

# Just Transition Commission Scotland



With Scotland facing the challenges of a climate and ecological emergency, rising inequality and an ageing population, how can our economy meet the challenges of the coming decade?

- ▶ Introduction to Just Transition & Scotland's approach
- ▶ The first independent Commission and its Final Report
- ▶ The new Just Transition Commission and current topics
- ▶ Discussion questions

# Defining “just transition”

## ▶ Scottish Government definition:

Just transition is how we get to a net zero and climate resilient economy, in a way that delivers fairness and tackles inequality and injustice.

## ▶ Key principles:

- Unites economic, social and climate objectives
- Both an outcome and a process
- Opportunities and risks will vary
- Aims to ensure that no one is left behind and those most impacted are at the heart of the conversation

# What is “just transition”?

- ▶ **A long term objective** embedded across government.
- ▶ Greater understanding of **impacts of decisions on people and places**
- ▶ **Greater participation, engagement and empowerment** of people, places and communities in decision making
- ▶ **Tackling inequalities between generations, places and communities**
- ▶ **Support for people to retrain and access jobs** in the net zero economy

# Scotland's independent Commission 2019 – 2021

... provide practical, realistic, affordable recommendations that will support Scottish Ministers to take action that will:

- ▶ Maximise the economic and social opportunities that the move to a carbon-neutral economy by 2050 offers
- ▶ Build on Scotland's existing strengths and assets
- ▶ Understand and mitigate risks that could arise in relation to regional cohesion, equalities, poverty (including fuel poverty), and a sustainable and inclusive labour market

**CHAIR** - Jim Skea

- STUC, Prospect
- Climate 2050
- WWF Scotland

**And experienced individuals from:**

- Industry
- Energy, including Oil and Gas
- Agriculture
- 3<sup>rd</sup> sector
- Academia

# Just Transition Commission



zoom

# Delivering a just transition



**1. Pursue an orderly, managed transition to net-zero that creates benefits and opportunities for people across Scotland. Delivery of this must be a national mission**



**2. Equip people with the skills and education they need to benefit from the transition**



**3. Empower and invigorate our communities and strengthen local economies**



**4. Share benefits widely and ensure burdens are distributed on the basis of ability to pay.**

# Just Transition Commission II

Robust scrutiny  
and advice on JT  
Plans

Collaborate  
with other  
expert bodies

Scotland's  
Transition

Listen and  
learn from  
those most  
impacted

Report  
annually on  
Scotland's  
progress

Advise on  
Monitoring  
and  
Evaluation





# Just Transition Commission II

- Leaders and experts from across industry, trade unions, business, technology, science and academia, environmental groups, and equalities organisations
- Independent from government
- Full-term Commissioners supported by others with specific sectoral expertise



Innovation  
follows  
coverage

# Just Transition Commission II Work Plan

- ▶ Decides detailed work plan for tackling remit
- ▶ Meets ~12-15 times per year across the country to ensure broad coverage
- ▶ Gather evidence on a range of topics along the following themes
  - ▶ Quality of work and employment creation in a net zero economy
  - ▶ Regional cohesion
  - ▶ Social inclusion

# Making the Future

Initial Report of the 2nd Just Transition Commission



## Guiding Principles

- Clarity
- Urgency
- Co-ordination
- Justice
- Credibility

# Making the Future - Key messages

Close the investment gap

Increased investment will ultimately stabilise the public finances in the long term and build a nation fit for the 21st century. It will be an unjust transition if it is not an investment-led recovery.

Establish industrial planning for the economy of the future

Set the direction for public and private stakeholders

Deliver a better deal for workers

Meaningful protection from these impacts demands a major renewal of Scotland's approach to social infrastructure to enhance resilience and adapt to a climate-changed world.

Tackle inequalities at every level

Policy development should prioritise engagement with the most marginalised groups

Measure progress to secure implementation

Develop and rapidly deploy a robust monitoring and evaluation framework for assessing progress on Just Transition Outcomes.

# Draft Energy and Just Transition Plan response - Initial advice on Draft provided on 15 February 2023.

Inequalities

Scale and  
quantification

Equity

Fair work

Roadmaps

Risk  
management

Engagement

Finance and  
investment

Mainstreaming

Accessibility

# Draft Energy and Just Transition Plan response - Further advice April 2023

- ▶ **Justice:** including the equitable sharing of costs and benefits, fair work, strategic use of public finance and procurement mechanisms to create true and lasting value for workers and communities.
- ▶ **Demand:** focus on demand and the gains from decarbonisation and justice, relationship of the entire energy system and the economy to maximise the economic, social and environmental up-side of our energy transition
- ▶ **Materiality:** a tangible sense of what is to come, mapping out required workforce and skills, required infrastructure expansion, materials needed, as well as the changes to Scotland in terms of our landscapes, marine environment and scenery.
- ▶ **Co-operation and co-ordination:** Clarity and credibility from Scottish Government as key to unlocking co-operation and co-ordination, with effective collaboration with the UK Government, other devolved authorities and local government.

# A Look to the Future

- ▶ Energy and Just Transition Plan response
- ▶ Advice on the upcoming sectoral plans for:
  - ▶ Agriculture and Land Use
  - ▶ Buildings and Construction
  - ▶ Transport
- ▶ Engagement, participation and equalities
- ▶ Monitoring and evaluation

# Questions to think about

- ▶ How might we embed JT principles across Government and across all policy?
- ▶ Meeting wide reaching targets by a sector by sector approach is difficult: how do we do that and what about those sectors without plans eg Marine?
- ▶ The speed of change required is very fast: how do we keep up and remain fair?
- ▶ Those who will be impacted most have little sight on what's expected / needed. How do we ensure they have a voice?
- ▶ We currently have an economic system that takes no account of environmental costs and too few social costs. That needs to change. How can we do that?