



With decisions currently taking years, and outdated policies requiring renewable energy schemes to prove they are needed, despite the climate emergency, reform is essential if we are to achieve net-zero.

Scotland's planning system must ensure that net-zero and the climate emergency are the guiding principles for all plans and decisions with special regard given to applications for renewable energy developments. This will ensure that we can deliver on our ambitions for onshore and offshore wind, providing opportunities for Scottish supply chain, the creation of new green jobs and skills, and the ability to export clean energy beyond our borders. Achieving an additional 12GW of onshore wind will for example create £27.8 billion in GVA and 17,000 jobs across Scotland.¹



BEYOND COP26

NEXT STEPS FOR SCOTLAND'S CLEAN ENERGY REVOLUTION

With global attention on Scotland as Glasgow hosts **COP26 – The United Nations Climate Change Conference**, we have an immense opportunity to capture the spirit and momentum of these talks and deliver a lasting legacy for our clean energy revolution.

The Scottish Government can look beyond COP26 and undertake key actions to accelerate the pace of our transition to a net-zero society and advance our position as a world leader in low-carbon energy.

To deliver a lasting legacy for our energy transition, Scottish Renewables recommends that The Scottish Government:

Reforms Scotland's planning process to deliver at least 12GW of additional onshore wind and 11GW of offshore wind by 2030

As the windiest nation in Europe, our abundant wind resource has the capability to power Scotland, the UK and beyond. With our offshore wind aspiration set at 11GW and the potential of at least 12GW of additional onshore wind by 2030, Scotland needs a planning system which meets our ambitions.

Our planning system determines how much renewable energy generation technology can be deployed and is critical to determining whether enough energy can be generated to meet net-zero.

Accelerates the pace of decarbonising Scottish homes and buildings, through heating 45% of homes and 25% of our commercial, industrial and public buildings from renewable sources by 2030

Despite the heating of buildings making up 42% of Scotland's energy use, only 11% of our heat comes from renewable sources or electricity. With the technologies needed to decarbonise heat readily available, government must raise ambitions on fulfilling our national transition to low-carbon heat.

The Scottish Government can deliver a clean energy revolution by heating 45% of our homes and 25% of our commercial, industrial and public buildings from renewable technologies by 2030. This can be delivered through accelerating our district heat networks across cities and towns, and targeted support for island and rural communities through a Rural Heat Decarbonisation Fund.



¹ Renewable UK, The onshore wind industry prospectus, October 2021



Planning powers should be utilised to ensure that the heating of new buildings and homes are fully powered by renewable heat solutions.

Achieving this target will build healthier communities by removing dirty fossil fuels from our heating systems, create green jobs and manufacturing opportunities, whilst helping to protect Scottish households against fossil fuel price volatility which is a key driver of fuel poverty.

Brings the benefits of Scotland’s clean energy revolution to our public and commercial buildings by installing 1GW of solar PV capacity by 2030

Scotland is blessed with long hours of summertime daylight. We can harness this resource to power our commercial and public buildings by installing at least 1GW of solar PV capacity by 2030.

Solar energy systems can be installed on all suitable public and commercial buildings, producing clean electricity and heat and powering electric vehicle fleets across Scotland. Achieving this by 2030 will ensure that some of our largest buildings including schools, offices, shopping centres, exhibition facilities and the NHS estate, which have the largest energy demand in local areas, are powered in part by renewable energy. This clean energy revolution must be accompanied by a programme of insulation in order to maximise energy efficiency.

By demonstrating how public and commercial buildings can achieve environmental sustainability, ambitions can also be set for industrial buildings too. This programme would provide an opportunity for the local manufacture of low-carbon heating systems, as well as training of the tradespeople needed to carry out the next stage of Scotland’s transition to net-zero.

Continues to develop our world-leading wave and tidal energy industries by creating a support mechanism to work alongside the UK Government’s revenue stabilisation mechanism

Scotland holds some of the best marine energy resources in the world. Our wave and tidal energy industry has experienced significant commercial progress to date. Several developers are already supplying electricity to the grid, exporting their services and technologies globally and are ready to bring the sector to the next stage of development.

Marine renewables offer enormous opportunities to help decarbonise our islands and coastal communities. Within these communities, ageing infrastructure has raised concerns about grid capacity which has been exacerbated by increased electricity demand. Wave and tidal energy can provide a predictable, low-carbon, local energy source that would be cheaper to build and operate, whilst being more environmentally sustainable. These technologies could also contribute to local power generation to reduce the need for expensive transmission networks.

To help develop our world leading wave and tidal energy industry The Scottish Government can create a support mechanism. This should work alongside the UK Government’s revenue stabilisation mechanism and much needed reform of the Contracts for Difference (Cfd) mechanism. Doing so will support the marine renewables industry’s ambitions to deliver 1GW across the UK. This will help to grow our world leading marine renewables industry which can play a vital role in building net-zero islands and coastal communities, offering new economic opportunities to these areas.



Colin McKelvie courtesy of EMEC



Pict Offshore

Establishes an energy skills and services export target for Scotland to support the just transition of workers through planned global industry growth

Scotland’s renewable energy expertise is already being put to work in 72 countries and is employing staff on six of the planet’s seven continents. More than half (57%) of the companies which took part in a survey on Scotland’s green energy export impact in 2019 have said they are moving into new markets.

The Scottish Government’s Green Jobs Workforce Academy, Green Jobs Fund and National Transition Training Fund, all of which Scottish Renewables campaigned for, will provide support to those affected by our energy transition - including oil and gas professionals - to join the renewable energy industry, expanding our exportable green skills base.

Already, countries with more than \$3.6 trillion in combined GDP have placed a green recovery at the heart of their post-pandemic response. The Scottish Government should now establish a target for the export of energy skills and services, and set our global ambition for how Scotland can help lead nations around the world on their net-zero journeys.

To read more about how renewable energy can support your constituents please visit our hub for MSPs

