

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Stuart McMillan, Convenor of the Climate Action Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Email: ClimateAction.committee@Parliament.Scot

Dear Stuart,

I am writing to inform you of the publication of 'Our Scotland, Our Future: Public Engagement Strategy for Climate and Nature'. This Strategy supports the statutory duty under section 91 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act.

A copy of the Strategy can be found [here](#).

This publication comes as a vital time. The impacts of climate change are with us and are being felt with increasing severity and frequency across Scotland. Public engagement is essential to deliver the action we all need to take together, improve our quality of life, reduce future impacts, and contribute to a more prosperous, healthy, fairer and resilient Scotland.

Over the last five years, our public engagement approach, under the 'Net Zero Nation' strategy, has enabled people across Scotland to engage on climate change and explore climate action through schools, communities, workplaces, cultural organisations, sports clubs, voluntary organisations and local networks. It has supported thousands of conversations, inspired practical action and enabled people from all backgrounds to play a part in Scotland's journey to a net zero, climate resilient nation.

'Our Scotland, Our Future' builds upon this success while introducing improvements based on learning through delivery. It will seek to build understanding that motivates, inspires and leads to action across the whole of society, among our urban, rural and island communities. It aims to shift the conversation about climate change and nature loss towards one of hope, honesty, resilience, and shared ownership of solutions, recognising people as active partners in re-imagining and shaping Scotland's future.

The new strategy has made improvements on our approach in 4 areas:

1. This Strategy incorporates engagement on climate change mitigation, adaptation and nature loss together, reflecting how interconnected they are and how people experience their local environment. It will support the delivery of the following Scottish Government Strategies:

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

- Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024 - 2029
 - Scotland's Climate Change Plan: 2026 - 2040
 - Environment Strategy for Scotland
 - Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to 2045
 - National Just Transition Planning Framework.
2. Revised and strengthened Vision, Objectives and Outcomes to provide a robust theoretical framework for climate and nature engagement.
 3. The Strategy sets out the approach to delivery, and this will be supplemented by a separate Delivery Plan to be published in Spring 2027. This Plan will set out the activities and commitments that will meet the objectives set out in the Strategy and enables us to coordinate and work with a range of partners nationally, regionally and locally.
 4. We have strengthened our approach to Monitoring and Evaluation founded on an improved Theory of Change.

The science of climate change and biodiversity loss isn't up for debate; we are in a climate and nature emergency. The impacts are being felt across households, communities, businesses, economies and ecosystems and are projected to intensify over the coming decades. The Scottish Government will play its full role, but we know that governments alone cannot address these crises. We need collective effort and by working in partnerships with communities and organisations across Scotland, public engagement can help address the twin crises and develop opportunities to support a just, resilient and nature-positive transition.

I am proud that Scotland continues to stand firm in our commitment to tackle these crises and I look forward to working with the committee to support this approach.

Yours sincerely,



GILLIAN MARTIN

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Silver

