

Net zero framework for action 2022/23



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Front cover.

Left: Growth tower at IGS Ltd, The James Hutton Institute, Invergowrie, Dundee. Middle: Coastal route on the North East coast of Scotland. Right: Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District Scotland.

Foreword

I am delighted to present the first annual update to Scottish Enterprise's net zero framework for action which highlights progress over the last 12 months and identifies new priority actions for 2022/23.

We are committed to supporting Scotland's economic transformation to net zero. We are focused on developing a thriving and sustainable economy **that generates opportunities, positions Scotland in new markets, creates jobs and ensures long-term viability for businesses**.

Our role is to deliver actions that improve the **international**, **innovation and investment performance of Scotland's businesses.** The framework supports that focus and sets out in more detail our priorities to boost business sustainability and to create a more sustainable and climateresilient Scotland.

The scale of opportunity for businesses is significant. We want to enable Scottish businesses to innovate, become more competitive and access new global markets. We will provide support to help businesses grow, to develop innovative solutions and to capitalise on the significant scale of net zero opportunities.

Our net zero framework for action, first published in 2021, places net zero alongside fair work as a key driver of sustainable business competitiveness. We've made good progress over the last year in delivering the priority actions that will help tackle the dual crises of global climate change and biodiversity loss. In this updated plan we're still focusing on the immediate actions that will help deliver our ambitions for 2025 but have simplified our approach to focus on **five key areas**:

- Supporting net zero innovation in businesses and organisations
- Delivering projects and programmes
- Place development
- Enabling activities
- Becoming a net zero development agency by 2040.

While we have achieved much over the last 12 months we know that much remains to be done. That is why we are placing the vision of a just, net zero transition at the heart of Scottish Enterprise's activities, working alongside businesses, investors and partners to align and deliver our goals.

Scotland has huge potential and we are fully committed to helping businesses to innovate and scale, grasping the net zero opportunities that will deliver this transformation.

Adrian Gillespie Chief Executive



The scale of net zero opportunities for Scotland

The net zero transition presents a significant opportunity to help develop Scotland's future economy. Scottish Enterprise's role is to support businesses to capitalise on these growing opportunities across all parts of Scotland as part of a just transition.

The UK's Green Economy is worth over **£200 billion** – with growth expected to accelerate year-on-year to **6.7% annual growth by 2025/26**. And more than 75,000 businesses employ **more than 1.2 million people** in the green economy.¹

ScotWind (offshore wind) - Seventeen ScotWind projects were awarded development rights for just under 25 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind generation capacity, including 15GW of floating wind, representing a combined investment value of over £70 billion. Developers have committed **£25.5 billion in Scottish supply chain expenditure** with the potential to create up to **14,000 direct jobs**, with an estimated GVA of **£15 billion**.

Hydrogen Economy - By 2030, Scotland aims to develop its hydrogen production capability to at least 5GW, the equivalent of powering 1.8 million homes. By 2045, Scotland aims for its 'clean' hydrogen production capability to be at least **25GW**. The hydrogen economy has the potential by 2045 to be worth up to **£25 billion a year to the Scottish economy** and support over **300,000 jobs**.

Decarbonising Heat - Heat accounts for 52% of Scotland's energy demand and around 41% of its emissions. Decarbonising heat will play a crucial role in meeting Scotland's net zero targets. There are immediate, large-scale opportunities in the low carbon heat market for companies in Scotland, which will grow as a result of new

legislation. Over **200,000 new low/zero heating systems are forecast to be installed each year in the late 2020s**. The Scottish Government estimates investment of around **£33 billion** to meet its 2045 target, with Scottish employment forecast to double to **24,000 by 2026** and potentially double again by 2030.

Zero Emissions Heavy Duty Vehicles - Transport is the largest contributor to harmful climate emissions in Scotland. Scotland is uniquely placed to expand its base of high value manufacturing across transport modes, **supporting a workforce skilled** in maintenance, installation, systems integration and engineering.² The Scottish Government is committed to phasing out the need for any new petrol or diesel vehicles in public sector fleets by 2030. To support this, **f2 billion** will be allocated under the Low Carbon Fund to support low emission technologies such as hydrogen powered transport.

<u>1. KMatrix report</u> <u>2. Mission Zero for Transport: Transport Scotland</u>



Our progress 2021/22

We achieved

- 285k tonnes reduction in C0₂ from our supported businesses/ projects - 41k tonnes above our target measure
- **81% reduction** in Scottish Enterprise's Scope 1, 2 and 3* emissions in 2021 compared with the 2015-16 baseline
- 75% of delegate companies at our COP26 programme increased their awareness of net zero growth market opportunities and 49% are now considering signing up to the UN Race to Zero campaign

We created

- A **net zero improvement tool** to ensure that all SE and partnerled projects consider net zero and climate change in their development and delivery
- A **net zero accelerator** tool to identify businesses' net zero journey and potential opportunities now in the process of being digitised
- **6 net zero guides** to support businesses on their journey to net zero

We delivered

- **24** hybrid events at Scotland's Climate Ambition Zone during **COP26** – attracting 1,140 in person and 1,773 virtual delegates, with 94 companies participating in our virtual exhibition
- 2 net zero marketing campaigns targeting international and domestic audiences the international *Think Campaign* was viewed by over 12 million people across the globe
- Climate literacy training to our senior leaders

We launched

- A new programme of funding calls to target net zero outcomes the Green Jobs fund supported 43 projects benefiting more than 40 companies based in Scotland. Investment of £10.7 million is creating or safeguarding more than 750 green jobs
- SE's first podcast channel the *Think Podcast* shared **7 episodes** in the lead up to COP26 with insights on climate change challenges, solutions and opportunities



* Scope 3: excludes emissions resulting from SEs operational support

Our net zero ambition

Our purpose is to help businesses innovate and scale to transform the Scottish economy.

Our ambition is to lead, influence and create opportunities for Scotland's just transition to net zero.

Our net zero ambition focuses on economic opportunities that deliver benefits to the environment and society.

We are embedding a focus on net zero across everything we do to increase Scotland's sustainable prosperity. This includes decarbonising the way we operate – reaching net zero by 2040 (Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions – related to SEs own emissions) – while also baselining and reducing the emissions from our operational support (Scope 3).

Scope 1 – All direct emissions from sources owned or controlled, such as company vehicles or fuel combustion on site such as gas boilers

Scope 2 – Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity used by the organisation or company

Scope 3 – All other indirect emissions that occur in a business or organisations value chain and from activities, such as business travel, homeworking, investment, goods and services, procurement and waste.

2025 ambition in our 5 key areas of focus

Each area includes a clear vision of where we want to be in 2025 to achieve our long-term strategic ambition:

1. Supporting net zero innovation in businesses and organisations

By 2025 we have helped Scotland become a leading location for net zero innovation, supporting businesses to access new market opportunities to improve their competitiveness and resilience.

2. Delivering projects and programmes

By 2025 we have helped to shift Scotland's economy to invest and innovate in a just, net zero future, building on Scotland's distinctive climate-related strengths and opportunities.

3. Place development

By 2025 we have embedded and strengthened the focus on net zero in place-focused projects, partnership delivery and the management of our own property portfolio.

4. Enabling activities

By 2025 we have focused on expanding climate-related economic opportunities while reducing the (scope 3) emissions associated with this.

5. Become a net zero development agency by 2040

By 2025 Scottish Enterprise has reduced emissions by 70% compared with our 2015/16 baseline (Scope 1 and 2).

2022-23 Priority actions

- Accelerating change Encourage more companies on their net zero journeys by offering funding only to companies who can already demonstrate or – with our support – are willing to adopt fairer, more sustainable business practices
- 2. Supporting businesses to unlock net zero opportunities Focus on expanding market opportunities and attracting capital investment related to priorities that will accelerate Scotland's net zero transition (including decarbonised heat, the hydrogen economy, heavy duty electric vehicles and offshore wind)
- **3. Investing in place-based innovation** Implement pilot projects within our investment property portfolio and strengthen the alignment and contribution of place-based innovation project activities alongside partners and businesses
- **4. Developing our staff** Deliver further climate literacy training to up to 700 SE staff
- **5. Quantifying our net carbon impacts** Baseline the carbon footprint across our operational support and develop a model to increase carbon efficiency of our business plan delivery
- **6. Adapting how we work** Adapt how we work as a digitally enabled organisation in line with our internal emissions reduction targets

Our six priority actions for 2022/23 will help us achieve our 2025 ambitions. These are underpinned by supporting actions across the organisation.

We know that all businesses and industries are at different stages in the transition to net zero. We will tailor our support to those at different stages of this journey, while working to speed up the pace and direction of change across Scotland's business base.

Fair work and net zero are **drivers of business competitiveness** and central to <u>business purpose</u>. Net zero is now a business imperative that delivers significant **benefits**. We will support more companies to adopt practices that benefit people and planet – as well as delivering profits.

A **just transition** is at the heart of this. We aim to support a transition to a net zero economy that embeds fairness and encourages businesses to invest in the climate-resilient skills and jobs to help them thrive. This includes helping more business to adapt to the net zero transition. We will encourage them to adopt fair work practices as part of their business purpose and support net zero economic opportunities that offer jobs to disadvantaged groups and places. We are working closely with Scottish Government to deliver the first just transition sector plan for the energy sector and to support the £500 million 10-year Just Transition Fund for the North East and Moray.

We have an important role in helping businesses and places adapt to climate change and to prepare for future risks. Our Net Zero Accelerator tool, which supports businesses to develop their own sustainability plans, helps businesses by making recommendations on how they can adapt. All our projects and programmes are also required to consider risks and opportunities linked to climate change adaptation as part of our internal approval process.

Supporting net zero innovation in businesses and organisations

Innovation is a key driver of productivity and major contributor to Scotland's long-term economic prosperity. Innovative businesses drive growth, are more competitive and are three times more likely to successfully internationalise – helping to create better quality jobs that pay higher wages. We want to support Scotland to become a **leading location for net zero innovation** and fair work, where workplace innovation helps develop a culture of employee-led innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship.

Our business support helps companies align with Fair Work First objectives as well as business sustainability practices. As part of our 2022/23 measurement framework we will record businesses and projects which deliver CO_2 emissions savings.



Aligning Scottish Enterprise business support funding to net zero outcomes

Scottish Enterprise wants to support many more Scottish companies to grasp the opportunities and mitigate the risks from the net zero transition. From Q2 2022/23 we will ask businesses to have in place a credible plan to reduce their operational emissions to net zero by 2045 at the latest. Where they do not currently have such a plan, we will offer support to help them to develop one. A credible plan:

- baselines their scope 1, scope 2 and available scope 3 emissions, aligned with one of the main carbon accounting methodologies (e.g. Science Based Targets Initiative)
- includes a transparent action plan to reduce emissions to net zero by 2045 at the latest and includes interim targets (e.g. 50% reduction by 2030)
- is published and reported against at least annually.

The <u>UN Race to Zero campaign</u> is one way for companies to demonstrate their commitment to transition to net zero. So far, 323* Scottish businesses have signed up since the launch in June 2020. We remain committed to promoting this and similar initiatives as a route for companies to show leadership.

Suppliers, investors, employees and customers increasingly expect businesses to demonstrate how they are acting responsibly. Making Scottish Enterprise support to businesses conditional on them delivering a credible plan will support and accelerate their growth. *As of March 2022

We are:

Advancing our business support through our Net Zero Accelerator, a free, online diagnostic tool for businesses delivered with the Business Support Partnership. The tool will support organisations of all sizes to develop a practical, data-led and people-focused road map towards becoming net zero.

Delivering targeted funds to help innovative entrepreneurs, young leaders and early-stage businesses address net zero-related opportunities. We will continue to support companies to capitalise on emerging net zero market opportunities and stimulate more demandled innovation to open up markets.

Delivering innovation calls aligned with **net zero market opportunities** and **investment in green jobs.** For example, the £25 million Low Carbon <u>Manufacturing Challenge Fund</u> helps companies develop innovations to help the transition to a low carbon economy.

Working with businesses and supply chains to innovate and scale up their adoption of circular business models. Our 2022/23 measurement framework will record circular economy projects across all our support. For example, 12 of the 43 successful bids in our Green Jobs Fund innovation call will deliver circular economy projects and activities.

We define green jobs as:

- Jobs in businesses that produce goods and provide services benefiting the environment or which conserve natural resources; or
- Jobs in which workers' duties involve making their establishment's production processes more environmentally friendly or use fewer natural resources.

In 2021/22 Scottish Enterprise reported 13,008 planned jobs paying at least the real living wage across 456 projects. **25% (3,253 jobs)** were classed as **green jobs**. Resulting from 119 projects.



Transforming the global fashion industry

Changing consumer behaviours have created a clothing rental market in the UK that is expected to rise to **£2.3 billion by 2026**. ACS Clothing has grown to become the largest rental fulfilment centre of its kind in Europe. It aims to play a key role in developing a circular fashion industry in Europe by providing brands and retailers with profitable solutions that extend the life of clothing and recycle textile waste. With support from ourselves and other partners, ACS Clothing has put sustainability at the heart of its business strategy.

"Our purpose sets us apart from competitors and benefits our brand partners. Investment in people, facilities and technologies means that customers know we are agile, ethical, and sustainable. As a consequence of delivering our purpose our business is growing exponentially."

> **Anthony Burns Chief Operating Officer ACS Clothing**



Delivering projects and programmes

COP26 provided a unique opportunity to showcase Scotland on the global stage, as a leader in sustainable and inclusive economic development. It gave us a platform to work with our partners to accelerate Scotland's transition to net zero. Building on the international profile and legacy from COP26, we are focusing our efforts on green finance, given its significant enabling role in the transition to net zero. We're working with the Scottish Government and organisations such as the Global Ethical Finance Initiative (GEFI) to attract additional private financing to realise climate-related opportunities.

We'll continue to promote the Scottish Government's green investment portfolio through focused international engagement, contributing to the target of showcasing £3 billion of investable opportunities by the end of 2022. This includes helping businesses attract capital investment, embedding net zero in our investor prospecting work and engaging with companies with strong net zero ambitions. We will also continue to promote exports, including those directly linked to low carbon market opportunities, helping to create skilled and well-paid jobs that will drive a just transition.

Our portfolio of **national programmes** is targeted towards significant, scalable low carbon opportunities where Scotland has a competitive international advantage - decarbonising heat, heavy duty emissions vehicles, the hydrogen economy and offshore wind. We will prioritise our investment attraction towards these areas, boosting innovation and stimulating business capabilities. By supporting innovative businesses and place-based investment these programmes will play an important role in delivering sustainable economic benefits across Scotland during this decade.

Decarbonising heat in Scotland

Queens Quay District Heating Network is the first, large-scale, water source heat pump scheme of its kind in Scotland. It has been developed as a demonstration of how water from a river can provide heat to a range of customers through a connected heat network. The network showcases the technology 'in action' and encourages other organisations to replicate it elsewhere. In addition to reducing carbon emissions and helping to address fuel poverty, the network has also helped Scottish low carbon heat companies generate new business, including the manufacture and supply of water source heat pumps. The significant forecast growth in low carbon heat solutions in Scotland and elsewhere means there is an **attractive** market opportunity for Scottish companies.



Queens Quay Clydebanl

The Scottish Government's <u>Blue Economy Vision for Scotland</u> sets out a long-term ambition to 2045 and is supported by Scottish Enterprise. Many elements of the blue economy align with our national programmes and other activities both in Scotland and internationally. These include renewable energy, low carbon marine transport, rural leadership, food and drink and tourism.

We will continue to work closely with our partners to capitalise on the opportunities which support this vision. One example of this is our support for the <u>Blue Economy Cluster Builder</u>, part of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) supported Scottish Programme for Research, Innovation and Technology Ecosystem (SPRITE) programme. This project encourages innovation across a range of industries to increase the number of small or medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) addressing new opportunities in the blue economy, supported by ourselves and our partners.

Nature and biodiversity underpin our economy. Businesses and supply chains rely on Scotland's natural capital and its health is fundamental to our future **economic prosperity and resilience**. According to the World Economic Forum (WEF) more than half of the world's total GDP is moderately or highly dependent on nature. Protecting and improving our natural capital also brings business opportunities, driven by investment and innovation. Significant growth is expected in green and nature-based jobs as we transition to net zero. **A nature positive economy is forecast to generate 400 million jobs by 2030**³, opening up opportunities for **new skills and career pathways**.

We will continue to work with partners to build understanding among the businesses we support to address biodiversity loss by investing in nature-based solutions and climate change adaptation measures. Ultimately this will increase business resilience and long-term success. We are supporting the delivery of the Scottish Government's responsible investment in natural capital programme as well as the development of a new Landscape Enterprise Network initiative in Perthshire. Next year we will also publish a biodiversity action plan which will support the delivery of the Scottish Government's new biodiversity strategy.

Scotland's Young People's Forest

Scottish Enterprise is a founding partner of **Scotland's Young People's Forest** which aims to create the first forest in Scotland, codesigned, led and governed by young people. We are **supporting** the panel of 23 young people to realise their vision through knowledge building, empowerment, access to specialist expertise – helping to regenerate an area of land to improve biodiversity, create spaces for people to connect with nature and empower young people to take action on climate change and environmental issues.

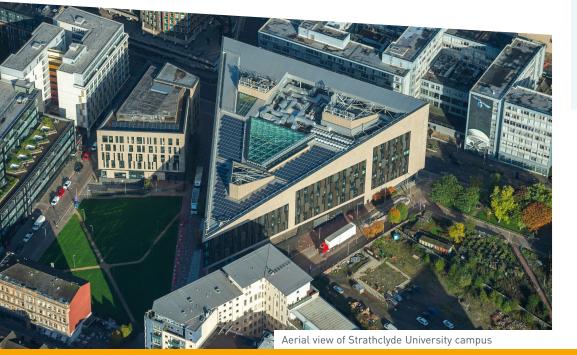


3. World Economic Forum

Place development

Scottish Enterprise manages a diverse portfolio of buildings and land assets which support our economic development objectives, including providing business space and land development. We recently carried out a detailed assessment of the carbon impact and biodiversity value of these assets. As a result, we are developing a plan to decarbonise our portfolio which will also enhance biodiversity at our sites. We will bring forward pilot projects to develop this approach as well as updating our policy and guidance for acquisitions and disposals to support higher standards of net zero development.

In our place-focused activities we engage with a broad range of stakeholders including regional economic partnerships. During 2022/23 we will continue to work with them to address economic opportunities and decarbonisation activity aligned with our net zero ambitions.



Climate neutral innovation districts

Scottish Enterprise has worked with Glasgow City Region partners to support the development of a number of innovation districts which are transforming the way academia, business and industry **collaborate** to strengthen Scotland's competitive advantage. They bring together researchers and high-growth firms with technology and creative start-ups to work side-by-side in vibrant, walkable innovation communities. In the Glasgow City Innovation District. the University of Strathclyde and Glasgow City Council, supported by Scottish Enterprise and others, are undertaking an ambitious project to create a 100% renewable, climate-neutral and climateresilient area. The project aims to integrate heat, power, transport, climate adaptation and wellbeing solutions that will benefit everyone. The Climate Neutral Innovation District extends from Cathedral Street along the High Street to the River Clyde. This is a huge river catchment of 3,200km² with 1GW of heat potential to sustainably heat all of the homes and businesses in the Innovation District. Three heat pumps will be situated in the River Clyde, incorporating learning from earlier Scottish Enterprise-supported projects within the Clyde Gateway and Clyde Mission programmes.

We'll also help more companies access the benefits of Scotland's existing innovation assets. We can leverage more impact by ensuring our work around these is prioritised and joined up, with a particular focus on the economic opportunities where Scotland has an international competitive advantage. Many of these relate to our net zero ambitions including for the <u>Michelin Scotland Innovation Parc</u> in Dundee, the <u>Energy Transition Zone</u> in the North East, and the <u>Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult</u> in Glasgow.

Innovative places

The Michelin Scotland Innovation Parc (MSIP), a joint venture between Michelin, Dundee City Council and Scottish Enterprise, is a world-class Innovation Parc in Dundee for sustainable mobility and decarbonisation. It aims to drive growth and diversification in Scotland's economy while addressing the global climate emergency. Scottish Enterprise recently announced £2.1 million funding for MSIP to deliver a Skills Academy and innovation labs, which will act as launch pads for the ideas and training in the greener transport technologies of the future. The funding aligns with the Scottish Government's National Strategy for Economic Transformation aim to promote deeper collaboration across the education and skills system so that employers and government are working together to support training opportunities for new green jobs.

Most recently, MSIP announced further resources to deliver its successful MSIP Accelerator programme. This helps ambitious young companies who are developing new solutions in sustainable mobility and decarbonisation to achieve a step-change in their business. The MSIP Accelerator, part-funded by Scottish Enterprise, is one of many initiatives MSIP is undertaking as part of its Innovation Programme, designed to underpin Scotland's response to the global climate emergency.



Aerial view of Michelin Scotland Innovation Parc (MSIP). Dundee.

Enabling activities

We're developing a model to quantify the carbon footprint and **impact** of Scottish Enterprise's Business Plan outcome measures, providing a baseline of our total scope 3 emissions. We'll seek expert input from partners to set and refine the approach. This will give us a better understanding of our carbon impacts and we'll use the findings to inform future decisions and support our ambition of reducing our scope 3 emissions by 2025.

As a flexible working organisation, we want to empower our staff to make informed decisions on where they work, how they travel to business meetings and where those meetings take place. We'll also provide further climate literacy training to develop a better understanding of the issues and how we can support businesses.

Climate literacy training

In 2020/21 leaders across Scottish Enterprise received climate literacy training to help embed a deeper understanding of climate change into our decision-making processes. The Climate Professionals course, delivered by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, provided an in-depth review of climate change, its impacts, policy responses and best practice in the practical actions that governments and businesses can take.

We will roll out further climate literacy training to up to 700 Scottish Enterprise staff across all teams during 2022/23. This will develop their understanding of the issues and opportunities and increase their confidence in discussing net zero issues with businesses.



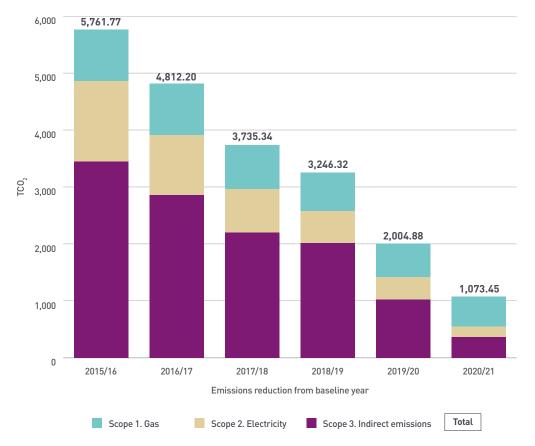
Becoming a net zero development agency by 2040

We're continually looking to adapt as an organisation and be responsive to changes in ways of working to support our carbon footprint reduction. **We have committed to achieving net zero by 2040**, with an interim target of 70% compared with our 2015/16 baseline by 2025. We are making good progress and are on course to meet both of these targets.

In 2020/21 the largest contributions to emissions were office space (38%), emissions arising from home working (30%) and the investment property portfolio (29%).

During 2022/23 we will focus on our digital carbon footprint. We're undertaking a review of our websites, how we store and use our files and communicate within the organisation - using a dashboard to help measure the carbon emissions. This digital review will allow us to better understand our digital carbon footprint and identify new initiatives to reduce our emissions, directly and indirectly. In addition, we are building on our recent experiences of delivering digitally enabled services and engagement with customers.

We're continuing to actively promote net zero in our procurement processes. We undertake sustainability assessments for procurement exercises and ensure sustainability requirements are built into specifications and evaluation criteria where relevant. As part of this, we will include reference in our guidance to specific initiatives, such as the UN Race to Zero campaign, as a way for companies to demonstrate their commitment in this area. Increasingly, sustainable procurement and demonstrating responsible sourcing of goods and services is essential to remain competitive.



The Scope 3 figures shown in this chart do not include any emissions resulting from SE's operational support. We will baseline the Scope 3 emissions related to SE's operational activities as part of our 2022/23 action plan

*Full SE Climate Change Report 2020-21 can be downloaded from the <u>Sustainable</u> <u>Scotland Network</u>

Our journey

2	Action plan to deca Scottish Enterprise investment property portfolio	e's	New performan framework inclu broader sustain measures	uding	Launch of Net Accelerator	Zero	Carbon f across S operation baseline	E's nal support		2023
o emissions iting system ount for >50 v systems b talled each y	ns petrol and 0% of commercia being public bodi	ny new diesel light al vehicles in ies phased out	all waste I recycled k	By 2024 International leg binding agreeme on ending plastic pollution	ent Environ	ural	Taskforce for Nature-relate Financial Disc (TNFD) Framo commences	ed closure	5-year del plan for ne Scottish Biodiversi Strategy	ew
developme	E has supported the ent and delivery of gional and sector jus plans	by 70% c	educed emissions compared with ou baseline		2025	Α	E Biodiversity ction Plan ublished		limate litera elivered to 7	
Sc	t least 50% of cotland's building cock is heated using ero emission systems	Scotland's emissions reduced by 75% compared with 1990	Scottish renew energy now generates the equivalent of 5 of energy dema	and die: vans ph 0% and car	new petrol sel cars and ased out kilometres I by 20%	covered and at le	ast 250,000 of peatland	By 2035 S passenge rail servio considera decarbon	r ces ibly	By 2045 Scotland reaches net zero emissions (legally binding target)

