



Scotland's Climate Change Plan: a path to green recovery

- Building back greener -



Government: Scotland

Population: 5,463,183

GDP: \$216 billion

Region: Europe

Sector: Comprehensive plan (all sectors)

Date of publication: February 2021

Summary

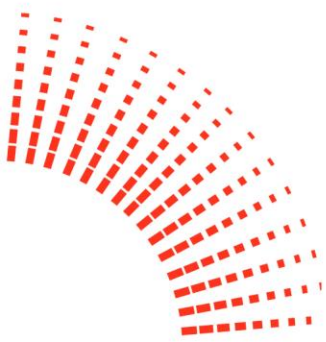
Scotland updated its [Climate Change Plan 2018-2032](#) in December 2020 to introduce more than 100 new policies and proposals that support green recovery and help to deliver a just transition to net zero emissions by 2045.

The Plan also enhances the ambition of more than 40 existing policies to cut greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors, including energy, transport, land use, urban planning and waste management.

As part of driving a fair and just transition, Scotland has also developed a Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan to increase the number of green jobs and to enable people to access these jobs through training and reskilling opportunities.

Progress will be tracked through a more robust monitoring framework which will be used for annual, sector-by-sector reporting.

1 million
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Climate Change Plan 2018-2032

At the end of 2020 Scotland updated its Climate Change Plan 2018-2032 to address some of the new challenges caused or exacerbated by the global pandemic and to provide ambitious solutions to the climate crisis.

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The updated Plan introduces more than 100 new policies and proposals to support Scotland's green recovery and deliver a just transition to net zero emissions. It builds on the Climate Change Act of 2019, which set targets for the reduction of Scotland's greenhouse gas emissions and outlined ways to plan for and report on new climate targets.

In light of the unprecedented events of 2020, last year's update now outlines not only the pathway to meeting Scotland's emissions reduction targets up to 2032, but gives strategic direction on green recovery from COVID-19. **A green recovery is Scotland's commitment to deliver an economic recovery from COVID-19 that helps toward net zero emissions in a way that is just, and that maximises the opportunities to deliver a thriving, sustainable economy.**

The Plan, which also increases the ambition of more than 40 other policies to cut greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors, includes:

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“Our commitment to tackling the twin-crises of climate change and biodiversity loss is unwavering and is central to our green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Roseanna Cunningham,
Cabinet Secretary for
Environment, Climate Change
and Land Reform
[Source](#)

Energy

- Launching a **£180 million Emerging Energy Technologies Fund, that, over the next 5 years,** will support new energy technologies such as hydrogen, Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and Negative Emissions Technologies
- Helping 1 million homes convert to zero carbon heating by 2030
- Investing **£1.6 billion in heat and energy efficiency** over the next Parliament, to see the rate of zero emissions heat installations in new and existing homes and buildings double every year to 2025

Transport:

- Providing additional funding of **£120 million for zero emission buses** to accelerate the decarbonisation of Scotland's bus fleet and support the Scottish supply chain
- Allocating £50 million to support the creation of **Active Freeways** to provide sustainable transport links between towns and cities
- **Reducing 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**

Conservation:

- Putting £500 million of investment into the natural economy, with peatland restoration and woodland creation helping to enhance biodiversity and create good, green jobs whilst tackling climate change
- Increasing new woodland creation from the current target level of 12,000 hectares annually in 2020/21 to 18,000 hectares in 2024/25

Public engagement and just transition

In developing the meaning of green recovery for Scotland, the government consulted with stakeholders from across academia, industry, business, trade unions and environmental organisations, including the Climate Change Committee, Just Transition Commission, Advisory Group on Economic Recovery, Scottish Parliament, Climate Emergency Response Group, Scottish Science Advisory Council and the Sustainable Renewal Advisory Group.

To support the delivery of the updated Plan, a revised **Draft Public Engagement Strategy** has been published, marking a step change in Scotland's approach to public engagement, with the intention to involve the public in the developing the responses needed to reach net zero. The consultation sets out how Scotland will continue to engage, support and encourage climate action, together with a **[Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan](#)** to support reskilling and retraining skilled workers so that they can access new, good quality jobs that become available.