We have also commissioned research via ClimateXchange to better understand how and why behaviours are changing as a result of the pandemic. The research is following a cohort of 30 participants over approximately 8 months to explore participants' experiences of behaviour change, including the factors influencing whether new behaviours are likely to be sustained over time.

# ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS

- The CCPu is accompanied by a number of other key strategic documents. This includes the Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan, (CESAP) setting out the growing evidence base for the kinds of skills and jobs needed to deliver a just transition to net zero. It highlights the actions we are taking in the short and medium term to support these green jobs and skills, as well as immediate actions to support a green recovery by aligning retraining and skills programmes with immediate green job opportunities.
- 'Net Zero Nation: Draft Public Engagement Strategy', published alongside this update, sets out how we will continue to engage with citizens in developing and implementing climate policy that has widespread support and encourages action.
- The CCPu builds upon the policy commitments made in our 2020 Programme for Government, such as the £2 billion Low Carbon Fund, designed to make a series of strategic investments to lay the foundations for our transition to net zero and leverage in private investment; and our commitment to invest £1.6 billion in heat and energy efficiency over the next Parliament.
- Now that the CCPu has been published, we have entered the period of parliamentary scrutiny. The plan update will be scrutinised by four committees; Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform; Economy, Energy and Fair Work, Local Government and Communities, Rural Economy and Connectivity..
- The four committees launched a joint call for views immediately following publication, and this has now concluded.
- Scrutiny will include both officials and the ECCLR Cabinet Secretary appearing in front of committee(s).

# SECTOR CHAPTERS: KEY POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Key announcements in the Climate Change Plan update include:

- The launch of a £180 million Emerging Energy Technologies Fund to support the development of Scottish hydrogen and Carbon Capture and Storage industries, and provide impetus to the development of Negative Emissions Technologies
- Aiming to reduce the number of **kilometres travelled by car by 20% by 2030**
- Phasing out the need for new petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2030
- A plan to help create I million zero-emission homes by 2030
- A Waste Routemap to 2030 and beyond, including consulting on a ban on all biodegradable non-municipal waste being sent to landfill
- Additional funding of £120 million is being made available for zero emission buses over the lifetime of the next parliament
- A further £50 million to support the creation of **Active Freeways** to provide sustainable transport links between our towns and cities
- We are also committing to a £50 million fund will be made available to **transform vacant and derelict land**



# THE KEY THEMES OF THE GREEN RECOVERY

Delivering a green recovery is at the heart of the 2020-21 Programme for Government and the Climate Change Plan Update set out the progress being made in delivering these commitments and the further actions being taken. The approach to a green recovery has been framed around the following key themes:

- Investing to drive demand in the net zero economy
- Skills and training for good, green jobs
- Building our resilience as part of a green recovery
- Positive behaviour change
- Place-based approach

### 1. INVESTING TO DRIVE DEMAND IN THE NET ZERO ECONOMY

This theme includes public investment and stimulus, mobilising public sector procurement spend and mobilising private investment and green finance

#### Public investment and stimulus

- The transition to net zero will require significant upfront investment in modernised infrastructure and capital projects, preserving and restoring Scotland's natural environment, and modernising our building stock.
- The investments outlined in the CCPu aim to create an environment where new industries, markets and innovations can thrive is key to securing a just transition to net zero by 2045.
- Our 2020–2021 Budget brought our overall low carbon capital spend to £1.8 billion on an annual basis, while our 2020-2021 Programme for Government and our draft Infrastructure Investment Plan committed an additional £2 billion capital investment to support the green recovery over the life of the next Parliament.
- These investments include our Low Carbon Fund, the final tranche of which is set out in the CCPu, includes £180 million for Emerging Energy Technology, including an emphasis on Negative Emissions Technologies (NETs), £120 million to drive forward a fully decarbonised future for buses, £50 million to transform vacant and derelict land to support our climate objectives, and a further £50 million towards the creation of "Active Freeways".



## 1. INVESTING TO DRIVE DEMAND IN THE NET ZERO ECONOMY (CONTINUED)

#### Mobilising public sector procurement spend

- We are also mobilising £12.6 billion of public sector procurement and collaborating across the public sector on tools and guidance to support a green recovery and our wider climate and circular economy ambitions.
- Our public sector leaders will need to encourage their organisations to identify opportunities to procure in an environmentally-friendly way, and will need low carbon options to help them make sustainable choices. For example, this will include using the Non-Domestic Energy Efficiency Frameworks that provide public bodies with advice on and a route to retrofit public buildings to improve their energy efficiency.

#### Mobilising private investment and green finance

- Mobilising private sector and personal investment in the quantity and at the pace required will put Scotland in prime position to maximise the economic benefits from the low carbon global economy, as well as on the path to meet our emissions targets.
- The CCPu provides clear guidance over future government policy, regulations, and the path of public investment, laying the groundwork for new sustainable markets in net zero products and stimulating private investment over the coming years.
- The establishment of the **Scottish National Investment Bank**, and its capitalisation of £2 billion of public money over the next ten years, is also central to driving net zero market growth and mobilising private investment for the transition.

9

# 2. SKILLS AND TRAINING FOR GOOD, GREEN JOBS

- At the centre of our green recovery is a commitment to **increase the number of good, green jobs** in Scotland and to enable people to access these jobs, including through training and reskilling.
- The CCPu includes announcements from our most recent Programme for Government, such as a £1.6 billion investment in transforming heat and energy efficiency of buildings (estimated to stimulate 3000 to 5000 jobs in the coming years) and the £100 million Green Jobs Fund.
- It also includes the £25 million National Transition Training Fund, which will support those losing their jobs due to COVID-19 to retrain to sustainable careers, and the £60 million Young Person's Guarantee that includes support for green apprenticeships and careers advice.
- The **Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan** was published alongside the CCPu, and sets out the growing evidence base for the kinds of skills and jobs needed to deliver a just transition to net zero.



# 3. BUILDING OUR RESILIENCE AS PART OF A GREEN RECOVERY

- The COVID-19 pandemic has proven the importance of **embedding resilience and security into our society and economy**; this is also essential for our green recovery.
- Whilst reducing emissions towards net zero is the focus of the Climate Change Plan update, the Scottish Government also recognises the wider importance of preparing for the climate changes which are already taking place for example, more extreme weather events, increased rainfall, and rising sea levels.



- In the 2020-2021 PfG we committed to investing an extra £150 million for flood risk management over the next five years (in addition to the £42 million we spend annually), and £12 million in coastal change adaptation to help us adapt to the threat of sea level rise and protect our natural coastal defences from erosion.
- Adaptation investment is also a key driver of economic growth and jobs across Scotland and presents opportunities for Scotland to attract inward investment into this area.

# 4. POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

- The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on people's lives and livelihoods have been enormously difficult. The restrictions on travel, work, and leisure necessary to control the virus have been extremely challenging for us all. One unexpected consequence of these restrictions has been to show us some examples of **what a net zero future might look like and the benefits of that future**.
- For example, research between March and May 2020 shows that there was a marked **drop in air pollution**, as well as an **uptake in active travel**, and a **reduction in food waste** as households chose to cook more meals at home.
- The CCPu, and the Draft Public Engagement Strategy accompanying it ('Net Zero Nation'), sets out the policy measures we will introduce to embed these positive changes, making them the easy and obvious choice as well as the green choice.
- For example, the CCPu includes a number of policies to encourage active travel and further reduce food waste.



12

## 5. PLACE-BASED APPROACH

- To prioritise place and local communities and to encourage better collaboration and community involvement in decisionmaking, the Scottish Government and COSLA have adopted the "Place Principle". This principle underlines a commitment to work with local communities in order to improve people's lives, support inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and create more successful places.
- An example of this approach in practice is our commitment to develop "20 minute neighbourhoods" where people can live, work and learn in communities close to home.
- Rethinking how our places are lived in, planned, delivered and adapted will also help to **futureproof our villages, towns**, cities and regions from the more extreme and costly impacts of climate change.
- We have also established a new **£50 million Vacant & Derelict Land Investment Programme** in recognition that sustained investment is needed to unlock persistent vacant and derelict land for appropriate reuses, to developing the built environment and tackling climate change.
- We are also aware that rural and island economies are facing particular pressures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and our approach to a green recovery, using the Place Principle, will ensure that we work together with these communities to protect and deliver thriving, resilient communities.