

Climate Change: Adaptation Plan

Public Consultation

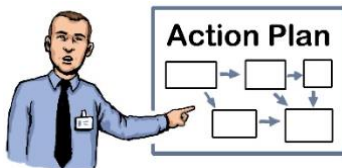
Easy Read version

January 2024

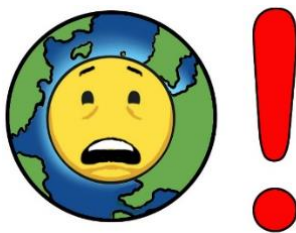
Introduction



When the Government is going to make an important change, they have to ask people for their views first. This is called a consultation.



This consultation is about the Scottish Government's Climate Adaptation Plan.



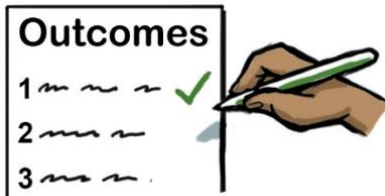
The climate is the weather we expect to have every year. Climate Change means we will have warmer temperatures, more heavy rain and drier summers.



Sea levels are also rising. This change in normal weather is damaging the environment and harming people.



We need to understand what people think about this issue. This will help us make a plan that will work. We want to ask questions about your experiences of climate change.



Our plan is broken into five Outcomes. Outcomes are the goals we want to reach with our plan. We want to hear your views on these Outcomes.

Your experience of Climate Change



We are all living with climate change, now and in the future.



This can change a lot depending on where you live. An island community in the Outer Hebrides will experience climate change differently to a community on the banks of the Clyde in Glasgow.



We need to know about everyone's experiences in all parts of Scotland. This will help us to make a plan that works for everyone.

Question 1: How is climate change is affecting people in Scotland? Please explain your answer in the box below:

Question 2: What effect will climate change have on people in Scotland over the next 5 years? Please tell us in the box below:

Question 3: What actions would you take to adapt to climate change? This could be in your community, at home and at work. An example could be considering installing flood protection measures to your home, such as door guards. Please tell us in the box below:

Question 4: What would stop you from taking action to adapt to climate change? Please tell us in the box below:

Question 5: What actions should the Scottish Government take first to tackle the effects of climate change? Please tell us in the box below:

The 5 Outcomes

Outcome 1: Nature Connects

- Nature connects across land, coast, and sea.



Nature must be our top priority when we tackle climate change. We have to protect and fix the damage that has been done to our natural environment.



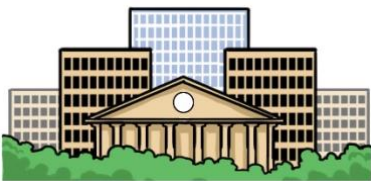
Nature is not only found in the countryside. Nature is part of our towns, cities, and villages too.



Climate change is the biggest threat to Scotland's wildlife. Changing weather, extreme heat and wildfires are putting animals and plants in danger across Scotland.



Strong, healthy environments can help us deal with climate change. Nature supports communities to adapt to climate emergencies like floods, rising sea-levels, heatwaves, and wildfires.



We need to join up green areas between and within the countryside, towns and cities. We call these 'nature networks'. Making cities and towns greener is an important part of tackling climate change.

Question 6: Which are the most important actions the Scottish Government should take? Please tick as many as you want:

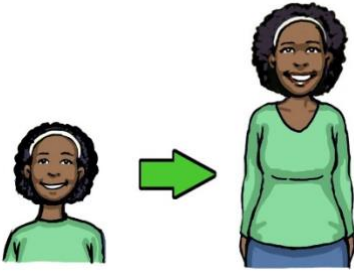
- More trees and green spaces in built-up places for flood protection and cooling.
- More joined up natural areas ("nature networks").
- Managing pests and diseases which will get worse with climate change.
- Restoring forests and peatland.
- Making natural coastal barriers stronger, like dunes.

Question 7: Which specific actions should the Scottish Government take forward? Please tell us in the box below:

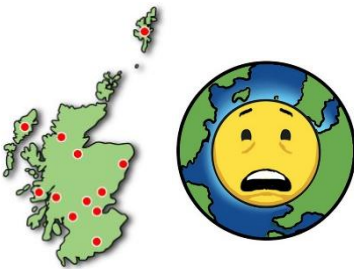
Question 8: What would you like to see improved in your local nature space like a park, canal, woodland or beach? Please tell us in the box below:

Outcome 2: Communities

- Communities are climate friendly, healthy and fair.



People shape places, and places shape people. Where we are born, grow, live and work has a big impact on our health, wellbeing, opportunities, and experiences.



The climate emergency will change Scotland's places. Challenges like heatwaves, flooding, and rising sea level are affecting our countryside, towns, and cities.



We know these changes will only get worse in the future. Places will need to cope with the effects of climate change to protect our communities. We also need to reduce emissions of harmful gases that lead to further changes.



Our places have always changed over time. We can find local solutions to a global problem that meet each community's needs. These solutions will be fair and make the most of what each community has.



Scotland's most disadvantaged people and communities will be affected worst by climate change. How we deal with climate change can improve everyone's health and wellbeing in a fair way.



Government, communities, businesses, and other organisations need to work together to tackle climate change and improve people's wellbeing. We need to imagine, learn, and adapt together.

Question 9: How could others support you (or your organisation) to adapt to climate change over the next five years? Please tell us in the box below:

Question 10: How should different groups work together and support each other when adapting to climate change? Please tell us in the box below:

Outcome 3: Public Services - Public services are working together to adapt to climate change.



We need to work together for the same outcomes if we are going to tackle climate change. We need to do this fairly and include everyone.



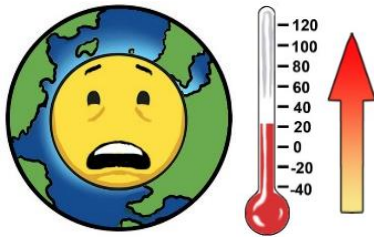
Public services are a very important part of this. Organisations can work better and save money when adapting to climate change becomes a part of everyday life.



The law says public sector organisations have to work with the Adaptation Plan and report their progress every year.



We need to do everything we can to cut our greenhouse gas emissions as much as possible. This will help avoid the worst impacts of climate change.



The Scottish Government's scientific experts say that everyone should adapt to global temperatures rising. We should be ready for a rise by 2 degrees Centigrade, but also plan for a possible rise in temperature of up to 4 degrees Centigrade.

Question 11: Do you agree that Scotland should plan for a range of different future climate conditions?

Yes

No

Please explain your answer in the box below:

Question 12: Would you find it useful to have information on the climate conditions to plan for when making a long-term decision or investment?

Yes

No

If yes, what sort of information or advice would you find useful? Please tell us in the box below:

Outcome 4: Economy, business and industry

- **Businesses and industries are making changes to manage the impacts of climate change, and are exploring new opportunities brought by the changes**



Scotland's economy needs to adapt to climate change. We know the cost of climate change to the economy is high. We have to take action now and keep working on this in the future.



Climate change also brings opportunities. We will need new businesses, jobs, and equipment to help us adapt to climate change and extreme weather hazards.



Over the next 5 years, The Scottish Government and private businesses can work together as 'Team Scotland'. They can deliver the actions needed to transform the Scottish economy.



Businesses and communities will be involved in making Scotland a fairer, wealthier, and greener country.

Question 14: What challenges do businesses face when preparing for climate change? Please tell us in the box below:

Question 15: What support could the Scottish Government give to help businesses to deal with the effects of climate change? Please tell us in the box below:

Question 16: What opportunities for business would come from changes in Scotland's climate? For instance, warmer and wetter weather could mean farmers could grow different types of crops. Please tell us in the box below:

Outcome 5: International Action

- Scotland supports improved global action climate adaptation



Climate change affects the whole world. Every community will feel its effects. Some communities will be affected worse than others.



Scotland is a small country, but we want to take an active part in global climate action. We can share knowledge and support other countries. We can put pressure on national governments to do their part.



Some of what we can do about climate change is the responsibility of the UK Government. But the Scottish Government will do all it can around the world and at home.

Question 16: How can the Scottish Government support communities affected by climate change across the world? Please tell us in the box below:

Question 17: What international climate change research should Scotland be doing? Please tell us in the box below:

Cross-Cutting Action



Different parts of the Scottish Government need to work together to reach our goals for climate change.



We need to make sure all our staff have the right knowledge and skills. We need to make sure we get the proper funding from private businesses.

Question 18: How can the Scottish Government encourage private companies to invest in adaptation projects?

Please tell us in the box below:

Checking Progress



Measuring how we are doing is important to make sure we are reaching our goals. A lot of complicated changes need to be made so this is a challenge for Governments across the world.

Question 19: Can you suggest a way we can check progress towards managing the impacts of climate change? Please tell us in the box below:

Impact Assessments



We have to think about how the changes we make might affect people, businesses and communities. This is called an Impact Assessment. The Adaptation Plan should benefit everyone fairly.



No-one should experience unfair impacts because of their age, disability, gender identity, marriage or civil partnership status, or because of pregnancy or maternity.

Question 20: Do you think this Adaptation Plan will have an unfair impact on any groups? Please tell us in the box below:

Question 21: How can we increase the benefits and lessen any negative impacts for the groups you mentioned above? Please tell us in the box below:

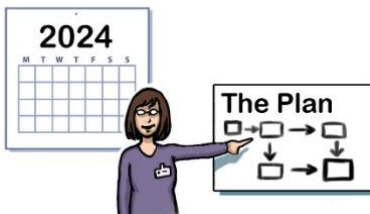
Conclusion and Next Steps



We are all living with the impacts of climate change, now and in the future. We must take action to ensure Scotland's businesses, communities and our natural environment can cope with these changes.



We will have to live with the effects of climate change for many more years. That is why your views and lived experiences of climate impacts are so important. We need them to make a good plan for all of Scotland.



Along with this consultation, we will also be running a series of public events. The final Adaptation Plan will be published in September 2024.

Responding to the Consultation



We are inviting responses to this consultation by Wednesday 24 April 2024.



Please respond to this consultation using the Scottish Government's consultation hub, Citizen Space (<http://consult.gov.scot>). Access and respond to this consultation online at:

<https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/scottish-climate-adaptation-plan>



If you are unable to respond using our consultation hub, please complete the Respondent Information Form to:

Climate Adaptation Policy Team
Directorate for Energy and Climate Change
Scottish Government
Area 3F South
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ



Or by email to: AdaptationConsultation@gov.scot

Handling your response



If you respond using the consultation hub, you will be directed to the About You page before submitting your response. Please tell us how you want your response to be handled and if you are happy for it to be published.



The Scottish Government has to follow the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. We would have to look at any request made for information about the answers made to this consultation.



If you are unable to respond via Citizen Space, please complete and return the Respondent Information Form included in this document.

To find out how we handle your personal data, please see our privacy policy:

<https://www.gov.scot/privacy/>

Next steps in the process



If we have been given permission to publish them, responses will be made available to the public at <http://consult.gov.scot>. If you use the consultation hub to respond, you will get a copy of your response by email.



Following the closing date, all responses will be looked at along with any other evidence. An analysis report will also be made available.

Comments and complaints



If you have any comments about how this consultation exercise has been conducted, please send them to the contact address above or at AdaptationConsultation@gov.scot.

Consultation: Scottish National Adaptation Plan

Respondent Information and Answer Return Form

Please Note this form **must** be completed and returned with your response.

Please send your response to us by email or by post using the following details:

Our email address is: AdaptationConsultation@gov.scot

Our postal address is:
Climate Adaptation Policy Team
Directorate for Energy and Climate Change
Scottish Government
Area 3F North
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

To find out how we handle your personal data, please see our privacy policy:
<https://www.gov.scot/privacy/>

Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

- Individual
 Organisation

Full name or organisation's name

Phone number

Address

Postcode

Email Address

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

- Publish response with name
- Publish response only (without name)
- Do not publish response

Information for organisations:

The option 'Publish response only (without name)' is available for individual respondents only. If this option is selected, the organisation name will still be published.

If you choose the option 'Do not publish response', your organisation name may still be listed as having responded to the consultation in, for example, the analysis report.

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

- Yes
- No



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