



The 2021vSRP recognises that the Scottish Government has amongst the most ambitious climate targets globally. Enabling rural and island communities to contribute to those targets, and to mitigate current adverse impacts of the climate crisis, requires systemic change and investment in small-scale and decentralised initiatives – low carbon community transport solutions, circular food & waste economies, local energy generation & use. These initiatives are tailored to local contexts, rooted in community action and motivate people to adapt their behaviour.

systems change

Strategic Framework 1

The Scottish Government's National Performance Framework and economic strategy to move away from a focus on 'economic growth' towards action that safeguards the environment and people's wellbeing.

Democracy, planning and community empowerment 2

The Net Zero Nation: Public Engagement Strategy to detail mechanisms for real democratic participation in shaping/ resourcing climate priorities at local level.

The Scottish Gov. National Planning Framework (NPF4) to offer a simplified and streamlined process for community-led climate action projects with presumption in favour for such projects.

Other policy initiatives 3

UK Gov. to legislate for affordable mechanisms to enable communities become local energy suppliers.

Scottish Gov. to:

- progress land reform agenda
- progress the Good Food Bill
- Review requirement for legislation/guidance to lift constraints on community-led approaches to tackling waste.
- ban single use plastics by 2025

Areas requiring specific investment 4

Scottish Gov. to:

- mirror Covid-19 response and flexibly resource communities to take forward local priorities.
- increase investment in specialist, technical support for communities
- deliver programmes to retrofit all homes to meet zero emissions.
- decarbonise passenger ferry fleets and incentivise use of public and active transport.
- invest in supporting land-based enterprises to transition.

Education & networks 5

Scottish Gov. to:

- deliver a consistent and trustworthy comms strategy (as with Covid-19 strategy) to maintain and coordinate engagement.
- Introduce a climate change curriculum in schools
- fund a network of community-led initiatives that can act as hubs for ideas and action.