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Dear Edward,

1 May 2025

In May last year the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, Mairi McAllan, wrote to you regarding the report and recommendations of the People's Panel on Climate Change. In that letter my colleague responded to the recommendations most relevant to climate change public engagement. She also committed to providing a fuller response, addressing each of the individual recommendations made by the Panel, once the mid-point progress review of our Public Engagement Strategy for Climate Change (PES MPR) had completed.

I am delighted to be able to share with you the review that was published on 3 April 2025.

The Panel's report and recommendations were an important source of evidence for this review. The review also considered a range of sources including project monitoring and evaluation reports; and independently commissioned research. Highlights of outputs from PES delivery over the review period (Sep 2021 – Dec 2024) include:

- **Climate Action Hubs:** Over £9.5m has been invested to develop the national network – now 24 hubs across Scotland supporting community-led climate action. Last year the Hubs distributed over £700k to more than 400 projects, supported around 600 local groups, and ran over 480 workshops reaching over 16,000 people.
- **Climate Engagement Fund:** Launched in 2023 and has provided over £800,000 to 16 projects, reaching more than 15,000 people to build their understanding of climate change and equip them with knowledge and skills to take action.
- **Let's Do Net Zero:** Launch of our national communications campaign, which in 2024 reached 4.3 million people across Scotland.
- **Net Zero Nation website:** Receiving 80-100,000 visitors a year.
- **Participation Programme:** Delivery of over 100 events, engaging over 2,000 people to inform development of climate change policies.
- **Scotland's annual Climate Week:** 2024 was the biggest yet, including 13 Ministerial events and participation from hundreds of external organisations.
- **Climate Action Schools :** Funded by at least £425,000 each year, the programme engages more than 1,160 schools annually, directly impacting children and young people recognising that what happens on climate is their future.

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The review found that the approach taken by the Scottish Government to deliver the PES is consistent with the wider evidence base for best practice and Scotland continues to lead the way in this area. Several of the recommendations echo those also made by the People's Panel, including on the need for more consistent and longer-term funding for community climate action, in particular the Climate Action Hubs.

The review will be taken into account in the development and delivery of the Scottish Government's strategic approach to engaging the public on Climate Change. Improvements will be made to monitoring and evaluation and how evidence is communicated.

The attached contains the recommendations made by the People's Panel, with an explanation of the actions Scottish Government is taking against each one.

Yours sincerely,

GILLIAN MARTIN

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Attachment – Response to the 17 People’s Panel Recommendations

Young People:

19. There needs to be within the curriculum climate change as a compulsory subject from primary and into high school and children should be involved in developing this.

The Scottish Government is proud that Scotland was one of the very first nations to embed Learning for Sustainability (LfS) as an entitlement for all learners.

LfS seeks to enable learners, educators, schools and their wider communities to build a socially-just, sustainable and equitable society – this includes themes of climate change, climate action and climate justice. An effective whole school and community approach to LfS weaves together global citizenship, sustainable development education and outdoor learning to create coherent, rewarding and transformative learning experiences.

In 2023 we published our refreshed Learning for Sustainability action plan 2023 to 2030, "Target 2030: A movement for people, planet and prosperity", which aims to build an inspiring movement for change so that each early learning childcare setting, primary and secondary school becomes a sustainable learning setting by 2030. Through the action plan, the Scottish Government and partners are taking forward 25 actions to support embedding of LfS as an entitlement for all learners. We are working closely with both the Children’s Parliament and the Scottish Youth Parliament to elevate the voice and views of children and young people in the deliberations of our national LfS Leadership Group, which provides oversight of delivery of the Action Plan.

The Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) provides a broad framework within which educators are empowered to provide learning and teaching experiences that best suit the needs of individual learners. There is no mandated curriculum content that must be followed under CfE. These principles empower teachers to provide creative, engaging and challenging learning experiences for children, in the ways which best suit their individual needs

However, there are specific Experiences and Outcomes (which are a set of statements about children’s learning and progression in each curriculum area) across our curriculum that reflect our commitments to LfS. Examples of these include: commitments in sciences (energy sources and sustainability), social studies (sustainability of key natural resources; environmental impacts and sustainability of agriculture); and technologies (consideration of sustainability in scientific and technological developments; considering the sustainability of materials). The SQA have also committed to incorporating the knowledge and skills of LfS in all new and revised National Courses and Skills for Work Courses, and learning pathways.

In addition, Education Scotland is progressing the new Curriculum Improvement Cycle to ensure the curriculum remains forward looking and supports high quality teaching and learning. The improvement cycle will include considerations around how best to strengthen the position of cross-curricular themes (including LfS). Education Scotland is working with a range of stakeholders and learners are being engaged on the outputs of these discussions to help inform next steps.

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The Scottish Government also funds the Climate Action Schools programme. This national initiative delivered by Keep Scotland Beautiful includes the international Eco-schools programme and engages over 1,600 schools annually. It provides a range of opportunities for learning on: sustainability, the climate emergency, biodiversity loss, litter & pollution, and pupil voice.

Communication:

- 20. The Scottish Government needs an accountable and transparent action plan. Communication needs to be adapted to different demographics. Any policy or strategy should be short and simple and understandable.**

The Scottish Government's approach to public engagement for climate change and the related actions taken are outlined in our Public Engagement Strategy for Climate Change (PES) which is an equivalent to an action plan. The strategy commits to meaningful participation in policy development and delivery, including with those people and communities most affected by our transition to net zero. By working in partnership across business, third sectors and communities, as part of a national effort, we can achieve the just and fair transition required to achieve a net zero nation. The mid-point progress review (MPR) of the PES provides an update on the actions taken and progress towards achieving those objectives. The review, which is publicly available, provides a summary of activities delivered since the publication of the strategy, reflects on the overall approach and recommends improvements to achieve the strategic objectives in future delivery.

Since 2021, we have delivered our annual climate change campaign – Let's Do Net Zero (LDNZ) - which recognises that everyone in Scotland has a part to play in tackling the climate emergency. It also recognises that climate action will look different to every person and place. This is why our climate change communications highlight the broad range of actions that people can take – from reducing our food waste, to opting to walk to work instead of driving, to installing a heat pump.

To ensure our message is relevant, understandable and motivating to various demographics, we pre-test all our assets with different groups of people. We then regularly monitor and evaluate the success with which our message is reaching different demographics.

Where possible Scottish Government publications are provided with an easy-read version to make policy more accessible. Some policy documents have gone further, for example, the Scottish National Adaptation Plan 3 published in September 2024 was accompanied by a version written for children and young people.

- 21. There needs to be a consistent positive media campaign to share local and national success stories of tackling climate change across the whole country.**

One of the key ways in which the LDNZ campaign empowers people to take climate action is through sharing positive stories at a national level, and from communities across Scotland.

Through our Net Zero Nation social media channels, we regularly share stories from across Scotland that highlight the actions that individuals, communities and organisations are taking to help tackle the climate crisis. Moreover, our Net Zero Nation website has a dedicated blog that celebrates climate action from across the country.

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An important finding of the MPR, however, is that while evidence suggests positive messaging and success stories are seen as important, people also want to hear more on the urgency of the situation from Government, tied to information on the practical actions they can take. Scottish Government is taking this on board for planning future campaigns.

I recognise that funding for the LDNZ campaign and wider public engagement has not been available on a consistent basis due to wider budget pressures. However, budget to enable this vital work to continue has been profiled on an ongoing basis for the current and future financial years.

22. There needs to be better information, communication and financial support from the Scottish Government on potential household actions to reach targets.

The Net Zero Nation website is the Scottish Government's primary source of information for individuals, households and communities on the actions they can take for climate resilience and to reach net zero. The website also details financial support available and does, where required, link to other sites such as Home Energy Scotland.

We also seek to increase awareness of household actions through our paid media, such as TV and radio adverts. For example, the 2024-25 LDNZ paid media encourage people to insulate their homes and highlighted the co-benefits of doing so – including a warmer home and lower energy bills.

Home Energy Scotland (HES), funded by the Scottish Government, delivers information and advice on energy efficiency and clean heating to households in Scotland. HES provides a referral service to our energy efficiency funding schemes where households can access relevant grants and loans for installations, and our flagship fuel poverty programme, Warmer Homes Scotland. In 2023-24 HES advised over 100,000 households in Scotland. Additionally, the HES Grant and Loan Scheme provides homeowners in Scotland a grant, interest free loan or a combination of both to support the installation of clean heating systems and energy efficiency measures. From 1 April 2023 to 31 December 2024, over 16,000 of these measures were installed in properties through the scheme.

Business:

23. There needs to be Government regulation of business around climate targets and not subsidising companies with negative impact.

The Scottish Government is committed to using public procurement to contribute towards the strategic priority of transitioning to a more resource efficient, lower carbon economy. To address this, we have created standard and scalable [wording](#) and accompanying guidance to support and encourage public bodies to routinely ask for climate change plans from bidders for public sector contracts where climate is an issue. This aligns with a free of charge Scottish Enterprise product [Sustainability support for your business - Scottish Enterprise \(scottish-enterprise.com\)](#).

Our enterprise agencies play a key role in supporting our low-carbon, green manufacturing sector, for example through funding streams. Scottish Enterprise is committed to supporting responsible and sustainable businesses, helping them to improve their positive impacts on people and the planet, while driving up business performance. As a condition of their support, recipients of funding and grants are expected to have a credible plan in place to reduce their emissions to net zero by 2045, or to commit to putting such a plan in place

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within 12 months of their funding award. Similarly, South of Scotland Enterprise support employers in the manufacturing sector. All applications for grant funding go through an appraisal process which asks for detail on how the client and project address a just transition to net zero. The appraisal process also asks specifics around job numbers both current and proposed measuring the impact on job numbers in the south of Scotland.

We agree that business has an important role to play in helping achieve our climate targets. There are examples where Scottish Government is placing requirements on businesses to help deliver these goals.

These include on single use plastics, where from 1 June 2022 Scotland became the first part of the UK to implement a ban on some of the most problematic single-use plastic products through the Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Scotland) Regulations 2021.

The Scottish Government has consulted on the proposal to introduce a minimum 25p charge on single-use drinks cups to tackle the significant environmental impact of these items. We are now analysing the responses to understand the full range of views on the proposed approach to the charge and will continue to work with stakeholders to develop final plans.

Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging is also being implemented this year on a four nations basis across the UK. It will move the full cost of dealing with packaging waste from households away from local taxpayers and councils to the producers, applying the 'polluter-pays principle'. We estimate that local authorities in Scotland will see around £160 million per year in funding to support the collection for household packaging waste with payments beginning November this year.

We are also working closely with industry and the other UK governments to introduce a Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers, due to launch in October 2027. The introduction of this scheme will help to reduce litter, increase recycling, and will make a contribution to a more circular economy.

24. There needs to be a change to the way national capital projects like installation of heat pumps and home insulation are administered

In 2025/26 we are investing £300m in heat in building programmes to increase domestic energy efficiency and provide financial support. This includes support to over 20,000 households to save up to £500 on their energy bills a year. We have allocated £1.63bn of funding for such programmes this Parliamentary Session so far, including over £575m for energy efficiency and clean projects.

This includes funding for the area-based schemes (ABS) which are designed and delivered by councils with local delivery partners. The ABS programme started in 2013 and has helped over 125,000 fuel poor households to benefit from warmer homes and lower energy bills.

ABS projects and local schemes often target 'hard to treat' properties, these typically require specialist skills and experience (such as asbestos removal or complex cavity wall insulation). However there are also opportunities for a wide range of businesses and tradespeople to

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deliver ABS funded improvements, such as scaffolders or electricians. We encourage and work with every local council each year to help develop the supply chain through local ABS projects and increase community benefits, such as creating local jobs and spending.

Warmer Homes Scotland is our national heating and energy efficiency scheme designed to help those living in, or at risk of fuel poverty, through the net-zero transition. We re-launched the Warmer Homes Scotland scheme on 02 October 2023 with more funding and more help for households to receive a clean heating system.

The scheme has a significantly increased maximum contract value over up to 7 years (5 plus potential 2-year extension which would take the contract to 2030) and a focus on whole house retrofit work which will enable the scheme to provide even more support for fuel poor households over its lifetime. Our managing agent oversees a supply chain of 35 registered and accredited SME installation companies based across Scotland, with 9 island-based installers. The scheme encourages improvements to local supply chains through community employment and skills targets included in the contract.

The Social Housing Net Zero Heat Fund supports energy efficiency and clean heat projects which are delivered by local authorities (and registered social landlords). As part of the application process, the Fund requires projects to evidence the social value and wider benefits of the project as well as demonstrating value for money will be achieved. This includes highlighting the approach planned for tenant engagement and community benefits such as the number of jobs created.

25. There must be a requirement that businesses and corporations that receive public funds from the Scottish Government need to invest in supporting the public and public services linked to climate action and the local community.

The Scottish Government encourages all renewable energy projects to provide community benefit. Details on community benefits from off-shore wind projects are provided at recommendation 13.

Funding

26. There needs to be robust longer-term funding in a timely fashion to help the expansion and increase of climate hubs. This should guarantee secure funding to adequately resource climate hubs – with a minimum of 3-5 years

We have distributed over £9.5 million to the Community Climate Action Hubs since the launch of the first 2 hubs in September 2021. The network now numbers 24 covering the whole of Scotland. We are proud of what the network has achieved: in 2023-24 they distributed over £700,000 to over 400 community projects, provided support and advice to around 600 community organisations, and ran over 480 workshops and events reaching over 16,000 people.

The PES MPR recognises the challenges which short-term funding brings for organisations like the hubs. Drawing on this recommendation of the People's Panel, as well as wider evidence, the review flags the need to: "Provide longer-term funding for Climate Action Hubs which would ensure greater security and stability, and therefore enable meaningful work to be embedded and expanded upon to achieve greater change."

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We are continuing to consider what options for multi-year funding are available, recognising too the constraints of the single year budget process within Parliament. As noted in my colleague's letter of May 2024, we continue to operate within a very tight economic environment. However we remain committed to supporting community climate action, recognising the huge value of locally driven climate action in allowing communities to shape solutions that are relevant to their unique circumstances. By empowering people to take meaningful steps in their own areas, we not only accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future but also make it fair, inclusive, and responsive to local needs.

Participation and communities

27. There needs to be a focus on local, community-focused work e.g. community wealth building, asset mapping and sharing good practice.

Scottish Government is committed to taking a place-based approach to public engagement on climate change, as outlined in the PES and demonstrated through our investment in the Community Climate Action Hubs network and projects supported through the Climate Engagement Fund. Findings from the PES MPR confirm place-based, community-led climate action to be an effective and popular approach.

On community wealth building, Scottish Government is committed to working with partners to continue to grow the community energy sector. We want to ensure that the delivery of renewable energy comes with benefits for people in Scotland, as well as supporting progress towards net zero.

This is why we continue to invest in our Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). Since its inception CARES has advised over 1200 organisations and provided over £67 million in funding to communities throughout Scotland, supporting over 960 projects.

We have recently announced a total of £9 million in CARES funding for 25/26. This includes £3.5 million for a new 'Community Energy Generation Growth Fund', building on the success of last year's pilot fund. We also announced £4.5 million will be available to help communities to decarbonise their buildings. Additionally, we have dedicated £1 million for development support to help communities to develop early ideas for projects.

28. There needs to be a legal obligation on all local authorities to co-create local climate policy, supported by funding from the Scottish Government.

Aligned with the Verity House Agreement, Scottish Government have worked closely with COSLA to develop a [Climate Delivery Framework](#) between national and local government to agree shared approaches to delivering action on climate change. The framework will enable better alignment between national and local targets and to jointly address the challenges and barriers to delivery.

We have established a Scottish Climate Intelligence Service for local government, which will help build the capacity of local authorities to reduce area wide emissions. This is a positive example of collaboration and pooling resources between national and local government to help address the climate challenge. More information on the Scottish Climate Intelligence Service can be found on the [dedicated website](#).

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Scottish Government and COSLA continue to work together to implement the [Place Principle](#). Adopted in 2019, it establishes a clear vision for collaboration locally between organisations and with communities to maximise the impact of joint resources and deliver better outcomes for people and places.

The [Place Standard Tool with a climate lens](#), launched in 2022, provides an additional focus on climate issues within a place, and is designed to support a joined up, collaborative, and participative approach to addressing climate issues at a local level.

A supporting [Place and Climate animation](#) explains, in a simple and engaging way, the key issues and how a collaborative, place-based approach to climate action can help create local solutions to a global problem that also help address other related issues such as health, poverty and equity.

29. The Scottish Government should resource and implement face to face engagement, particularly with disengaged people and not just focus on social media

The PES recognises the importance of using multiple methods to engage different audiences and the activities delivered reflect a mixed approach – from mass media engagements to targeted, face-to-face engagements via trusted messengers with specific groups and communities. For example, in 2023-24 our national network of Community Climate Action Hubs ran over 480 in-person workshops and events reaching over 16,000 people.

Another example of face-to-face engagement is through our Participation Programme, which has delivered over 100 events, hearing directly from over 2,000 people to inform development of key climate change policies. Through this work we have reached new audiences, and by working with representative organisations including the Poverty Alliance and One Parent Families Scotland we have engaged groups who might not otherwise had their voices heard through traditional consultation routes.

The Climate Engagement Fund (CEF) aims to build understanding of the climate emergency across communities in Scotland by offering support for climate engagement activities. CEF represents our main funded vehicle to support trusted messengers to deliver reach new audiences to build their knowledge of climate change and equip them with the skills and understanding to take action. Since its inception in 2023, the CEF has funded 16 climate engagement projects, reaching over 8,000 people in 2023-24 and over 7,000 people by Q3 2024-25. The projects cover a diverse geographical spread of communities, including coastal, island, rural and urban areas, and have reached a huge range of audiences including children and young people in areas of multiple deprivation, and scientists and academics leading the conversation on climate communication.

30. The Scottish Government needs to continue to develop a cultural programme to include those who are attracted to the arts, with a focus on grassroots and participatory cultural projects.

Encouraging transformational change across all of our communities and supporting them to be climate ready is vital in our just transition to net zero. We know that culture can play a key role in helping the public visualise the potential impacts of climate change, challenge our beliefs, and shift ways of seeing and thinking.

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Cultural organisations and creative practitioners reach a wide range of people, harnessing the power of culture through their cultural assets, programming and content, to inform public debate on climate change and enable subsequent behavioural change across society. Our publicly funded culture bodies are ahead of the curve on how they manage and reduce their carbon emissions and their leadership in this area has a positive influence on how the wider sector and beyond think about their environmental impact.

The Scottish Government also supports arts-based interventions through our Climate Engagement Fund. The Fund enables organisations and groups across Scotland to lead their own climate change engagement initiatives as climate change communicators. In 2023-24 we funded Rowanbank Environmental Arts and Education CIC to help young people and their educators to develop their understanding of climate change through storytelling and creative climate education and communication tools. In 2024-25, we funded Lairg and District Learning Centre to run a series of arts- and science-based workshops on bird migration, to improve climate understanding in Lairg and throughout Sutherland.

The important role of the arts and culture was a key finding of the Scottish Government commissioned review of international evidence on climate change public engagement, recently published as part of the mid-point review of the PES. Taking into account stakeholders' needs and preferences, the Scottish Government will continue to collaborate with the culture sector and promote their innovative practices to support culture's contribution towards a climate-ready, net zero Scotland.

31. There needs to be a commercial benefit for communities which have to host large scale renewable projects, for example, offshore wind farms.

The Scottish Government is taking action to ensure people and communities benefit from a just energy transition. We are using all levers available to deliver sustainable, meaningful and impactful outcomes from the transition, informed by the voices of our diverse communities. Through our Good Practice Principles, we encourage developers to offer community benefits and shared ownership opportunities as standard on all renewable energy projects. Despite the powers to mandate community benefits being reserved to the UK Government, we have made significant progress through our voluntary framework, with over £30 million worth of benefits offered to communities in the last 12 months. Building on this success, we are undertaking a joint review and consultation on our Good Practice Principles for onshore and offshore renewable energy developments, which closes on the 11 April. The information and views gathered from this work will inform a refresh of our onshore and offshore Good Practice Principles by the end of 2025. We welcome ongoing work by the UK Government to review its approach to community benefit and continue to call on them to consult on mandating benefits from onshore net zero energy projects.

Make it easier for people to contribute

32. There needs to be increased investment in and awareness of affordable climate friendly technology for people in lower income households.

We continue to offer a generous package of funding for households to transition to clean heating, with various schemes to support those with difficulty paying their fuel bills including through Warmer Homes Scotland and Areas Based Schemes.

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We allocated a record £85m to our Warmer Homes Scotland scheme in 2024/25 which focusses on installing heating, insulation and renewable technologies in the homes of those in, or at risk of fuel poverty. Since the scheme re-launched in October 2023, Warmer Homes Scotland has helped 7,984 households, and installed 18,836 heating, insulation and renewable measures.

Access to these schemes is through Home Energy Scotland (HES), funded by the Scottish Government, to deliver free, impartial, information and advice on energy efficiency and clean heating to households in Scotland as set out in recommendation 4.

We continue to provide capital support to social landlords to install clean heating and/or energy efficiency measures in their existing stock through the Social Housing Net Zero Heat Fund. Since the scheme launched, over 13,000 social homes have had various technologies such as solar PV, battery storage and different forms of insulation such as cavity wall insulation installed to reduce the energy consumption and, as a result, fuel bills for tenants.

On electric vehicles (EVs), Scotland is currently the only part of the UK offering support for consumers to purchase EVs and through our Low Carbon Transport Loan. Since 2011 this scheme has provided interest free loans worth £230m supporting individuals and businesses including the taxi sector across Scotland to purchase over 8,700 zero and ultra-low emission vehicles saving an estimated 230,000 tCO₂e.

We also continue to support the installation of home, workplace and public EV charging, with a particular focus on rural and island communities and the Scottish Government has provided over £19m to consumers for the installation of over 23,000 lower powered charge points at homes, including factored developments with shared parking provision, and at workplaces.

33. There needs to be improvements made in enabling the general public to access loan/grant applications via support from existing organisations like climate hubs. This needs to cover everyone and not just those on low income

We are committed to the continuous improvement of delivery of the Home Energy Scotland (HES) Grant and Loan scheme. In addition to the enhanced application and claim system now in place, we are working with stakeholders, including customers, to inform future development. All applicants to the scheme are able to benefit from free, bespoke, impartial advice from the Home Energy Scotland advice service. Further details on the support and advice provided by HES, including our fuel poverty programme Warmer Homes Scotland, are provided above at recommendation 4.

HES has built partnerships with a number of trusted partner organisations including health and social care organisations, local authorities, charities, food banks etc. to build referral pathways for vulnerable householders. This enables direct referral of householders to and from HES. Much of the public engagement activity that HES engages in is delivered within communities by local advice centre staff attending local events, community hubs and outreach projects. They are also actively involved with Community Climate Action hubs. HES is always looking to improve links with partner organisations in the community.

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34. There needs to be a centralised climate data gathering process covering all demographics to be managed and publicly reported on annually by the Scottish Government.

To date, there has not been a strategic or systematic approach to collecting data on the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of people in Scotland. To fill this evidence gap we have this year launched the Scottish Government Climate Survey - a comprehensive and robust cross-sectional survey that aims to generate reliable estimates of Scottish adults' awareness and understanding of, and engagement with, climate change-related issues, as well as views and experiences of the costs and benefits of climate change policies. This data will be vital for the Scottish Government as we seek to better understand the impact of our current work and tailor future programmes of work on climate change across a wide range of important policy areas.

Findings from the survey will be used to support the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of key strategies and plans, and will also be vital in shaping our communication and engagement activities. We intend to repeat the survey regularly to enable us to monitor changes in public attitudes and behaviour over time. The results of the first wave are due to be published this year.

35. The Scottish Government needs to improve the efficiency and affordability of public transport nationwide, by enhancing timetables and listening to and taking action on local transport needs. We support free bus travel for all.

Reducing Scotland's reliance on cars and encouraging a shift towards public transport and active travel is a crucial step in meeting our climate targets. We will invest more than £2.6 billion in 2025-26 to support public transport and to make our transport system available, affordable and accessible for all. Among this, we are increasing funding for bus services and concessionary travel from £430 million last financial year to almost £465 million. Over 2 million children, young people, disabled and older people in Scotland are now benefiting from free bus travel, making over 3 million journeys every week. We have also allocated £3 million for a £2 bus fare cap 12-month pilot to commence in January 2026 in a regional transport area. ScotRail continues to develop fares initiatives which can help attract more passengers, while offering savings and added value to existing rail users.

36. There needs to be support and funding for the creation of community spaces and raised awareness of existing spaces. There needs to be better access to climate information and promotion of local opportunities to get involved in climate action in places such as Job Centres, libraries, Citizens Advice.

As outlined above, the Scottish Government recognises the importance of local engagement and connecting with people in the places and spaces of their everyday lives. The Community Climate Action Hubs are well placed to engage in these ways and many have established strong relationships with local authority and third sector services. An example of where Scottish Government has supported climate change engagement through community spaces is via local libraries. The Scottish Government funded Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC), has delivered the Public Library Improvement Fund (PLIF). This has funded projects in public libraries across Scotland that promote sustainable development and help address climate change. In 2023-24, the SLIC was awarded project funding of £75,000 from

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the Climate Engagement fund, to build on relevant work taking place in public libraries across Scotland to engage in conversations about climate action.

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