

Speaking Note – Brief overview of SG’s Rent Controls Policy

- Thank you for inviting me today to hear more from the Cross-Party Group on the discussions you have been having about rent control.
- I welcome the contribution that the Working Group’s report on rent control makes to the discussion on how we take forward the introduction of a system of rent control is right for Scotland.
- As you will be aware, we recently acted swiftly to bring in emergency legislation in response to the situation caused by the impact of the cost crisis on people who rent their home in Scotland.
- The Act which came into force on 28 October is founded in our commitment to protecting tenants in Scotland.
- In the longer term, we remain committed to introducing an effective national system of rent controls for privately rented homes and to do so in a way which is robust and provides lasting benefit to tenants.
- We have consulted widely on our New Deal for Tenants draft strategy which sets out a whole range of reforms – from further

protection against eviction to more rights to personalise tenants' homes and higher quality standards.

- This included the vision and principles for a future model of rent controls for the PRS.
- In August we published an independent analysis of all of the consultation responses. These responses will inform our work to develop the approach to long term rents control in Scotland.
- The introduction of rent controls will need to be carefully considered alongside our emergency response for the rented sector to the costs crisis, and the operation of the temporary rent cap will feed into, and inform, our plans to implement an effective and long term model of rent control.
- Rent control can take different forms and we need to make sure that we have the evidence and the right data to develop an effective system which meets the needs of Scotland. To support us to deliver an effective system of rent controls we will improve data on private rented sector.
- We will look continue to look at international evidence on rent control systems to learn from the experience of others and we will work closely with a range of stakeholders to understand

their perspectives. We will design a solution that is right for Scotland.

- At the same time we will be looking at how best to share good practice and improve affordability in the social rented sector.
- Our 'New Deal for Tenants' consultation makes clear that all tenants should live in properties where quality and standards are high and we will consider this as part of ensuring we deliver an effective system of rent controls.
- We are continuing to work with stakeholders to develop a shared understanding of affordability that is fit for the future and takes into account the drivers of poverty and inequality, the housing market, the distribution of homes, the supply of affordable homes, the financial sustainability of the affordable rented sector and the real costs of living in a home and a place.
- I look forward to hearing more from the Group today about the discussions which you have held on rent control and the conclusions you have drawn.

Speaking Note – Response to the CPG Report on Rent Controls

- I welcome this report and recognise the work that has been undertaken by the Working Group to develop it and the complexity of the issues summarised within it.
- I acknowledge also the wide range of views on this issue which are represented in the report.
- I agree that good policy design and minimising unwanted outcomes are vitally important as we take this work forwards.
- It is important to consider the experiences of other countries' rent control systems but we remain focused on ensuring that we design a solution that is right for Scotland.
- Our long term commitment remains the introduction of a workable set of rent controls for Scotland and we will continue to work towards this.
- As I said earlier, we will take the time to consider all the consultation responses we have received.

- We will also pay close attention to the operation of the temporary rent cap which we have just brought in in response to the cost of living crisis.
- We will continue to engage with stakeholders from across the sector as we work to develop a workable system of rent controls for Scotland, and I look forward to engaging further with many of the Group members in the coming months.

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies Launch Event

What	<p>Local Heating and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) online launch event targeted at the senior leadership of Scottish local authorities.</p> <p>The event will include keynote speeches from yourself and Councillor Gail Macgregor, COSLA Spokesperson for Environment and Economy.</p> <p>The event aims to inform senior staff within Local Authorities and COSLA of responsibilities under LHEES in order to deliver heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency improvements to buildings and meet the emission reduction targets outlined in the Heat in Buildings Strategy. The event also aims to get their buy in to drive the action required to develop their LHEES across their organisations.</p>
Where	<p>Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer, mobile app or room device Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 335 823 886 77 Passcode: HyfEre</p>
When	<p>7 December 2022 13:15 to 13:40</p> <p>The full length of the meeting is 13:15 to 14:30. Your attendance is only required for the opening remarks.</p>
Key Message(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of LHEES will require action from across local authorities. • To ensure its successes local authority leaders need to help drive forward the development and implementation of LHEES by ensuring teams across their organization engage with the LHEES process. • LHEES are at the heart of a place based, locally-led and tailored approach to the heat transition.
Who	<p>Senior staff, including Chief Executives, of all Local Authorities in Scotland.</p>
Why	<p>LHEES is a huge undertaking representing significant challenges and opportunities, and it would require the close collaboration between central and local government. The statutory nature of LHEES alongside SG's funding committed to the initiative make LHEES a cornerstone of heat</p>

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	<p>decarbonisation in Scotland and, therefore, key stakeholders would benefit for this event and the Minister's attendance.</p> <p>The event aims to inform senior staff and elected member within Local Authorities of responsibilities under LHEES and get their buy in to drive the action required to develop their LHEES across their organization.</p>
Expected outcome	For Local Authorities to understand what is required of them to develop their LHEES but also how LHEES can help support them delivering their priorities and targets in relation to the decarbonisation of heat, improving energy efficiency and tackling fuel poverty.
Speech details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 10 minutes long, audience will be a mix of senior leaders from local authorities and elected members. • Speech will be delivered on MS Teams. • No Q&A expected
Supporting official	[redacted] will be on the call and available on Teams to provide support.
Briefing contents	<p>Annex A: Event programme Annex B: Guest List/Attendees Annex C: Top Brief on LHEES Annex D: Speaking Note Annex E: Other items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Heat networks 2) Heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency funding 3) Social housing decarbonisation
Media Handling	No media handling required – private event for local authorities
Social Media	Not required
Any Planned Industrial Action (Y/N)	N

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ANNEX A – Event Programme

Start – 13:15 - Introduction – [redacted] - (5 minutes – including welcome to keynote speakers)	
13:20-13:40 Format: Two key note speeches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Keynote Speech - Patrick Harvie MSP, Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel & Tenants' Rights – 10 minutes • Keynote Speech - Councilor Gail Macgregor, COSLA Spokesperson for Environment and Economy – 10 minutes
An Introduction to Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies	
13:40 – 14:00 Format: Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies – What is LHEES, LHEES Order, Guidance, LHEES Funding, how does LHEES help deliver the HiBs, Scottish Government support – [redacted] - 15 minutes
LHEES – Delivering the Heat in Buildings Strategy	
14:00–14:30 Format: Presentation and then Q&A	<p>LHEES and Heat in Buildings Funding – [redacted]– 10 minutes presentation and 5 minutes Q&A</p> <p>Heat Networks and LHEES – [redacted]– 10 minute presentation and 5 minute Q&A</p>
14:30 – Closing remarks – [redacted]	

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ANNEX B – Guest List/Attendees

NAME	ORGANISATION	JOB TITLE
[redacted] (Chair)	Scottish Government	Team Leader, Zero Emissions Heat Regulation
Councillor Gail MacGregor	COSLA	COSLA Spokesperson for Environment and Economy
Sue Kearns	Scottish Government	Deputy Director, Consumers and Low Carbon
[redacted]	Scottish Government	DECC Senior Policy Advisor
[redacted]	Zero Waste Scotland	Partner – Energy and Low Carbon Heat
[redacted]	Scottish Government	Heat of Heat in Buildings Investment Team
[redacted]	Scottish Government	Heat Networks Policy Manager
[redacted]	Scottish Government	Policy & Project Officer
Various Representatives	Local Authorities across Scotland	Chief Executives, Senior Leaders and Elected Members

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ANNEX C – Top Brief

Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies

- Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES) are at the heart of a place based, locally-led and tailored approach to the heat transition. LHEES Strategies will set out the long-term plan for decarbonising heat in buildings and improving their energy efficiency across an entire local authority area.
- Development of LHEES started in 2017 and a pilot programme, involving all 32 Scottish local authorities ran from 2017 – 2021.
- For each local authority area LHEES will:
 - set out how each segment of the building stock needs to change to meet national objectives, including achieving zero greenhouse gas emissions in the building sector, and the removal of poor energy efficiency as a driver of fuel poverty;
 - identify strategic heat decarbonisation zones, and set out the principal measures for reducing buildings emissions within each zone; and
 - prioritise areas for delivery, against national and local priorities.
- LHEES are structured into two parts:
 - A Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy is a long-term strategic framework for the improvement of the energy efficiency of buildings in the local authority's area, and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the heating of such buildings.
 - A Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Delivery Plan is a document setting out how a local authority proposes to support implementation of its Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy.
- A Scottish Statutory Instrument was passed in May 2022 by the Scottish Parliament to require all local authorities to produce a draft Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan by the end of 2023.
- Multi year funding for local authorities to resource the development of their LHEES has been agreed in partnership with COSLA. Local authorities will each receive £75k per annum until 2027/28. This could cover either recruitment of an LHEES coordinator or the procurement of technical services from consultants.
- The funding will be paid through the Local Government Finance settlement. This year's funding will be treated as a redetermination of the General Revenue Grant and paid in the last two weeks of March 2023.

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ANNEX D – Speaking Note

Is provided as a separate document

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ANNEX E – Further Background

Heat Networks

- Heat networks have an important role to play in decarbonising buildings in Scotland, including contributing to ensuring that at least 1 million homes and the equivalent of 50,000 non-domestic buildings are converted to zero emissions heating systems by 2030. Ambitious targets for their deployment have been set within the Heat Networks (Scotland) Act 2021.
- The Heat Networks (Scotland) Act (the 2021 Act) received Royal Assent in March 2021.
- The 2021 Act sets statutory targets for the amount of heat to be supplied by heat networks – 2.6 Terawatt hours (TWh) of output by 2027 and 6 TWh of output by 2030.
- We recognise that our targets for heat network deployment will require a substantial growth in supply chains. Our significant investment through the £300 million Scotland's Heat Network Fund will help kick start the supply chain in Scotland, creating high quality and green jobs.
- Regulation of heat networks currently is limited compared to other utilities. This means that heat network customers do not have the protections that gas and electricity consumers have, such as on price and quality of service.
- We will put in place secondary legislation and guidance to create a functioning regulatory regime for heat networks by early 2024. The Heat Networks Delivery Plan, published in March 2022, outlined proposals for regulations and an indicative timetable for delivery.
- The Heat Networks Delivery Plan was published in March 2022. The plan outlines how the provisions of the 2021 Act, and any other supporting policies, will contribute to increasing the use of heat networks in Scotland and meeting the statutory targets. In addition, it outlines how progress will be measured and the expected contribution that heat networks will make toward meeting the emission reduction targets.
- In February 2022, we launched Scotland's Heat Network Fund which makes £300 million available over this parliamentary session. The Fund offers long-term support to accelerate the rollout of new zero emission heat networks and communal heating systems, as well as the expansion and decarbonisation of existing heat networks across Scotland.

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- We have also recently launched the Heat Network Support Unit which will support the growth of heat networks by addressing key challenges in the pre-capital development stages and building capacity across the public sector to deliver successful projects.

Heat Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency Funding

Our Heat in Buildings strategy sets out the principles we will apply to guide all our programmes of support to ensure that people are not pushed into fuel poverty as we decarbonize homes.

Over the course of this parliament we are committed to investing £1.8 billion to accelerate this transition. This includes:

At least £465m to support those least able to pay, delivered through our Warmer Homes Scotland and Area Based Schemes:

- £300m for Scotland's Heat Network Fund
- £200m for Social Housing Net Zero Heat Fund, investing in a sector already leading the way in the heat transition
- £200m Scottish Green Public Sector Estate Scheme, supporting leadership for energy efficiency and heat decarbonization right across the public sector

In addition to the above, since 2013, Area Based Schemes have supported over 104,000 households to improve the warmth and energy efficiency of their home. ABS has been particularly effective in enabling improvements to mixed tenure blocks of flatted and terraced properties.

Social Housing Decarbonisation

- The Social Housing sector has shown strong leadership on improving fabric energy efficiency, which has supported tenants to reduce their energy bills, and contributed carbon savings.
- We will make available £200 million to help install zero emission heating systems and improve energy efficiency in social housing during this parliament, through the Social Housing Net Zero Heat Fund.

Welcome Speech – LHEES LA Launch

- Thank you James for your kind introduction. I am delighted to be here to open the LHEES Launch Event for senior local authority leaders and elected representatives.
- Our net zero ambitions respond to the defining issue of our time: the climate emergency. And although the work we discuss today involves immersion in the detail of local strategies, plans and partnership, all of that work is part of that much bigger whole.
- As Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, it is an absolute pleasure to see this great example of close collaboration and partnership between local and national government on a critical component of the net zero transition coming into fruition- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies.
- Local Government has a critical role to play in the transformation of Scotland's building stock to deliver net zero, and many local authorities are already driving forward action.

Heat Decarbonisation Policy

- As set out in our Heat in Buildings Strategy, we must ensure that by 2045 our homes and buildings no longer contribute to climate change, as part of the wider just transition to net zero.
- To do this we will need to transform how we heat our homes, public buildings and places of work.
- Specifically, by 2033 all homes should have achieved a good level of energy efficiency - equivalent to Energy Performance Certificate Band C - and by 2045, all homes and non-domestic buildings will need to have ended their use of fossil fuel heating.
- In practice, for Scotland to achieve its interim climate change target in 2030, over 1 million buildings will need to have transitioned from fossil fuel heating.
- For context, it is estimated that currently only 3000 zero emissions heating systems are installed each year, we need to scale this up, and scale it up quickly.

- That is why we have committed to introducing primary legislation that will enable us to phase-out the need to install new boilers from 2025.
- We are also committed to implementing the Heat Networks (Scotland) Act to support the development of more district and communal heating systems.
- Delivering that transformation will require concerted effort across national and local government, as well as the wider public and private sectors.
- But it is also an opportunity to explore new avenues for delivering low carbon heat through joint leadership and collaboration.
- I am pleased to see Local Authorities taking the lead on heat decarbonisation and paving the way for a low carbon future through partnerships and innovative ownership models.
- For example, West Dunbartonshire Council have demonstrated through their Queens Quay heat network how a Local Authority can successfully own and manage a heat network which adds local value, whilst offering low carbon and affordable heat to consumers.

- Midlothian Council have also shown that this can be done through partnership working, with opportunities for the Scottish public sector to work with the private sector.
- The joint venture to deliver the Shawfair Heat Network has the potential to supply renewable heat to thousands of customers in the Lothians and provide an exemplar for a delivery model to be used in large scale projects across Scotland.
- Scottish Government is currently working with 5 Community Wealth Building pilot areas - Glasgow City Region (GCR), Clackmannanshire, Tay Cities/Fife, South of Scotland Enterprise (SoSE) and Western Isles (CNES).
- Where we are seeing the use of land as a tool to achieve climate targets and develop pathways to community and municipal energy production.

Local Area Planning and LHEES

- Locally-led planning will be key to ensuring the decarbonisation of heat in buildings is delivered in a way that is relevant to local contexts and tailored to the specific needs of communities.

- Local planning is needed to translate national and local net zero priorities into place-based strategies for heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency improvement.
- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies are a central part of this locally-led heat planning. They will support local planning, coordination and delivery of the heat transition across communities in Scotland.
- Heat networks are a great example of how local planning can turbo charge the transition to zero emissions heating.
- Heat networks, in the case of district heating, distribute heat from a central or multiple sources to a network of connected buildings, or in the case of communal heating, distribute heat from a central source to multiple properties in a building.
- By identifying potential areas for heat network zones LHEES will facilitate the rollout of heat networks across Scotland.
- Heat networks are considered a low regrets technology as they can access heat from a variety of sources.
- For example, heat pumps which can extract energy from water, air, geothermal sources or recover waste heat from industrial processes.

- They therefore provide a flexible approach to decarbonisation.
- They may also help provide lower cost and reliable heat and therefore can support action to tackle fuel poverty.
- The Scottish Government has been working closely with you in local government to develop the approach to LHEES, and I express my gratitude to all of you who took part in the pilot programme.
- The pilots involved all 32 Scottish local authorities and was an exemplar of partnership working between national and local government.
- I cannot stress enough that you have a vital role to play in planning how we transform our communities and places for the net zero future.
- We are now moving onto a new phase of development of LHEES. Back in May, the LHEES Order came into force which was developed in partnership with COSLA.
- The LHEES Order places a duty on local authorities to produce Strategies and Delivery Plans by the end of 2023, and to then update them on a five-yearly basis.

- The Order creates a clear statutory basis that will ensure consistency and comprehensive coverage across Scotland against a common minimum standard and raise the profile of local Strategies with industry and investors.
- LHEES are structured in two parts.
- First, the Strategies which will provide a long-term strategic framework for the improvement of the energy efficiency of homes and buildings across an entire local authority area, and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the heating of such buildings.
- These will be accompanied by Delivery Plans, which will set out actions for how a local authority proposes to deliver its Strategy.
- We recognise that these strategies and delivery plans are a significant undertaking and that that local authorities need to be suitably resourced to undertake this new duty.
- That is why we have secured funding of £75k per annum for every local authority until 2027/28.
- This long term funding will help local authorities hire staff and procure technical assistance to develop their LHEES.

- I hope this gives you confidence that the Scottish Government wants real collaboration with local government on this issue, and that we recognise its role at the forefront of tackling climate change and addressing fuel poverty.
- Last month we published the LHEES Guidance, developed in partnership with local authorities, this sets out what is required when developing a Strategy and Delivery Plan to fulfil the duty set out in the Order.
- We also released an updated version of the LHEES Methodology.
- The LHEES Methodology provides a detailed practitioner approach that can be used to develop your LHEES.
- There is flexibility in this approach, reflecting the geographic, social and political diversity of Scotland's local authorities.
- The Scottish Government will continue to support local authorities as you continue on this journey.
- Working with Zero Waste Scotland we will be providing on-going capacity support and training, ensuring that your teams have the right skills and knowledge to develop their LHEES.

- We know that the next months will be a challenge and there a lot of things that need to happen before the end of 2023. We are fully committed to support local authorities and undertake this exciting journey together.
- However, developing an LHEES will not just be the task of a single department or team within a local authority. It will require cross departmental working.
- That is why we have invited you here today, to ask you to help champion LHEES across your organisation.
- LHEES will need participation from your teams who work on housing, commercial properties, estates, leisure facilities, energy efficiency, heat networks, schools and many others.
- You have an essential role in leading this transition within your local authority.

Conclusion

- Our ambitious decarbonisation targets, especially when it comes to heat, will change the way we live our lives. Local authorities have a key role in guiding that transition.

- We know that net zero and our Heat in Buildings targets present significant challenges.
- But it also presents major opportunities – to create jobs and prosperity; to improve people’s quality of life; and – in doing so – to build a fairer society and to make more of our energy system work for public benefit.
- Scotland is renowned for its innovation, invention and its people. We are small, but we continue to punch well above our weight internationally.
- We have played a major role in developing the modern world; that includes our contribution to the global energy sector.
- We will ensure that Scotland remains at the forefront of the fight against climate change- with local solutions that would reflect local needs and with a focus of a just transition for all.
- And we will ensure a better future for generations to come.
- All of you will play a part – not just in helping Scotland to meet emissions targets – but in helping the world to tackle

the most important issue of our age, climate change, starting with our houses and communities.

- That's a challenge that should inspire all of us.
- I wish everyone here today well, and extend my hopes for a successful and productive event. And I look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS**

Briefing for online meeting with Kaukab Stewart MSP

What	Meeting with Kaukab Stewart MSP to discuss progress towards zero carbon buildings, with particular focus on tenements.
Where	Online MS Teams
When	15:45 – 16:30 Tuesday 1 November 2022
Key Message(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to views expressed by Ms. Stewart • Highlight the ongoing work of the Tenement Short Life Working Group in making recommendations on the best options for achieving a good level of energy efficiency and zero direct emissions heating in tenements – including considering amendments to current legislation. • Outline the next steps following the Working Group, i.e. its recommendations will inform a wider public consultation on Heat in Buildings next year. <p>Sensitivity to be aware of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-Party Group on Tenement Maintenance re-established with initial meeting held on 26 October.
Who	Kaukab Stewart MSP – SNP Member for Glasgow Kelvin (Constituency)
Why	An opportunity to engage with an MSP representing a constituency where a significant portion of residents live in tenements, and update her on Scottish Government progress on the Heat in Buildings programme. MiCase: 202200320810
Expected outcome	Improved stakeholder relationship.
Supporting officials	[Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]
Briefing contents	Annex A: Meeting Details and Agenda Annex B: Kaukab Stewart MSP Bio Annex C: Summary Page Annex D: Background - Heat in Buildings Annex E: Background - Housing Annex F: Challenges of Decarbonising Tenements
Media Handling Social Media	No comms necessary No Social media required

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ANNEX A

Meeting Details:

Online MS Teams meeting

15:45 – 16:30

Tuesday 01 November 2022

Joining instructions

Computer, mobile app or room device
[Redacted]

Call in (audio only)
[Redacted]

AGENDA

15:45	Perform introductions.
15:50	Ask Ms. Stewart to outline the actions she believes can be taken to facilitate common works in tenements.
16:00	Discussion.
16:25	Summarise and conclude.

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ANNEX B

BIO Kaukab Stewart MSP

Kaukab Stewart MSP

Kaukab Stewart (Scottish National Party) is the constituency MSP for Glasgow Kelvin. She serves as Deputy Convener of the Education, Children and Young People Committee and is a substitute member of the Equalities, Human Rights and Social Justice Committee.

Ms Stewart is Deputy Convener of the Cross-Party Group on Challenging Racial and Religious Prejudice and sits on several other Scottish Parliament Cross-Party Groups including those on Housing, and on Skills.

Before being elected to the Scottish Parliament in 2021 she worked as a teacher in communities across Scotland for almost 30 years.

Ms Stewart has spoken frequently in the Scottish Parliament about the challenges of decarbonising Scotland's tenement stock, including quoting statistics that 96% of all accommodation in her constituency consists of flatted properties, and that 30% of all Glasgow's pre-1919 tenement buildings fall within the Kelvin constituency.



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ANNEX C

SUMMARY PAGE

Purpose of Meeting

- To discuss progress the Scottish Government is making towards zero carbon buildings, with a particular focus on tenements.
- To discuss what action can be taken, including making amendments to existing legislation such as the Tenement (Scotland) Act 2004 to facilitate common works to decarbonise tenements.
- To have a wider discussion on how Scottish Government policies under your brief can benefit Ms. Stewart's constituents.

Key Issues

- The climate crisis has highlighted the need to improve the energy efficiency of our homes and move away from fossil fuels to zero emissions heating systems. Given that tenements account for a significant proportion of Scotland's housing stock (36% of all occupied dwellings), it is important that these play a role in moving to net zero.
- Tenement properties face particular challenges in installing energy efficiency and zero direct emissions heat measures, which can see owners face higher costs and additional obstacles when compared to those living in other types of homes.
- In some situations a minority of owners in a tenement can block the majority from undertaking certain communal energy efficiency and zero direct emissions measures, depending on title deeds and/or whether these are considered maintenance measures under the Tenement Management Scheme (TMS).

Lines to Take

- Our Heat In Buildings Strategy commits us to ensuring that all buildings are energy efficient and use zero direct emission heating. **We want to empower tenement owners to cooperate to undertake common retrofit works and install communal zero direct emissions heating systems** where these are the best options – let's find ways to facilitate this, including through working with experts via the Short Life Working Group (SLWG).
- The SLWG has been asked to advise on the best options for tenements to reach a good level of energy efficiency and zero direct emissions heat. We expect the SLWG to report its conclusions later this year. **The recommendations of the Group will inform and shape a public consultation** on our wider Heat in Buildings programme in the forthcoming year.
- Tenements make up 36% of homes in Scotland – 41% in our urban areas – and play a hugely important role in our existing built environment. **We need to ensure these buildings are fit for a net zero future.**

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- **We understand the challenges faced by owners in tenement buildings** in coming together to agree on, undertake and pay for common energy efficiency and zero direct emissions heating works and are **committed to finding solutions to facilitate these works.**
- Around 30% of tenements in Scotland were built before 1919. We recognise that for traditional buildings bespoke approaches including skilled design and construction, may be required and we are committed to developing appropriate approaches for these buildings that preserve their cultural value and special characteristics.
- We are aware of suggestions made by some stakeholders to change the existing Tenement Management Scheme (TMS) set out in the Tenement (Scotland) Act 2004 **which comes under the portfolio of the Minister for Community Safety.** This is one of the areas that the SLWG is examining - having been empowered to consider whether amendments to existing legislation are required - and we await their recommendations. It is important that any changes to the TMS are carefully considered in the round, and we would intend to undertake detailed consideration and engagement before making any legislative changes.
- We are aware of concerns raised by stakeholders that the project being undertaken by the Scottish Law Commission (SLC) considering the establishment of compulsory owners' associations will not be completed until the next parliamentary session. **We are keen for this work to be completed as quickly as possible but accept the SLC's timetable** given the complexity of the issue, and importance of proper consultation and consideration of human rights implications.
- While the SLC undertakes this work, we are committed to progressing the other main recommendations made by the Scottish Parliamentary Group on Tenement Maintenance. **Portfolio responsibility for Housing Standards, including the areas addressed by the SLC project and Scottish Parliamentary Group on Tenement Maintenance, lies with the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government.**

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ANNEX D

HEAT IN BUILDINGS

Heat in Buildings Strategy

- The [Heat in Buildings Strategy](#) (the Strategy) commits SG to introduce new regulations (where possible within our legal competence) to require all buildings to be energy efficient by 2033, and use zero emissions heating and cooling systems by 2045.
- The Strategy acknowledges the unique challenges that common works present to tenements, and that this can present a significant barrier to installing energy efficiency and zero emissions heating measures without owners cooperating.
- Certain energy efficiency and zero emissions heating upgrades have to be performed at once and across the whole building for works to be technically-feasible and cost-effective.
- MoMu buildings under certain circumstances may be given until 2040-45 to improve both their energy efficiency (to the equivalent of EPC C) and install a zero emissions heat supply depending on the complexity involved in coordinating works and recovering costs between multiple owners.
- The Strategy commits SG to consult on options for a regulatory approach for mixed-tenure buildings which would see them required to reach a good level of energy efficiency, equivalent to EPC C rating, where technically feasible and cost effective, and install a zero emissions heating supply by 2040-45.
- Around 30% of flats in Scotland were built before 1919. The Scottish Government recognises that, for traditional and protected buildings, bespoke approaches including skilled design and construction, may be required.
- The Strategy commits the Scottish Government to working with stakeholders to develop approaches and solutions to transition Scotland's historic buildings to low and zero emissions heating while respecting and preserving the special characteristics of our buildings and places.

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for online meeting with Kaukab Stewart MSP**

Tenements Short Life Working Group

- Following a series of stakeholder workshops in 2021, you approved the formation of an expert Short Life Working Group (SLWG) at the start of 2022.
- The SLWG is building on the outputs of the workshops and has a remit to develop options for consultation on the best regulatory approach for tenement buildings to reach a good level of energy efficiency and install a zero emissions heating supply by 2040-45.
- The SLWG met 5 times between February and October 2022 and is due to report its recommendations to you later this year.
- As part of the remit of the SLWG, the Group was asked to focus on:
 - The need for a whole building assessment and/or tenement standard for energy efficiency;
 - Possible amendments to existing legislation as well as new powers;
 - How to encourage and promote uptake of energy efficiency & zero direct emissions heat under existing legislation;
 - Considering support and delivery.
- The following organisations and individuals are members of the SLWG:
 - Prof Lori McElroy (Chair), University of Strathclyde
 - Built Environment Forum Scotland
 - Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
 - Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland
 - Prof Douglas Robertson, University of Stirling
 - Under One Roof
 - Property Managers Association
 - Changeworks
 - Historic Environment Scotland
 - Energy Saving Trust
 - Future Climate
 - City of Edinburgh Council
 - Aberdeen City Council
 - Glasgow City Council
 - Scottish Federation of Housing Associations

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for online meeting with Kaukab Stewart MSP**

ANNEX E

HOUSING

- The Scottish Government is committed to tackling disrepair in housing, driving a culture in which good maintenance is given a higher priority, ensuring that tenement owners can work together to look after their homes, and making it easier for those who need help to meet the cost of the work.

New Housing Standard

- The new Housing Standard will go beyond a minimum standard to include aspects such as being free from serious disrepair, minimum space standards, digital connectivity, accessibility, systematic future-proofing of homes for our future population, and additional safety standards. We will move beyond traditional models of fitness for human habitation to a new model that meets expectations for housing as a human right and delivers homes that underpin health and wellbeing.
- **[Redacted]**
- Our aim is that this will cover all homes new or existing, including agricultural properties, mobile homes and tied accommodation. We aim to ensure that there will be no margins of tolerance, no exemptions and no “acceptable levels” of sub-standard homes in urban, rural or island communities, deprived communities or in tenements. This will mean our existing homes will keep pace with new homes, with no one left behind.
- The new Housing Standard will support measures being developed in the Heat in Buildings Strategy; this will help to align the objectives of the Standard to plans for regulating heat in buildings.
- We recognise that the cost of meeting this ambitious standard may be significant and that is why we are developing a Help to Improve scheme which will ensure that those in greatest need have access to financial support and advice.

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for online meeting with Kaukab Stewart MSP**

Scottish Parliamentary Cross-Party Working Group on Tenement Maintenance

- A Scottish Parliamentary Cross-Party Working Group on Tenement Maintenance was established in 2018 with the stated aim of establishing solutions to aid, assist and compel owners of tenement properties to maintain their buildings.
- The Working Group produced its [final report in 2019](#), with 3 primary recommendations it proposed would enhance the ability of tenement owners to work collectively, encouraging and enabling effective maintenance and repair of their properties:
 - Mandatory owners' associations;
 - Mandatory building reserve funds;
 - Mandatory 5-yearly building surveys.
- The Scottish Government [published a response](#) to the Working Group in December 2019 agreeing that action was required to improve the condition of Scotland's tenements, stating that any changes needed to engage residents with costs not falling on the least able to pay, and highlighting the importance of appropriately using existing powers where these exist.
- This response also stressed the need for further research into how the recommendations could work in practice, and sought to support voluntary and incremental change. The Scottish Government published a revised Tenement Condition Workplan in March 2021 setting out the actions it would take.
- The Cross-Party has recently been reconvened and is scheduled to meet again on 26 October 2022.

Scottish Law Commission

- In January 2022 Scottish Ministers commissioned the Scottish Law Commission to undertake [a law reform project](#), with a view to drafting a new Tenements Maintenance Bill, in response to the recommendations of the Parliamentary Working Group on Tenement Maintenance Report.
- The project will consider the establishment, formation, and operation of compulsory owners' associations – one of the key recommendations of the Working Group - including the feasibility and desirability of providing powers for associations to carry out energy efficiency and heating improvement work.
- While compulsory owners' associations could provide a legal mechanism for who can be obligated in terms of any regulations being met, they would still be subject to the democratic decisions of the owners in the building to proceed with any common works. As part of the project the SLC will consider the complex human rights issues will provide mechanisms for co-operation.

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS**

Briefing for online meeting with Kaukab Stewart MSP

- The SLC expects to be in a position to provide the Scottish Government with a report detailing its recommendations and a draft Bill for consideration in Spring 2026.
- Alongside the SLC's work, we will be progressing work on the other main recommendations (building reserve funds and building inspections) throughout this parliamentary term.

CHALLENGES OF DECARBONISING TENEMENTS

Co-operation Between Owners

- As common works require cooperation between owners, problems arise if owners cannot agree on works occurring or if some owners cannot afford to or will not pay for their share of costs.
- Tenements are often composed of a mix of different tenure types (owner occupier, private rent and social rent) as well potentially containing a mix of domestic and non-domestic properties. Owners may also be in significantly different financial situations. This means owners within the same building may have different standards to meet, be working to different incentives, and be eligible for different types of support or funding.
- Should an individual or group of owners within a tenement wish to undertake works, they can face difficulties engaging with owners of the properties in the building, and in cases when this can be achieved the lack of a single entity (such as an owners' association or property manager) to lead works projects and engage with contractors creates additional obstacles.

State of Repair

- The maintenance of buildings must come first in the order of importance as there is little merit in installing additional energy efficiency measures or zero direct emissions heating systems until a building is water and wind tight. As a result of the lack of data on the condition of the existing tenement stock, the extent to which maintenance work is required may not be evident until retrofit work has already begun, potentially significantly increasing the costs to owners.

Ownership and Responsibility

- Owners of properties within tenements may not have full knowledge of their responsibilities for common or shared aspects of their building. This can cause dispute over decision making and apportioning of costs for works. While the Tenement Management Scheme - part of the Tenements (Scotland) Act 2004 – provides specific information on this, the TMS only applies as the default option in cases where information is missing from title deeds or there is ambiguity or contradiction.
- Under the TMS decisions relating to maintenance of parts of the tenement for which all owners have responsibility can be made with majority approval. The definition of maintenance is set out in the Tenement (Scotland) Act 2004 and was amended by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to include the “installation of insulation”. Any measure considered an improvement falls outwith the TMS and would likely require a unanimous decision.

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS**

Briefing for meeting with Federation of Master Builders

What	Meeting with Federation of Master Builders (FMB) regarding the Federation's ideas and concerns about the implementation of the green agenda in relation to the housing stock in Scotland.
Where	Parliament, room tbc
When	Tuesday 15 November 2022 0900-0945
Key Message	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite the FMB to set out its concerns in relation to the de-carbonisation of heating system in traditional and protected domestic properties • Highlight the imminent report of the Tenement Short Life Working Group recommendations to regulate for energy efficiency and zero emission heating.
Who	<p>Alastair Raitt, President, Scotland Area Board and National Board Member, Federation of Master Builders</p> <p>Gordon Nelson, FMB Scotland Hub Director</p>
Why	<p>You met Mr Raitt on 8 August at the Green Home Festival, during which you suggested a later meeting to further explore some of the FMB's ideas and concerns about the implementation of the green agenda in relation to housing stock in Scotland.</p> <p>In particular, Mr Raitt asked you about current regulatory systems which block the path for contractors to repair and retrofit older buildings. You indicated you were keen to engage with the FMB on this and Mr Raitt followed this up with an email request for a meeting on 3 October</p> <p>At a meeting of the Cross-Party Group on Construction on 6 October, Mr Raitt asked "whether the hierarchy of regulatory systems: planning, building standards and health and safety, can be looked into as there are conflicts to iron out if existing buildings are to have energy retrofit measures installed."</p>
Expected outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved stakeholder relationship. • A fuller understanding of FMB's specific concerns following the meeting; and that Scottish Government officials will undertake to explore the above issues post-meeting.
Supporting official	<p>[redacted] [redacted]</p>
Briefing contents	<p>Annex A: Summary Page Annex B: Federation of Master Builders Annex C: Attendees bio Annex D: Heat in Buildings Annex E: Tenements Short Life Working Group Annex F: Scottish Law Commission</p>

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS**

Briefing for meeting with Federation of Master Builders

<i>Media Handling</i>	Private meeting
<i>Social Media</i>	Just had a very useful meeting with Federation of Master Builders to hear their thoughts on the challenges of decarbonisation of heating systems in traditional tenements.

AGENDA

09:00	Introductions.
09:50	Invite Federation of Master Builders to outline their specific concerns about regulations relating to the decarbonisation of heating systems in traditional tenements.
10:00	Discussion.
10:25	Summarise and conclude.

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
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ANNEX A

SUMMARY PAGE

Purpose of meeting

- To hear in detail Federation of Master Builders' (FMB) concerns about the retrofit of decarbonised heating systems in traditional tenements and, in particular, current regulatory systems, which FMB see as blocking the path for contractors to repair and retrofit older buildings.

Lines to Take:

- No one wants to see badly drafted and cumbersome legislation, but in a constantly evolving legislative and policy environment it is inevitable that there will be areas that can be improved.
- Our documents: *Housing 2040* [Housing to 2040 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://gov.scot) and *Heat in Buildings Strategy - achieving net zero emissions in Scotland's buildings* - [gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://gov.scot) signal our ambitions to reform housing and buildings.
- The SG is working at pace on developing the supporting legislation, working with stakeholders and across government to ensure that these work holistically together. We are keen to engage with key stakeholders such as the Federation on these policies; and we welcome your input this work.

Regulation Top Lines:

- **We are committed to engaging with stakeholders on regulation and within the Emergency Budget Review on 2 November. We announced our plans to establish a Joint Taskforce on regulation. The taskforce will consider the different impacts of regulation and drive long term improvements to the process of developing and implementing regulation.**
- Scottish Government officials and Ministers have engaged with business organisations to identify regulations causing significant cost concerns. This includes the Deposit Return Scheme, Local Visitor Levy, Short Term Lets Licensing and Public Health Food Restrictions.
- Officials have worked to identify any potential mitigations within these regulations, however any changes to regulations are complex while reducing burden is key at this time, many of these regulations have important environmental and social aims which cannot be delayed, or indeed bring economic opportunities for sections of the business community.
- This approach is in line with our National Strategy for Economic Transformation commitment to review the process of developing, implementing and reviewing regulation, and how this can be improved to meet our longer-term economic and societal aims.
- **[IF PRESSED/ASKED]:** – will ask relevant officials to engage with Federation of Master Builders in relation to concerns about regulatory regimes and the retrofit of traditional tenements.

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Planning:

- Work that affects only the interior of an existing building and does not materially affect the exterior appearance of the building is not considered development under the planning system and does not require planning permission. However, works affecting the interior of a listed building may require listed building consent.
- The planning system supports the installation of renewal energy systems where appropriate. But a balance has to be struck between permitting renewable energy systems and the impact on the amenity of the wider community.
- The majority of properties in Scotland benefit from permitted development rights, which allow the retrospective installation of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency measures (subject to certain criteria) without the need to go through the planning application process. Additional restrictions apply to properties located within conservation areas.
- Planning authorities are required to determine planning applications in accordance with the relevant local development plan, and relevant local and national planning policies, unless there are material planning considerations that would justify a departure from the development plan in any individual case.
- The Scottish Government is reviewing permitted development rights for renewable energy technologies as part of our ongoing review of the planning system. We recently set out, in a Chief Planner letter, our intention to consult publicly on renewable energy rights early next year.

General:

- Our Heat In Buildings Strategy commits us to ensuring that all buildings are energy efficient and use zero direct emission heating. We recognise the challenges to undertaking communal work in flats and tenements and we are keen to address these.
- Tenements make up 36% of homes in Scotland – 41% in our urban areas – and play a hugely important role in our existing built environment. We need to ensure these buildings are fit for a net zero future.
- We understand the challenges faced by owners in tenement buildings in coming together to agree on, undertake and pay for common energy efficiency and zero direct emissions heating works and are committed to finding solutions to facilitate these works.
- Around 30% of tenements in Scotland were built before 1919. We recognise that for traditional buildings bespoke approaches including skilled design and construction, may be required and we are committed to developing appropriate approaches for these buildings that preserve their cultural value and special characteristics.
- We expect the Short Life Working Group and the Historic Workshop to report their conclusions before the end of the year. The recommendations of the Group will inform and shape a public consultation on our wider Heat in Buildings programme in the forthcoming year.

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
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Briefing for meeting with Federation of Master Builders**

ANNEX B

FEDERATION OF MASTER BUILDERS

Background

1. The Federation of Master Builders (FMB) represents the interests of small and medium-sized building companies and is the largest trade association in the UK construction industry. The FMB champions quality construction work and advocates for continuous improvement in building standards. It is a UK-wide organisation, but has local offices or “hubs” in Scotland (and N. Ireland and Wales).
2. The FMB are a member of the Building Standards Futures Board, the Building Standards Resilience Group and often also participate in Scottish Government Working Groups for review of standards. So there are already lines of communication with the Scottish Government on building standards matters.
3. Nothing specific has been raised by FMB with Building Standards colleagues around the interaction of the retrofit agenda with the need to meet building regulations, although there are occasionally comments made within the industry on the need to obtain a building warrant prior to undertaking certain works.

Institute of Public Policy research/FMB report – October 2022

4. The Institute of Public Policy recently produced a report in conjunction with the FMB: *Train local, work local, stay local: Retrofit, growth and levelling up* | FMB, Federation of Master Builders. The report concluded that (in the UK):
 - To address the skills shortage in retrofit, a national programme investing in local retrofit training is needed, with investment in skills academies and on-site training.
 - An awareness campaign alongside household grants and incentives for homeowners are needed to increase take-up.

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Briefing for meeting with Federation of Master Builders**

ANNEX C

Bio Page

ALASTAIR RAITT:



President, Scotland Area Board and National Board Member, Federation of Master Builders

Alastair Raitt also works for H M Raitt & Sons Ltd, a family-owned company in Musselburgh which undertakes commercial, domestic, new-build, restoration and renovation works.

GORDON NELSON:



Scotland Hub Director, Federation of Master Builders Scotland

Gordon Nelson joined the Federation of Master Builders in 2014. His responsibilities are public affairs, media relations, governance and representing members' interests to Scottish policy-makers and stakeholders in the Scottish construction industry.

Gordon is also Secretary of the Cross-Party Group on Construction in the Scottish Parliament and is actively involved in Scotland's Construction Industry Coronavirus Forum. He sits on the Building Standards Futures Board and is a member of Site Safe Scotland, the principal committee for construction health and safety in Scotland.

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
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Briefing for meeting with Federation of Master Builders**

ANNEX D

HEAT IN BUILDINGS

Heat in Buildings Strategy

- The Heat in Buildings Strategy (the Strategy) commits SG to introduce new regulations (where possible within our legal competence) to require all buildings to be energy efficient by 2033, and use zero emissions heating and cooling systems by 2045.
- The Strategy acknowledges the unique challenges that common works present to tenements, and that this can present a significant barrier to installing energy efficiency and zero emissions heating measures without owners cooperating.
- Certain energy efficiency and zero emissions heating upgrades have to be performed at once and across the whole building for works to be technically-feasible and cost-effective.
- MoMu buildings under certain circumstances may be given until 2040-45 to improve both their energy efficiency (to the equivalent of EPC C) and install a zero emissions heat supply depending on the complexity involved in coordinating works and recovering costs between multiple owners.
- The Strategy commits SG to consult on options for a regulatory approach for mixed-tenure buildings which would see them required to reach a good level of energy efficiency, equivalent to EPC C rating, where technically feasible and cost effective, and install a zero emissions heating supply by 2040-45.
- Around 30% of flats in Scotland were built before 1919. The Scottish Government recognises that, for traditional and protected buildings, bespoke approaches including skilled design and construction, may be required.
- The Strategy commits the Scottish Government to working with stakeholders to develop approaches and solutions to transition Scotland's historic buildings to low and zero emissions heating while respecting and preserving the special characteristics of our buildings and places.

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Briefing for meeting with Federation of Master Builders**

ANNEX E

Tenements Short Life Working Group

- Following a series of stakeholder workshops in 2021, you approved the formation of an expert Short Life Working Group (SLWG) at the start of 2022.
- The SLWG built on the outputs of the workshops and has a remit to develop options for consultation on the best regulatory approach for tenement buildings to reach a good level of energy efficiency and install a zero emissions heating supply by 2040-45.
- The SLWG held its final meeting on 13th October and will report its recommendations to you before the end of this year, as part of this workstream a specific Historic Workshop was held outlining policy proposals and seeking the views of stakeholders for historic buildings. The outputs from the historic workshop will be reported to the Minister shortly.
- The following organisations and individuals are members of the SLWG:
 - Prof Lori McElroy (Chair), University of Strathclyde
 - Built Environment Forum Scotland
 - Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
 - Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland
 - Prof Douglas Robertson, University of Stirling
 - Under One Roof
 - Property Managers Association
 - Changeworks
 - Historic Environment Scotland
 - Energy Saving Trust
 - Future Climate
 - City of Edinburgh Council
 - Aberdeen City Council
 - Glasgow City Council
 - Scottish Federation of Housing Associations

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TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for meeting with Federation of Master Builders**

ANNEX F

Scottish Law Commission

- In January 2022 Scottish Ministers commissioned the Scottish Law Commission to undertake a law reform project, with a view to drafting a new Tenements Maintenance Bill, in response to the recommendations of the Parliamentary Working Group on Tenement Maintenance Report.
- The project will consider the establishment, formation, and operation of compulsory owners' associations – one of the key recommendations of the Working Group - including the feasibility and desirability of providing powers for associations to carry out energy efficiency and heating improvement work.
- While compulsory owners' associations could provide a legal mechanism for who can be obligated in terms of any regulations being met, they would still be subject to the democratic decisions of the owners in the building to proceed with any common works. As part of the project the SLC will consider the complex human rights issues will provide mechanisms for co-operation.
- The SLC expects to be in a position to provide the Scottish Government with a report detailing its recommendations and a draft Bill for consideration in Spring 2026.
- Alongside the SLC's work, the Scottish Government will be progressing work on the other recommendations (building reserve funds and building inspections) throughout this parliamentary term.

Glasgow and the West of Scotland Forum of Housing Associations
Annual Conference 28 October 2022
Radisson Blu Hotel, Glasgow

Speaking Note for Keynote Speech
Patrick Harvie, Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings,
Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

1900 words – approx. 12 minutes

- I am delighted to be able to be here with you for your first Annual Conference since 2019. So much happened since then including both a global pandemic and a unprecedented cost of living crisis. Events such as this offer invaluable opportunities for discussions and learning to help navigate the pressing issues facing Housing Associations and their tenants.

Scottish Government Support to the Cost of Living Crisis

- The most pressing issue for your tenants is, of course, the economic crisis, which is putting enormous pressure on people, homes and businesses across Scotland.
- The long overdue measures announced by the UK Government may limit some of the more severe impacts, however the (average) £2,500 that domestic consumers will be expected to pay is still unaffordable for many, especially for those in the social rented sector, who are more likely to be in fuel poverty.

- However, the reversal of the recent mini-budget means that this price guarantee will now only remain in place until April next year, with no clear indication of what is to follow – causing both confusion and worry for many.
- And while UK Government needs to do much more we in Scottish Government are taking direct action now to support those least able to pay. Our recently published Programme for Government sets out the measures that we are taking to support households, businesses, and public services in response to the cost crisis. It commits us to doubling the value of our Fuel Insecurity Fund from £10 million to £20 million, to ensure support continues to be available to people at risk of self-rationing their energy use, or self-disconnecting entirely.
- We are also providing £1.2 million of additional resource to advice organisations to support them to help households in difficulty and to help households and businesses access advice and support on energy efficiency.

Rent Cap

- Much of what I say today is wearing my hat as Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings. But I am also Minister for Tenants Rights. And in that guise I led on the recent emergency legislation on rents and evictions which was passed by the Scottish Parliament.
- I recognise that Government intervention in rent setting in social housing has been seen as controversial in the sector.

- This is why, in the run up to and since that emergency legislation was passed we have listened very carefully to the feedback from RSLs, including many of you here today, about the difficult balancing act between rent levels, investment in new homes and - our focus today – tackling the climate emergency through investment in existing homes.
- It is this Government's aim is to ensure the best possible balance between keeping rents affordable for tenants and continuing investment of quality homes through rental income.
- The bill that passed on 6th October included amendments intended to allow the Government and the sector to agree the optimal way forward from 1 April 2023 – and to agree this in good time to enable the necessary planning.
- The Bill commits the Government to set out a decision, on whether to raise the cap, suspend the rent restrictions or continue with 0% cap for the sector by no later than 14 January 2023.
- The Scottish Government is committed to working in partnership with the social housing sector to identify and agree a way forward. To achieve this, a Short Life Task and Finish Group has been established. The group, which has already met, brings together Scottish Government officials and leaders from across the Social Housing Sector – including representatives of GWSF, and I thank you for the valuable contributions that have been made so far.
- The Scottish Government fully recognise that consultations with tenants must go ahead in the

coming months and that these will be critical in informing a final decision in January and we will share further detail to support you in rent setting consultations as soon as possible.

Climate Challenge

- It's hard to think of a time when so many urgent issues loomed so large. I appreciate that, for many tenants, the last 3 years will seem like a perfect storm: from the frying pan of COVID to the fire of dramatic rises in costs – energy, food, day to day basics. So it is not always easy to convey with the same level of immediacy, the scale of urgency of the Climate emergency.
- But as many of you will recognise that has not gone away – each passing week throws up new reminders of its impact. An impact that will more than anything else shape how we live our lives for decades to come. And the energy crisis, accelerated by Putin's invasion of Ukraine, has shown how fragile has been our dependence on turbulent global fossil fuel markets. The cost of living crisis and the climate emergency are not competing priorities. They are the same challenge
- This makes it all the more important that we continue to transition from fossil fuels and towards efficient, zero carbon homes and buildings.
- Our Climate Change legislation sets legally binding targets for us to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045, with interim targets requiring a 75% reduction by 2030, and 90% by 2040.

- To meet our 2030 climate change target, at least one million Scottish homes and the equivalent of 50,000 non-domestic buildings will need to change their heating system for a zero-carbon one.
- With around 600,000 homes for social rent in Scotland, and over 87,000 of these from GWSF members, it means social landlords here and across Scotland will play a vital part in ending Scotland's contribution to climate change.

EESSH and Fabric First Retrofit

- Social Landlords have already shown strong leadership on improving efficiency of homes which are supporting tenants to reduce their energy bills, and contribute to carbon savings.
- Right now 88% of socially rented homes meet the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing – EESSH for short. EESSH has helped drive investment in improving Scotland's social homes, removing poor energy efficiency as a driver for fuel poverty, by reducing energy demand and cutting emissions.
- I would like to thank you all for your considerable efforts in achieving this milestone.
- This has partly been achieved through fabric improvements to homes - through installing insulation for example – which improves thermal efficiency of buildings and reduces heat loss.
- Energy efficiency has been and will play a vital role in reducing our emissions. But energy efficiency is no longer enough on its own. That means scaling up the

number of zero emission heating systems – such as heat networks and heat pumps – as well as ensuring that the fabric of our homes are good enough to support them.

- This is why, in response to the calls from the social housing sector, I announced that the review of EESSH2 be brought forward to commence this year for completion in 2023 - in recognition that it is not currently aligned with our net zero ambitions.
- The review will consider how fabric and energy efficiency upgrades and zero emissions heating systems can be deployed in way that is affordable for tenants and protect those in fuel poverty.
- I fully understand sector requires clarity while this review is underway and we have drafted early action guidance for this interim period. This will be shared with social landlords in the next couple of weeks.

Zero Emission Heat and Glasgow Demonstrators

- However, we shouldn't slow down the progress we are making. Social Landlords should continue to take steps to reduce energy demand and begin the transition to new heating systems, like heat pumps and heat networks where possible.
- For those of you unfamiliar, heat pumps are able to use heat extracted from the air, ground or water – even in places as cold as Scotland - to heat homes and buildings. Heat networks take heat from a central source, to connected homes and buildings.

- We are already seeing the successful use of heat pumps in social housing all across Scotland. In fact I visited a communal heat project in Springburn earlier this year. Ng Homes, with support from the Scottish Government, installed heat pumps on six high rise social housing tower blocks. This has not only has reduced carbon emissions, but also reduced heating costs for 600 homes by up to 60%.

Support for Housing Associations for Retrofit

- A year ago, I launched our Heat in Buildings Strategy, which aims to make our buildings cleaner, greener and easier to heat while removing poor energy performance as a driver of fuel poverty.
- Through this we committed to investing at least £1.8 billion over the course of this Parliament to help cut Scotland's emissions in a way that is consistent with our statutory fuel poverty targets – prioritising support for those least able to pay.
- We have a range of funding programmes and mechanisms offering financial support to social landlords looking to install zero emissions heat or make their housing stock more energy efficient.
- Housing Associations and local authorities can access funding through the Social Housing Net Zero Heat Fund which will provide £200 million of grant support over the length of this parliament.
- The fund supports the retrofit of existing social housing with zero emission heat such as heat pumps and energy efficiency upgrades.

- We also recognise the importance of growing the heat networks sector in Scotland, which as I've mentioned, will be another key part of the solution to cutting emissions from heating our homes and buildings.
- Our £300 million Scotland's Heat Network Fund offers capital grant funding to public and private sector organisations, including housing associations, across Scotland.
- Through the Energy Saving Trust, we also offer support to district heating projects through a District Heating Loan Fund, which offers low interest loans to local authorities and social landlords.
- We have also established the Green Heat Finance Taskforce to recommend ways the public sector, communities and private finance can collaborate to scale up investment. A key area of focus will be social housing and I am keen that we work jointly to identify a sustainable funding and financing model for retrofitting Scotland's social housing stock.

Closing Remarks

- I understand there is a lot for us to do. Our climate targets are ambitious – and this is because they need to be. The scale, pace and the cost of the change needed to transform Scotland's housing can be daunting. Even more so when faced at the same time the cost of living crisis.

- It is important to remember in the money we invest in making our homes and buildings greener has an impact on both climate change and the cost of energy. Zero emission heat and energy efficiency can reduce bills and make homes warmer for tenants, but it will also reduce our reliance on gas which is at the root of the current energy costs crisis.
- The good news is we have already begun our journey. The social housing sector in Scotland is leading the way, and demonstrating what can be done.
- Housing Associations from across Scotland and those represented here today – like ng homes Maryhill Housing Association - have already adopted these new heat systems which are delivering both a reduction in emissions and energy costs.
- Finally, it is important to say we in government do not have all the answers. I encourage you to speak to each other as much as you can during today's events. There is considerable experience and expertise in this room and it is only through collaboration and sharing of learning, that we can make a successful and just transition to net zero.
- I wish you a successful conference and look forward to working with you in achieving our shared ambitions for the social housing sector. Thank you.

PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS

Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

What	<p>The sixth meeting of the Green Heat Finance Taskforce.</p> <p>The meeting will be chaired by the GHFT co-chair, Sara Thiam, Chief Executive of Scottish Council for Development and Industry and will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secretariat update on stakeholder engagement and proposal of a future workshop on the interim recommendation report due in March 2023;• Presentation by SG and discussion proposed heat in buildings domestic regulations;• Three short presentations on financial solutions for retrofit of non-domestic and SME buildings:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Non-domestic building data (SFT)○ Existing and new financial models for retrofit of non-domestic buildings (GFI)○ Existing support for non-domestic buildings/SME's (SG)• Discussion session on funding, financing and delivery for non-domestic / SME's.• The purpose of the Taskforce is to develop a portfolio of innovative financial solutions for building owners in Scotland to ensure that by 2045, our homes and buildings no longer contribute to climate change, as part of the wider just transition to net zero.• The high level objectives of the Taskforce are provided below:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Build on existing evidence to set out the alternative sources of funding and financing for heat decarbonisation by September 2023 for both the medium and longer-term requirements;○ Explore and potentially pilot new and value-for-money innovative financing mechanisms for individual and community level investment;○ Act as a catalyst for long term relationships and partnering across the public sector, the heat sector industry, wider supply chain and investor/financial institutions;○ Support the alignment of the requirements for heat decarbonisation with the needs and investment
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PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS

Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

	activity across the wider energy system;
Where	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Room 4ER, St Andrews House, Regent Rd, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
When	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 2 Nov 2022, 10:00 – 12:00 (coffee and tea available from 9.30am)
Who	<p>The Taskforce comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kirsty Hamilton OBE, Independent; Sandy Macdonald, FICRS, Director of Public Policy and Communications, Scottish Financial Enterprise; Emma Harvey Programme Director Green Finance Institute; Eddie McAvinchey, Executive Director Sustainable Investment The Scottish National Investment Bank; Ian Cochran; Edinburgh University Business School/Institute for Climate Economics Lewis Shand Smith, Chair, Energy Consumers Commission; Helen Melone, Senior Policy Manager Scottish Renewables; Sara Thiam, Chief Executive Scottish Council for Development and Industry; Andy Kerr, Director Climate KIC; Rufus Grantham, Managing Director Bankers Without Boundaries; Simon McWhirter, Director of Communications and Policy UK Green Building Council Scotland. <p>A full list of biographies is at Annex C.</p>
Supporting official	[redacted]
Briefing contents	<p>Annex A: Agenda Annex B: Chair's Brief for Sara Thiam (annotated agenda) Annex C: Members Biographies (attached separately) Annex D: Summary of Previous Meeting and Action Points on 7 Sept 2022 Annex E: Heat in Buildings Background Briefing Annex F: Regulatory Framework Briefing</p>

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Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

ANNEX A

Heat in Buildings - Green Heat Finance Taskforce Agenda

Wednesday 2 Nov 2022 10:00 – 12:00

Meeting Chair – Sara Thiam, Chief Executive Scottish Council for Development and Industry

AGENDA

1. 10:00 – 10:05 Welcome and Apologies.
2. 10:05 – 10:10 Summary Note and Actions Points from Previous Meeting, including member notification of any conflicts of interest. Agreement on timings for meetings next year.
3. 10:10 – 10:20 Secretariat Update: stakeholder engagement, social housing subgroup and future workshop on development of interim recommendations due in March 2023.
4. 10:20 – 10:50 Presentation and Discussion - Heat in Buildings Proposed Domestic Regulations, [redacted], Scottish Government.
5. 10:50 – 11:00 Presentation, Scottish Non- Domestic Buildings Data, [redacted], Scottish Futures Trust
6. 11:00 – 11:10 Presentation – Non- Domestic Retrofit Solutions, Emma Harvey, Green Finance Institute
7. 11:10 – 11:20 Presentation – Current Non- Domestic / SME Support. [redacted], Scottish Government.
8. 11:20 – 11:55 – Group Discussion on Developing Financial Solutions for Non-Domestic Buildings.
9. 11:55 – 12:00 – January Meeting and AOB

PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

ANNEX B: Chair's Brief

Chair's Annotated Agenda for Sara Thiam, Green Heat Finance Taskforce Meeting, 2 November 2022.

Members have been advised of the protocol for participating in the meeting, which is:

- All members should mute and indicate via raise hand function on Teams if they are attending virtually and wish to speak.

10:00 – 10:05	<p>AGENDA ITEM 1: WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'm delighted to welcome all of you to the sixth meeting of the Green Heat Finance Taskforce. No apologies have been received.• At today's meeting we are going to cover:• An update from the Secretariat on stakeholder engagement, the establishment of the Social Housing subgroup and a proposal to schedule a workshop in the new year to develop the taskforce interim recommendation report due in March 2023.• We will then hear from [redacted] of the Heat in Buildings Regulations team at the Scottish Government, who will present proposals for future regulation of energy efficiency and zero emissions heat in domestic properties.• [redacted] is seeking early confidential feedback from Taskforce members on the proposals. This item will take place in private under Chatham House Rules and no formal minutes will be taken.• The remainder of this morning's meeting will focus on financial solutions for the non- domestic and SME sector.• [redacted] will provide a summary of the data on non-domestic buildings in Scotland and the scale of the challenge.• We'll then hear from Emma on some existing and new financial solutions.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finally, we are also joined today by [redacted] from the Scottish Government Heat in Buildings Advice and SME Delivery team, who will summarise for us the existing non-domestic / SME support, as well as barriers and challenges to greening these buildings. These short presentations will set the scene for us to discuss the further development of financial mechanisms.
10:05 – 10:10	<p>SUMMARY NOTE AND ACTIONS POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING, INCLUDING MEMBER NOTIFICATION OF ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND AGREEMENT ON TIMINGS FOR MEETINGS NEXT YEAR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The summary note of our previous meeting in September has been provided. There were 4 action points recorded, all of which have been completed <p>ACTIONS 1-3 were to share SFE and UKGBC roundtable summary notes, the customer journey for both the HES Loan and cashback schemes and the slide pack of the three presentations from the September meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The roundtable notes, HES loan and cashback scheme details and slide pack were emailed to all members on 16 September. <p>ACTION 4: members to consider and email the Secretariat with any further comments on the Terms of Reference for the Social Housing Sub-group and also with suggested candidates for membership of Social Housing Subgroup.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The suggested members have now been contacted and the first meeting will be held tomorrow. Further detail will be provided by the secretariat under the next agenda item; the secretariat update. Are we content with the summary note of the previous meeting? Having reviewed today's Agenda, would anyone like to declare a potential Conflict of Interest? I'll also take this opportunity to remind everyone that

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Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

	<p>they should raise any potential Conflicts of Interests during the meeting should the discussion require them to do so.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would also like to confirm agreement to the next set of sessions of the taskforce in 2023. As emailed to you, are we happy to pencil in the following dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wednesday 18 January, 10:00 – 12:00 ○ Wednesday 15 March, 10:00 – 12:00 ○ Wednesday 17 May, 10:00 – 12:00 ○ Wednesday 5 July, 10:00 – 12:00 ○ Wednesday 20 September, 10:00 – 12:00
10:10 – 10:20	<p>AGENDA ITEM 3: SECRETARIAT UPDATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite [redacted] to provide update
10:20 – 10:50	<p>AGENDA ITEM 4: PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION – PROPOSED HEAT IN BUILDINGS DOMESTIC REGULATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will now hear from [redacted] of the Heat in Buildings Domestic Regulations team at the Scottish Government, May I remind you again that this item will take place under Chatham House Rules and no minutes will be taken.
10:50 – 11:00	<p>AGENDA ITEM 5: PRESENTATION – SCOTTISH NON DOMESTIC BUILDINGS DATA, [redacted], SFT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite [redacted] to present the data and his analysis with respect to non-domestic building stock in Scotland.
11:00 – 11:10	<p>AGENDA ITEM 6: PRESENTATION – FINANCIAL MODELS FOR RETROFIT FOR NON-DOMESTIC BUILDINGS. EMMA HARVEY, GFI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite Emma to present on financial models for retrofit of non-domestic buildings.
11:10 – 11:20	<p>AGENDA ITEM 7: PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION – CURRENT NON –DOMESTIC AND SME SUPPORT, [redacted], SG</p>

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Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invite [redacted] to provide a summary of existing support provided by the Scottish Government for non-domestic / SME's as well as feedback from stakeholders.
11:20 – 11:55	AGENDA ITEM 8: GROUP DISCUSSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invite questions from the members on the presentations and comments on developing financial mechanisms.
11:55 – 12:00	AGENDA ITEM 9: JANUARY MEETING AND AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Today was a hugely useful and informative session. I would like to thank our speakers,• At our next meeting in January, we'll be focusing in on the challenges and barriers for place based solutions, where I will hand over the Chair responsibilities once more to the Minister. I look forward to seeing you all then.

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Annex D: Summary of Previous Meeting and Action Points on 7 Sept 2022

HEAT IN BUILDINGS: GREEN HEAT FINANCE TASKFORCE

Wednesday 7 September 2022, 10:00 – 12:00

Summary of Meeting and Action Points

Attendees:

- **Patrick Harvie MSP** – Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenant's Rights (Meeting Chair 11:00 – 12:00)
- **Sara Thiam** – Scottish Council for Development and Industry
- **Kirsty Hamilton** – Independent
- **Sandy MacDonald** – Scottish Financial Enterprise
- **Emma Harvey** – Green Finance Institute
- **Eddie McAvinchey** – Scottish National Investment Bank
- **Ian Cochran** – Edinburgh University Business School/Institute for Climate Economics
- **Rufus Grantham** – Bankers Without Boundaries
- **Simon McWhirter** - UK Green Building Council Scotland
- **Lewis Shand Smith** – Energy Consumers Commission
- **Andy Kerr** – Climate KIC
- **Sherina Peek** – Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers
- **Aaron Hill** – Scottish Federation of Housing Associations
- [redacted]– Heat in Buildings Division, Scottish Government (Meeting Chair 10:00 – 11:00)
- [redacted]– Heat in Buildings Division, Scottish Government

Secretariat:

- [redacted]– Heat in Buildings Division, Scottish Government
- [redacted]– Scottish Futures Trust, Net Zero Team
- [redacted]– Heat in Buildings Division, Scottish Government

Summary and Action Points

Item 1. Welcome and Apologies

1. The Chair welcomed members to the fifth meeting of the Green Heat Finance Taskforce. Apologies were received from Helen Melone of Scottish Renewables.

Item 2. Summary note and actions points from previous meeting, including member notification of any conflicts of interest

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Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

2. All members confirmed they were content with the Summary note and Action Points from the previous meeting. No conflicts of interest were raised. Members were reminded to raise any potential conflicts of interest during the meeting should the need arise.

Item 3. Secretariat Update –Scottish Government

3. [redacted] provided an update on recent stakeholder roundtable sessions with Scottish Financial Enterprise (SFE) Members and UK Green Building Council Scotland (UKGBCS) Members.

- SFE roundtable highlights included EPC resilience, the importance of education to support behaviour change both for building owners and the finance industry and SMART data. Suggestions included developing local place based solutions, a 'customer journey' pilot and collaboration with local authorities.
- Highlights from the UKGBCS roundtable included concerns relating to the capacity of the electricity network itself, asset ownership for district heating, retrofit costs for Net Zero as well as the behavioural shift needed for both investors and building occupiers. Suggestions included developing an app for retrofit and construction financial options, investigating a UK carbon offsetting construction scheme that was better suited to the commercial sector with revenue used to decarbonise hard-to-treat sectors and ensuring long term policy and capital availability to better match the aspirations of institutional investors.

ACTION 1: Secretariat to share notes of roundtable meetings with Taskforce members.

ACTION 2: Secretariat to share diagram of consumer journey for both HES Loan and Cash-Back Schemes and associated statistics with Taskforce members.

Item 4. Social Housing – Presentations

4. Three short presentations were provided to set the scene for group discussion on Social Housing:

- [redacted] of SG Heat in Buildings Social Housing Policy Team outlined SG's policy.
- Aaron Hill, Director of Policy and Membership from the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations, outlined his members' positions on retrofitting the social housing sector.

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- Sherina Peek, Policy Manager at the Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers, outlined her members' views on the scale of the challenge ahead, barriers and opportunities to financing and funding retrofitting of existing social housing in Scotland.

ACTION 3: Secretariat to share slide-pack of all three presentations by email.

Item 5: Group Discussion – Financing & Delivery for Social Housing

5. The group discussion was informed by a short presentation by [redacted] on the Zero Emissions Social Housing Taskforce recommendations and the Scottish Government's response to these. The establishment of the GHFT Social Housing sub-group to consider the actions relating to finance was discussed.

Item 6: Establishment of Social Housing Subgroup – Draft Terms of Reference

6. Members agreed that any remaining comments on the subgroup draft Terms of Reference and its final sign-off should be made by email correspondence to the Secretariat.

7. The Taskforce was also asked to consider suitable membership for the subgroup, and to email the Secretariat with any suggestions.

ACTION 4: members to consider and email the Secretariat with further comments on the draft Terms of Reference and to suggest candidates for membership of Social Housing Subgroup.

Item 7. November Meeting and AOB – Secretariat

8. The Secretariat reminded the Taskforce that the topic of the next meeting in November is non-domestic and SME buildings.

GHFT Secretariat
September 2022

PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

ANNEX E – HEAT IN BUILDINGS: BACKGROUND BRIEF

<p>TOP LINES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet our 2030 interim climate change target, at least one million Scottish homes and the equivalent of 50,000 non-domestic buildings will need to change their heating system to a zero direct emission one. • Scotland's Heat in Buildings Strategy, published in October 2021, outlines our ambitious programme to deliver these stretching goals. • We are creating a broad, coordinated package of policies and support programmes to deliver the change required. • We are boosting support through our long-standing programmes, which have already supported over 150,000 households in or at risk of fuel poverty. • We are stepping up our investment to accelerate deployment of heat and energy efficiency measures and to support those least able to pay – allocating at least £1.8 billion over the course of this Parliament. • The total cost of converting homes and buildings for net zero could be as much as £33 billion – hence the key role to be played by our Green Heat Finance Taskforce. • The Social Housing Sector will play a key role and has shown strong leadership on improving fabric energy efficiency, supporting tenants to reduce their energy bills, and deliver carbon savings. • To support social landlords continued investment in energy efficiency only works such as insulation, we have extended the funding for “Fabric First” projects to 30th March 2024. • We have also launched the Social Housing Net Zero Heat Development Fund to support Registered Social Landlords and Local Authorities develop zero emission heating projects and strategic plans ready for capital funding. • We will invest £200 million through the Social Housing Net Zero Heat Fund. • We aim to ensure that homes achieve a good level of energy efficiency by 2033 where technically feasible, equivalent to Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) C. • We will consult before bringing in regulations requiring homes to meet this standard. • We are committed to tackling the particularly low energy efficiency standards in the Private Rented Sector and will require this sector to be equivalent to EPC C by 2028. • Business Energy Scotland provide support and advice for all Scotland's commercial and industrial organisations. • We have launched Heat and Energy Efficiency Scotland to coordinate delivery and aid public understanding and awareness.
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Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will produce a Heat in Buildings supply chain action plan later this year, focused on ensuring industry can deliver at the pace and scale needed.• We estimate that an extra 16,400 jobs will be supported across the economy in 2030 due to the deployment of zero emissions heat.
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Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

ANNEX F– REGULATORY FRAMEWORK INCLUDING EPC REFORM UPDATE

<p>TOP LINES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Scottish Government is committed to introducing legislation (where possible and within our legal competence) to require that all homes reach equivalent to EPC C by 2033 and use zero direct emissions heating (and cooling) systems by 2045. • A domestic EPC is currently required whenever a dwelling is constructed, sold or let – this is a legal requirement flowing from the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, which remains in force in Scotland following EU Exit. • An EPC currently provides information about the energy efficiency of a dwelling. This includes ratings for running cost and carbon emissions, and recommendations for improvement. • The Climate Change Committee recommends we reform EPCs to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Remove the “perverse incentive” by changing the EPC rating away from the current cost based metric, which can lead to EPC ratings improving when a fossil fuel system like a gas boiler is fitted, but worsening when a zero emissions system like a heat pump is fitted. ○ “Ensur[e] EPCs drive deployment of the necessary energy efficiency measures” • We committed to reforming EPCs in the Heat in Building Strategy. Our Heat in Buildings Strategy states our commitment to achieving EPC C equivalent in all dwellings where cost effective and technically feasible. • We consulted last year on EPC reform. The focus of this consultation was the introduction of a new metric for energy efficiency. The majority of respondents agreed with our proposal. However, detailed feedback and further policy consideration suggests that the energy efficiency metric needs to be more directly focused on the fabric efficiency of the buildings, to make it more suitable as a basis for regulations. • We have therefore commissioned BRE to undertake research into a fabric-focused metric that would better align with SG energy efficiency policy and address stakeholder concerns. • Our proposed framework of regulations will be introduced in a way that is proportionate, considers the health and wellbeing of Scotland’s people, and is done in a way that helps eradicate poor energy efficiency as a driver for fuel poverty.
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PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS

Briefing for Sixth Meeting of Green Heat Finance Taskforce

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regulation will give certainty to building owners, financial institutions, utilities and the equipment / installer supply chain – requiring them to plan, finance and deliver new energy efficiency and ZEH measures in 2.8 million buildings.• The Heat Networks (Scotland) Act 2021 will help to accelerate the deployment of heat networks in Scotland through the introduction of regulations that will boost confidence in the sector and provide certainty for investors. The Act sets statutory heat network deployment targets, requiring 2.6 terawatt hours of output by 2027 and 6 terawatt hours by 2030. This is equivalent to the heat demand of 120,000 and 650,000 homes for 2027 and 2030 respectively.• The New Build Heat Standard proposes that all new building (domestic and non-domestic) warranted from April 2024 will be prohibited from installing direct emissions heating systems.• We are proposing a regulatory framework for non-domestic buildings in Scotland which will allow multiple routes to decarbonisation for the wide variety of building types and commercial activities within Scotland |
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MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:**PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS****Briefing for visit to Home Energy Scotland Advice Centre – Launch of Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan Scheme**

What	Visit to Home Energy Scotland South East Advice Centre
Where	Changeworks, 36 Newhaven Road, Edinburgh EH6 5PY
When	Wednesday 30 November 2022 12:15 – 13:15
Key Message(s)	See also Annex B for Top Lines Pleased to announce the launch of the PfG and Bute House Agreement commitment to replace the cashback element of the Home Energy Scotland funding offer with a standalone grant. This scheme delivers support to homeowners who want to install zero emissions heating in their homes and improve their energy efficiency.
Who	Energy Saving Trust [redacted] [redacted] Changeworks [redacted] Home Energy Scotland – South East [redacted] [redacted]
Why	To announce the launch of the PfG and Bute House Agreement commitment to replace the cashback element of the Home Energy Scotland funding offer with a standalone grant.
Expected outcome	Press coverage and public understanding of new support offering
Speech details	Short address announcing additional support to arranged press – Comms will confirm directly with PO.
Supporting officials	Lead Official - [redacted] Nominated Note Taker - [redacted]
Briefing contents	Annex A: Agenda and Sensitivities Annex B: Home Energy Scotland – Grant and Loan Scheme (including Q&A) Annex C: Home Energy Scotland Advice Network – Levels of Demand Winter 2022-23 Annex D: ECO+ Annex E: Speaking Note Annex F: Heat in Buildings FMQ Annex G: Attendees/Bios

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:

PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for visit to Home Energy Scotland Advice Centre – Launch of Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan Scheme

	Annex H: Background: Home Energy Scotland Annex I: Location
Media Handling	Comms Will Confirm Directly to PO. News Release and Social Media will be embargoed until 00:01 Friday 2 December.
Social Media	Comms to draft
Any Planned Industrial Action (Y/N)	N
Name of the Constituency MSP	Ben Macpherson
Name of Constituency	Edinburgh Northern and Leith
Name of Region	Lothian
Local MSP contacted (Y/N)	N
Greeting Party and specific meeting point on arrival (if event is at a non SG Building)	You will be greeted by [redacted]

Agenda and Sensitivities

AGENDA

- 12:15 **ARRIVAL – you will be met by [redacted]**
- 12:20 **Discussion with HES Advisors**
There are three main areas which HES Customer Advisors are dealing with:
- Customers worried about the cost of living and looking for financial help - either to stop them getting into debt or support to clear existing debt.
 - Customers looking at what they can do to improve their homes and make them cheaper to heat – leading to increase in WHS/Loan referrals.
 - Customers enquiring about renewables – typically Solar PV and battery storage, also heat pump enquiries.
- 12:50 **Press Arrive**
- 13:15 **DEPART**

SENSITIVITIES

This loan and grant scheme is administered through a contract with the Energy Savings Trust (EST) .The contract delivers support through a range of schemes including HES Loan and Grant and SME Loan/ Cashback.

The current contract is due to expire in May 2023. [redacted]

In order to comply with procurement regulations, Ministers and officials should not discuss the procurement or development of the successor contract with EST (or other external bodies). This is to prevent a potential competitive advantage for a potential supplier through the sharing of information relating to the new contract, for example the potential scope or policy changes which may affect the scheme.

Home Energy Scotland – Grant and Loan Scheme

TOP LINES

- The Heat in Buildings Strategy included a commitment to replace the current cashback arrangements of the Home Energy Scotland Loans and Cashback scheme with a standalone grant replacement to support energy efficiency and zero emission heating. This was also included in the Bute House Agreement and 2022-23 Programme for Government.
- The grant intends to offer a straight forward and accessible way to access targeted priority measures and give households the flexibility of accessing a grant, loan or combination of both.
- This scheme will deliver support to homeowners who want to install zero emissions heating and improve their energy efficiency in their homes.
- The new offer features a rural uplift, allowing rural households to access a higher level of grant in recognition of the higher installation costs in rural areas.
- Households can get up to £15,000 grant, or up to £18,000 in rural areas.
- The HES scheme provides a grant which can be taken on its own or alongside an interest free Home Energy Scotland Loan. This replaces the previous Home Energy Scotland Loan and Cashback offer, where the cashback element had to be taken in tandem with an interest free loan.
- The new HES scheme is part of an early delivery packaged from Heat & Energy Efficiency Scotland (HEES). It is being delivered by the Energy Saving Trust (EST) under contract with HEES.
- Fully funded support is also available to eligible homeowners through our fuel poverty schemes – Warmer Homes Scotland and local authority Area Based Schemes.

Aspects of the new scheme include:

- Up to £15,000 grant is available, or up to £18,000 in rural areas.
- Grant funding for heat pumps up to £7,500. The remainder of funding requested can be taken up as an optional interest-free loan.
- Grant funding for energy efficiency improvements – up to 75% of the combined cost of the improvements and up to the maximum grant amount of £7,500.
- A rural uplift of £1,500 to both the heat pump and energy efficiency grants. This uplift increases the heat pump grant flat rate and the maximum limit of the energy efficiency grant to £9,000.

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:

PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for visit to Home Energy Scotland Advice Centre – Launch of Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan Scheme

- Packages created to support the uptake of complementary measures, which when combined with suitable energy efficiency, make it possible to install zero emissions heating in more households.

Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan Scheme: Q&A

Q: How does the new scheme differ from the old one?

A: The Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan scheme provides a grant which can be taken on its own or alongside an interest free Home Energy Scotland Loan. This replaces the previous Home Energy Scotland Loan and Cashback offer, where the cashback element had to be taken in tandem with an interest free loan. This new scheme introduces more flexibility to applicants in the type of funding they can choose from.

The Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan scheme introduces a rural uplift to reflect the higher costs of measures in our rural areas.

The new scheme also introduces two support funding packages to drive uptake of low and zero emissions heating by supporting complementary measures."

Q: Why has the scheme changed?

A: Through the Heat in Buildings Strategy, the Scottish Government outlined the steps we will take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Scotland's homes, this included a commitment to replace the current cashback arrangements with a standalone grant replacement to support energy efficiency and zero emission heating. This was also included in the Bute House Agreement and 2022-23 Programme for Government.

The grant intends to offer a straight forward, flexible and accessible way to access targeted priority measures. "

Q: Why is there an additional grant for rural households?

A: The rural uplift is a recognition of the higher costs faced by rural households associated with the installation of measures (such as increased transportation costs, possible accommodation costs for installers, housing type amongst other reasons). The rural uplift aims to support rural applicants with these additional costs.

Through the Bute House Agreement, the Scottish Government committed to providing additional support for rural areas. The Heat in Buildings strategy highlights that fuel poverty is higher in remote rural areas (43%).

Q: Why were packages created to favour the particular combinations of improvement measures?

A: The packages were created to support the uptake of complementary measures, which when combined with suitable energy efficiency, make it possible to install zero emissions heating in more households.

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:

PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for visit to Home Energy Scotland Advice Centre – Launch of Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan Scheme

Q: What is the rationale for the high heat retention storage heaters package, and how will it be decided that this is a suitable option?

A: For both heat pump and electric heating funding packages, grant funding for solar PV and energy storage systems will be available when taken up as a package of measures including low carbon heating system. This encourages take up of low carbon heating by providing complimentary measures.

The recommendation report should state if this is a suitable option for a property or not.

Q: Why are gas boilers and gas connections no longer included? Is there any funding or loan available now to install a new boiler?

A: The Heat in Buildings Strategy, published in October 2021, outlines the steps we will take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Scotland's homes. It highlights that by 2030 at least 1 million homes will have to have switched to zero emissions heat.

This scheme delivers support to households who want to decarbonise heat in their homes and improve their energy efficiency and so loans for gas boilers and gas connections are no longer included. This does not prevent a householder from installing a new gas boiler outwith the scheme.

Our Heat in Buildings Strategy committed to taking forward actions only when they are not detrimental to our fuel poverty objectives. Gas boilers are still installed through our Warmer Homes Scotland scheme, which is targeted at those in or at risk of fuel poverty. "

Q: Is replacement/new gas central heating going to be withdrawn from Warmer Homes Scotland? and if so, when?

A: There are no plans to remove this from Warmer Homes Scotland. However, the scheme will prioritise zero emissions heating wherever possible.

The successor to Warmer Homes Scotland includes provision of gas boilers where installation of a low/ zero carbon heating system is not technically feasible or would increase running costs.

The Scottish Government reserves the right to alter any of its schemes.

Q: What is the rationale for the withdrawal of grant support for hybrid solar PV water heating?

A: Grant funding is being prioritised to increase energy efficiency and decarbonising heat of a property. As this measure does not contribute directly to heating a property, grant funding is not available.

Q. What about tenants? Why is the new scheme only for homeowners?

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A: The Scottish Government delivers a range of schemes to support energy efficiency improvements to households. For example, The Private Rented Sector Landlord Loan provides loan funding to enable landlords to improve the energy efficiency of their property and install zero emissions heating systems.

Q. How does this scheme relate/compare to the £1bn that the UKG has just announced this week?

A: The £1bn ECO+ scheme announced by The Department for Business, Energy, Industry and Skills (BEIS) this week is due to begin next spring will provide grant funded support for energy efficiency measures. The HES grant offer launched today is immediately available to householders in Scotland and provides grant funding for heat pumps as well as energy efficiency measures.

Scottish Ministers want ECO to be combined with our existing and successful Scottish schemes. £130m in extra funding from the UK Government to help insulate homes is welcome. But not more poor quality work and pointless red tape.

Q. How are you making sure that households can find reliable installers?

A: Applicants to the scheme should preferably use energy efficiency installers that are TrustMark registered however if they are unable to locate one in their local area a Green Deal certified installer may be used.

We recognise the need to increase the number of installers and are working with Energy Saving Trust and Trustmark on this issue, with a view to more installers becoming PAS 2030 certified and TrustMark registered.

Home Energy Scotland Advice Network – Levels of Demand Winter 2022-23

The following is a response from the Home Energy Scotland Advice network regarding exceptional demand during winter 2022-23:

Background Context:

Home Energy Scotland is taking unprecedented amounts of inbound advice requests (email and phone calls). The advice network has taken 30% more inbound advice requests and made 30% more outbound calls since 1 April 2022 compared to the same period last year. This is a significant increase, but there has also been significant variability in demand within this period which impacts the service; in September for example inbound activity was 58% higher than September 2021. Such peaks create queues in a system already working at capacity. There has also been a large increase in the numbers of households either in, or at risk of being in fuel poverty who are contacting the service. This poses an extra challenge as these types of enquiries require additional support time from advisors.

We have taken a number of steps already. We also propose further steps below; should demand remain high through the winter. We have also considered the following tests while considering any adaptations to the service:

Does the change

- preserve or strengthen advisor capacity?
- prioritise the most vulnerable?
- help enable as much support to as many households as possible?
- make an alteration that can be turned on/off rapidly?
- support advisor welfare despite the pressure?

Action already taken:

We have made considerable efforts to increase advisor capacity to respond to inbound advice requests. Some of the actions we have already taken are listed below:

- We have recruited additional advisors. At the end of September, the Home Energy Scotland network had 103 Full time equivalent advisors or senior advisors in comparison to 67 at the same point in the previous year (53% increase in advisor capacity in September). However, new advisors need to complete the advisor training and accreditation process and take a little while to gain the experience required to operate at the level of more experienced advisors.
- We have refined the accreditation process to enable faster accreditation of newly qualified advisors within the SQA process.
- We have developed a revised approach to our call handling model. This process focusses on tackling the key issue the customer is seeking support on. We then provide further follow up information on other areas that Home Energy Scotland can provide support on.

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- We have added an option to our telephone system so that customers who are simply seeking information on an existing loan or grant application have an alternative route to call.
- We have strengthened relationships with other key advice and support organisations so that customers whose issue can be more immediately addressed by other agencies (such as fuel bill issues) are signposted or referred to them more quickly. We have also strengthened messaging to partners who refer to us to reinforce this.
- We have provided a single landing page on the website which is regularly updated to enable customers who are able to go online to get easy access to the support that is available from a range of sources of support.
- We have developed an online self-assessment tool to enable customers who might qualify for Warmer Homes Scotland to provide the relevant data online, prior to a final check with an advisor.

Actions we still propose to take:

- Provide stronger, clearer messaging to partners and customers about current levels of demand on the service, call waiting and response times.
- Increase the role of online support through our tools and the website. This will include further strengthening the role of the website in supporting households who are able to self-serve with richer content online, supported by existing resources on the Energy Saving Trust website. Previously the Home Energy Scotland site has encouraged customers to contact our advisors.
- Reduce the times available for inbound callers to leave voicemail messages. This will increase the proportion of inbound calls advisors can respond to first time which is the most efficient way of operating and using advisor time. Home Energy Scotland currently offers voicemail and contact us forms to generate call-backs, and advisors operate from 08:00 to 20.30 weekdays and 09:00 to 17:30 Saturdays and Bank Holidays. This is a higher level of access than offered by many other advice organisations.
- Refine further - if needed - the Warmer Homes Scotland tool and enable it to take referral requests for the future programme from 1 February 2023.
- Provide direct dial numbers to Energycarers for key agencies and partners only.
- Allow advisors who are in training but not yet fully accredited to respond to some non-priority enquiries. This would be accompanied by fully qualified advisor mentoring and support. It will also enable more customers to be responded to first time and help to support and build advisor confidence and rapid qualification.
- Pause all non-core activity for advisors (for example Smart meter advice portal, transport and water efficiency, partnership events).
- Pause all new promotional activity generating additional demand on the service.

Specific questions on waiting times

How long on average are customers waiting for responses to calls/ online form queries?

- We track volumes of call-backs, the date of last interaction and the trend. Feedback from our Home Energy Scotland operations managers indicates this is five to ten working days. In some cases, this may be longer. We anticipate

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waiting times for call-backs reducing as more advisors come onstream and we put stronger messaging on our website and telephony systems.

How do you monitor if wait times are becoming excessive?

- We receive feedback from the centres on call queues and volumes on a weekly basis which we review in dashboard meetings with the advice centres. Queues often vary from one centre to another. When queued activity becomes excessive, we instruct the advice centre concerned to address it as a priority area. This can involve reallocating advisors, changing hours of working, if appropriate changing their call model which can help reduce the length of some phone calls, putting appropriate messaging on their telephony and investigating whether support is available from other advice teams across the network to help reduce call back queues. We also use overtime from advice teams where available to clear backlogs. Traditionally these methods have been sufficient. However, the current level of demand means we now need to increase the strength of messaging on our telephone system and website to encourage households to self-serve using our website where feasible. This messaging will also help to manage expectations in relation to response times and retain as much advisor capacity as possible to respond to vulnerable customers.

Do the advice centres have robust systems in place to ensure anyone who is promised a call back gets it and what is the current wait time for a call back?

- The advice centres spend a sizeable portion of advisor time making call backs. Our SLA is for three attempted call backs, although we are proposing to reduce this during ongoing current high demand to one or two, with a written response following an unsuccessful first call-back attempt. The percentage of successful call-backs is typically 30% so in prioritisation and efficiency terms it is most productive to reduce call back attempts and enable more advisor resource to be dedicated to responding to inbound calls. This allows us to respond to more customers overall.

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ECO+

- ECO is a UKG programme to deliver energy efficiency measures in homes across Great Britain. The scheme aims to help people to reduce the cost of heating their homes to comfortable levels and reducing energy usage.
- ECO is funded through a charge on the energy bills of all customers of regulated energy companies (currently those with over 250,000 customers).
- Energy suppliers meet the obligation by funding domestic energy efficiency measures. The scheme is based upon regulations and Ofgem guidance.
- ECO+ will be worth an extra £1 billion on top of planned ECO4 investments (ECO4 is the current scheme that started in August).
- UKG propose to allocate an extra £130 million in ECO finance from April 2023 and £435 million to each of the second and third years.
- UKG propose to extend eligibility for insulation measures to more households living in properties with an EPC rating of D or below; that are also in Council Tax band A-D (A-E in Scotland).
- UKG will fund this through the Energy Price Guarantee in Year 1, it is not clear whether energy bills will rise due to ECO+ from April 2024.
- Insulation measures for non fuel poor households will not need to be delivered to BSI standards for retrofit (PAS 2035/PAS 2030).
- ECO+ will provide no more than £5000 for hard to treat properties (solid wall)
- Funding for loft and cavity wall insulation may fully meet delivery costs.
- ECO+ delivery will be easier and less expensive for energy suppliers.
- Funding for ECO+ or the ECO4 scheme cannot be combined with other public funding (i.e. SG grants or loans) for the same measure, such as insulation.

TOP LINES

- £130m in extra funding from the UK Government to help insulate homes is welcome. But not more poor quality work and pointless red tape.
- We have proposed a more flexible approach for Scotland using our devolved powers and building upon our award winning approach.
- These schemes are funded by Scottish taxpayers and Scottish bill payers.
- ECO delivery should be decided in Scotland as the Smith Commission promised.

Speaking note

- Thank you to the Home Energy Scotland Advice Centre for welcoming me once again to the Centre for the launch of the Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan Scheme. I have visited here a number of times now and am always impressed to see the hard work and dedication of the Advisors when speaking to customers. I thank them for everything they are doing during this difficult time.
- Our Heat in Buildings Strategy, outlines the steps we are taking to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Scotland's homes, and we have committed to allocating at least £1.8 billion over the course of this Parliament.
- The Grant scheme was a key commitment in our Heat in Buildings Strategy, Programme for Government and the 2021 agreement between the Scottish Government and Scottish Green MSPs.
- If we are to encourage as many households as possible to change to zero emissions heating and make their homes as energy efficient as possible then we need to provide as much support as we possibly can.
- And that is why I am delighted to launch this new scheme – as it does exactly that. It offers homeowners the flexibility of a grant, loan or combination of both, as well as the incentive of a grant of

up to £7500 for a heat pump and a further £7500 for energy efficiency measures.

- In recognition of the higher costs faced by rural households associated with the installation of measures, we have introduced an uplift of £1500 to both the heat pump and energy efficiency grants. This uplift increases both the heat pump grant and the maximum limit of the energy efficiency grant to £9,000 each.
- So households will be able to apply for up to £15,000 grant in total, or up to £18,000 in remote areas.
- This new grant scheme, being launched today, is part of the wider delivery landscape, that Heat & Energy Efficiency Scotland (HEES) will oversee as we scale up delivery of climate-friendly heating and improve energy efficiency across Scotland's homes and buildings.
- Heating our homes and workplaces causes 20% of Scotland's emissions – we simply cannot achieve the net-zero target that Parliament agreed to without ending our use of fossil fuel heating. Reducing emissions from our homes and buildings is one of the most important things we can do to help end Scotland's contribution to climate change.
- The increased allocation of funds, as well as the targeted support available for homes in remote areas, show that the Scottish Government is still very much committed to reducing the effects that heating our buildings has on the environment.

Heat in Buildings - FMQ

Heating our homes and workplaces causes 20% of Scotland's emissions – we simply cannot achieve the net-zero target that Parliament agreed to without ending our use of gas boilers.

- Meeting our 2030 interim climate change target will need at least one million Scottish homes to change their heating system for a zero-carbon one.
- That is why we will consult on a Heat in Buildings Bill to drive the decarbonisation of Scotland's homes and buildings.
- We are committed to phasing out the need to install new or replacement fossil fuel boilers, in off-gas from 2025 and in on-gas areas from 2030, and to requiring improvements in the energy efficiency of Scotland's building stock.
- It has never been more important to make these changes – it is only through moving to cleaner heating systems and improving energy efficiency standards that we can end our reliance on fossil fuels and deliver enduring savings for homes and businesses.
- Regulations will be introduced in a way that is proportionate, considers the health and wellbeing of Scotland's people, and helps eradicate poor energy efficiency as a driver for fuel poverty.
- We are stepping up our investment to accelerate deployment of heat and energy efficiency measures and to support those least able to pay – allocating at least £1.8 billion over the course of this Parliament.
- In The Times, (18 Nov 2022) Lucy Yu, chief executive of the Centre for Net Zero, said [QUOTE]: "Holyrood has demonstrated an understanding of the action needed for meaningful change and to deliver climate obligations"

More action by the UK Government to help insulate homes is welcome, but not yet more complex rules, poor quality work and pointless red tape.

- We have proposed a more flexible approach for Scotland using our devolved powers and building upon our award winning approach.
- These schemes are funded by Scottish taxpayers and Scottish bill payers.
- They should be decided in Scotland as the Smith Commission promised.

SUPPLY CHAIN AND SKILLS

Supporting Scotland's current and future workforce to develop the skills needed for the net zero transition is a priority for this government.

- We recognise the need to continue our support for skills and training to successfully develop key sectors such as the green heat sector, it is vital that the supply chain is equipped with the necessary skills and qualifications to provide a high-quality service to consumers.
- Our new Heat in Buildings Supply Chains Delivery Plan, backed by a new £17.6m Green Heat Innovation Support Programme, sets out the practical steps that we will take to support the growth of the green heat sector to ensure the right people, skills and technology are in place to make homes and buildings warmer, greener and cheaper to run.
- Key commitments include our review of support for green skills and training; our investment in a new mobile training centre for heat pump installation; and, a new

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programme of industry engagement with a focus on working with installers in the heat and energy efficiency supply chain.

- We said in the recent Programme for Government that we will consult on a Heat in Buildings Bill to drive the decarbonisation of Scotland's homes and buildings.

We have not cut support for households or businesses. I urge all those struggling with their bills to contact Home Energy Scotland and Business Energy Scotland to access advice and support.

- Our Emergency Budget Review reviewed all devolved spending planned for 2022-23. It made revisions to budget allocations for some demand-led heat and energy efficiency grant schemes as a result of lower than forecasted uptake.
- Households can now access grants of up to a maximum of £7,500 for heat pumps and £7500 at a grant rate of 75% for energy efficiency measures. Loans are available as well as grants to cover additional costs.
- This grant offer includes a rural uplift of £1,500 to both the heat pump and energy efficiency grants. This uplift increases the heat pump grant flat rate and the maximum limit of the energy efficiency grant to £9,000.
- We have also recently launched a renewed public awareness / marketing campaign for our Home Energy Scotland and Warmer Homes Scotland schemes.
- This campaign, which will run in bursts over eight weeks between now and January, will be amplified by stakeholders and partners and have a primary focus on targeting those in fuel poverty.
- SME businesses are eligible for advice and support through Business Energy Scotland to implement energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation measures – reducing carbon emissions, cutting running costs and increasing competitiveness.
- SMEs can receive up to £130,000 worth of funding to install energy efficiency, renewable heating and other renewable technologies via the SME Loan and Cashback Scheme.

We have boosted the capacity available through our support and advice schemes this year.

- Earlier this year, we committed to expanding the Home Energy Scotland advice service by 20%. HES now has the capacity to advise over 130,000 households this year - an increase of around 13,500 on 2021-22.
- We have increased the support available to SMEs via Business Energy Scotland by investing an additional £300K in the advice service to boost capacity.
- We have also increased the funding available in the SME Loan scheme where SMEs can now apply for a £20,000 cashback grant for energy efficiency measures up to 75% of the cost of the installation.
- We have widened access to the Warmer Homes Scotland scheme by updating the eligibility criteria, allowing a further 100,000 households to become eligible.
- The scheme delivers a range of energy efficiency and heating measures, with a bespoke package of primarily grant funded measures for eligible households.
- Households who receive improvements through Warmer Homes Scotland are expected to save an average of £230 per year on their energy bills
- We remain committed to our current plans, which show a 27% increase across energy programmes next year, and will continue to deliver a range of measures to tackle fuel poverty and deliver new green heat and energy efficiency projects.

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- Our new virtual agency, Heat & Energy Efficiency Scotland, will accelerate transformational change in how we heat our homes and buildings – co-ordinating investment, aiding public understanding and acting as a Centre of Expertise.

Our Heat in Buildings strategy sets out the principles we will apply to guide all our programmes of support to ensure that people are not pushed into fuel poverty as we decarbonise homes.

- Our Warmer Homes Scotland and Area-Based Schemes already deliver retrofit to thousands of people who really need it every year, helping them keep their homes warm and their bills affordable.
- The UK Government has soft-pedalled on support for energy efficiency and is only now catching up with the approach we have here in Scotland.
- Our Home Energy Scotland service and dedicated fuel poverty schemes already offer significantly more support to households than is available in England.
- Households can now access grants of up to a maximum of £7,500 for heat pumps and £7500 at a grant rate of 75% for energy efficiency measures. Loans are available as well as grants to cover additional costs.
- This grant offer includes a rural uplift of £1,500 to both the heat pump and energy efficiency grants. This uplift increases the heat pump grant flat rate and the maximum limit of the energy efficiency grant to £9,000.
- A successor to the Warmer Homes Scotland scheme is due to launch in July 2023, after the current scheme expires. The successor scheme will have a higher grant limit per household than the current scheme.
- This successor scheme will provide scope to increase the number of households supported annually, and the capability to install the robust fabric installation measures needed to support lower carbon heating systems.
- In The Warren Report, (Jul/Aug 2022) Andrew Warren, chairman of the British Energy Efficiency Federation said [QUOTE]: “My advice to Whitehall is simple. Whether you take the high road or you take the low road, you had best be copying Scotland’s initiatives.”

COST OF THE HEAT TRANSITION

We continue to work with stakeholders and partners on other ways to support people and businesses through this transition.

- The public sector alone can't and shouldn't bear the full cost of converting homes and buildings. Our Green Heat Finance Taskforce will recommend ways to increase individual and private-sector investment.
- The Taskforce will make recommendations in 2023 on the range of approaches that the Scottish Government - working in collaboration with the private sector - should bring forward to support the scaled growth in private capital.

SUPPORT FOR HOUSEHOLDS

Our commitment to invest at least £1.8bn over this parliament will help kick-start growth in the market and support those least able to pay. This includes:

- At least £465m to support those least able to pay, delivered through our Warmer Homes Scotland and Area Based schemes.
- £300m for Scotland's Heat Network Fund.
- £200m Social Housing Net Zero Heat Fund, investing in a sector already leading the way in the heat transition.

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- £200m Scottish Green Public Sector Estate Scheme, supporting leadership for energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation right across the public sector.

Our commitment to regulation will ensure that homes are warmer and more efficient – backed by our commitment to increase financial support and advice.

- The Scottish Government is committed to introducing regulations (where possible within our legal competence) to require that all homes use zero emissions heating (and cooling) systems by 2045.
- Subject to consultation, these regulations will apply at certain trigger points (with point of sale being considered), with a backstop of 2045 for all remaining homes.
- We will be consulting on these proposals for zero emission heat standards in the coming year, and will introduce primary legislation thereafter (subject to limits on devolved competence) that will provide the regulatory framework for zero emissions heating and energy efficiency, and underpinning powers to support this transition and ambitious programme.

A JUST TRANSITION

We aim to make sure that the heat transition happens in a way that protects those who need it most, and leaves no-one behind.

- A just transition means sharing the benefits of climate action widely while ensuring the costs are distributed fairly.
- This means households, organisations and businesses who have the means will share some of the costs, particularly where they benefit directly.
- We continue to call on the UK Government to cut VAT on energy bills, urgently review the social and environmental policy costs levied on energy bills and go further to provide targeted, direct support to consumers most in need.

We will ensure the transition to energy efficient, zero emissions buildings is delivered to appropriate quality standards.

- Our quality assurance statement sets out the standards, skills and certifications required for installers for Scottish Government schemes, proposing ways to tackle scams and mis-selling, and to improve public engagement.
- We are developing a Scottish Trustmark scheme which will enable households and landlords to access approved suppliers.
- We will work with the British Standards Institute to ensure standards and best practice are right for Scotland's buildings, weather and other environmental factors.

Gas policy and regulation are reserved to the UK Government, which does not expect to make a decision on hydrogen before 2026.

- Our Heat in Buildings Strategy sets out the potential for hydrogen to replace natural gas in some parts of the gas grid. We are exploring where in Scotland hydrogen might ultimately be most appropriate for heating.
- UK Government decisions on the use of 100% hydrogen in the gas grid are expected by 2026 but we need to act now to meet our 2030 emissions target.
- As well as gas blending, we expect to see some parts of the gas grid converted to 100% hydrogen in the 2030s, in some parts of the country.
- While our Hydrogen Action Plan supports this approach, we do not consider that hydrogen will play a central role in the overall decarbonisation of heat.

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NEED FOR UKG ACTION

Whilst clarity on how support will continue for domestic consumers beyond April 2023 in the Autumn budget is welcome, the (average) £3,000 that they will be expected to pay is unsustainable for many households.

- From April 2023, the UK Government will adjust the EPG so a typical household will pay £3,000 on average until April 2024. This is a £500 increase compared to the current price cap, and about £2,000 higher than April 2021 levels.
- We have repeatedly called for additional help for vulnerable consumers, and for many households across Scotland that are already struggling, the £500 increase in the Energy Price Guarantee will be unsustainable.
- Raising the price cap by £500 to an average £3,000 in such a short period of time will push many households into fuel poverty and extreme fuel poverty.
- We also need further certainty on support for businesses from April 2023 after the Energy Bill Relief Scheme ends.

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Briefing for visit to Home Energy Scotland Advice Centre – Launch of Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan Scheme

Annex G

Attendees/ Bios

EST

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

HES advisors – names to be confirmed on day

Background: Home Energy Scotland

- Home Energy Scotland (HES) is the primary channel in Scotland for fuel poverty, energy and carbon-saving messages and advice and support to consumers and householders.
- HES has given advice to over half a million households over the past five years.
- £280,000 has been made available to expand the Home Energy Advice Service until March 2023. This was an underspend from the 20% uplift awarded earlier in the year, due to recruitment difficulties in a challenging labour market and estimated costs being revised down slightly. This funding is being used to expand the service's capacity even further in Q3 & Q4 when the cost of living crisis looks set to worsen.
- £198,000 has been made available to recruit 5 Home Energy Scotland Outreach Officers and an outreach coordinator - as the fuel price crisis deepens, Home Energy Scotland (HES) is receiving increasing numbers of enquiries from third sector organisations for training on how to help their clients reduce costs and improve energy efficiency.
- HES is providing further outreach training for these organisations in addition to what it already delivers. This additional funding will free up HES staff capacity, including advisors currently used to provide the training and therefore protect advice service capacity.
- The training required can be provided by trainers and outreach workers who do not have HES adviser training. HES is recruiting five outreach staff to engage with voluntary sector and community groups to train them to provide basic energy advice for households contacting them and enabling them to make high quality referrals of clients to HES where deeper advice and support is needed.
- At least 200 local voluntary sector and community groups will be supported via this funding.

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Annex I

Location

Changeworks,
36 Newhaven Road,
Edinburgh
EH6 5PY

There is onsite bike parking outside the Changeworks office. Alternatively the number 11 bus goes from York Place in central Edinburgh and stops outside the Changeworks office. There is also on street parking available on Newhaven Road.



MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for ATTP Leadership and Engagement Workshop

What	Active Travel Transformation: Leadership and Engagement Workshop
Where	COSLA - 19 Haymarket Yards, Edinburgh EH12 5BH
When	Date: Wednesday 16 November Time: 0930 - 1230 (0955 – 1005: Minister's Opening Remarks)
Key Message(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Government is strongly committed to investing in Active Travel to deliver our vision that Scotland's communities are shaped around people, with walking, wheeling and cycling the most popular choice for shorter everyday journeys. • Scottish Government continues to increase investment to record levels so that we can develop a fully sustainable and integrated transport network for Scotland, promoting modal shift by encouraging people to think about how they make their journeys and supporting our climate change challenges. • The Transformation Project is a vital part of ensuring that our funding and policy ambitions are matched by the scale and pace of delivery.
Who	<p>The session will be opened by Patrick Harvie MSP, with presentations from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jon Burke, Climate Change and Decarbonisation Lead - Gloucester City Council; and • Lee Craigie, Ambassador for Active Travel. <p>Patrick Harvie MSP, Jon Burke, Lee Craigie, and Cllr Angus Millar (GCC, SNP) will take part in a panel discussion. See Annex C for topics.</p> <p>Cllr Gail MacGregor (D&G, Conservative) will provide closing remarks.</p> <p>See Annex D for confirmed workshop attendees – Councillors, senior council officers, and Active Travel Delivery Partners.</p>
Why	<p>The purpose of the Leadership and Engagement workshop is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine coordination at a local, regional and national level including consideration of: good practice on local / community engagement; • Bring together useful approaches and perspectives to resolving challenges to AT delivery at a local level; • Links to the wider context; political support; promotion, messaging and demonstration of associated benefits; the role and impact of ambitious projects. • Resolving these issues are considered a key part of fulfilling the Project's remit to deliver Active Travel infrastructure at pace and scale.

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Briefing for ATTP Leadership and Engagement Workshop

<i>Expected outcome</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased political buy-in for active travel in Scotland • Improved knowledge across delivery partners of how to practically navigate persistent barriers to delivery, particularly around engaging communities.
<i>Supporting officials</i>	<p>[Redacted] Active Travel Transformation Project (mob: [REDACTED])</p> <p>[Redacted] Active Travel Transformation Project (mob: [REDACTED])</p>
<i>Comms</i>	Social media
<i>Briefing contents</i>	<p>Annex A: Agenda and Biographies</p> <p>Annex B: Project and Workshop – Background and Key Themes</p> <p>Annex C: Panel Questions, defensive lines for Q&A, breakout topics</p> <p>Annex D : Attendees</p>

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS
Briefing for ATTP Leadership and Engagement Workshop**

ANNEX A

AGENDA

0930 – Arrival

0945 – Clare Reid - Welcome, short overview, and introduction to Mr Harvie

0955 – Mr Harvie - Opening Remarks (10 minutes)

1005 – Jon Burke – ‘Demand-side policies for enabling Active Travel’ (10 minutes)

1015 – Presentation – Lee Craigie – ‘Letting Go Of What You Think You Know - The Power of Participative Democracy’ (10 minutes)

1025 – Panel Discussion chaired by Clare Reid - Challenges and Resolutions (30 minutes) – Patrick Harvie MSP, Cllr Angus Millar, Lee Craigie, Jon Burke. Followed by Q&A from audience.

1045 – Coffee & tea break (30 minutes)

1115 – Return and Breakouts – sharing experiences around 6 tables broken up by themes (30 mins)

1210 – Plenary from breakouts

1220 – Cllr MacGregor – Closing remarks, next steps, and thanks (5 minutes)

1225 – Close

The Minister is invited to take the opportunity to hear contributions from the speakers and to take part in the panel discussion per the agenda above, before joining a table for breakout discussion.

Clare Reid, Director of Policy and Public Affairs at the Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI) will again be facilitating on the day.

Lee Craigie will be talking about values-led decision making, her passion for engaging with seldom-heard parts of the community and how active travel can work for them

Jon Burke will speak about his experience of delivering ambitious transformative infrastructure while navigating motivated opposition and how to enable AT through wider, demand-side policies.

Cllr MacGregor will draw the session to a close at 1220. Officials will be on hand to advise on closing remarks.

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BIOGRAPHIES

Jon Burke MIEMA CEnv

Jon is a chartered environmentalist and a member of the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment. He has over a decade of experience working on decarbonisation, both as an official and an elected representative. He is currently the Decarbonisation Lead for Gloucester City Council, and was formerly responsible for delivering a large number of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and School Street schemes in the London Borough of Hackney. He tweets regularly under [@jonburkeUK](https://twitter.com/jonburkeUK)



Lee Craigie

Scotland's Ambassador for Active Travel, former professional mountain bike racer and director of the Adventure Syndicate. Lee studied outdoor education and later child and adolescent psychotherapy before becoming a full time mountain bike racer. She became the British Mountain Bike Champion in 2013, member of Team GB at World and European Championships, and represented Scotland at the 2014 Commonwealth Games. She was appointed Active Nation Commissioner for Scotland in 2018, inspiring, encouraging and enabling others to consider the emotional and physical benefits to be gained from being everyday active. In June 2022 as an evolution of that role, she agreed to continue to support active travel transformation for 15 more months, focusing on public engagement, access to bikes, and providing an independent perspective on progress.



Councillor Angus Millar.

Glasgow City Council's City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery (Glasgow City – Anderston/City/Yorkhill Ward; Scottish National Party).

Angus Millar has served as a Scottish National Party Councillor, serving the Anderston / City / Yorkhill Wards in Glasgow City since 2016. He is currently Glasgow's Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery. He leads on the city's journey to Net Zero, promoting sustainability and a just transition to a greener economy, and developing the city's transport strategies.

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Councillor Gail Macgregor

COSLA Spokesperson – Environment and Economy (Dumfries & Galloway – Annandale North Ward; Scottish Conservative and Unionist)

Gail Macgregor has served as a Conservative Councillor, serving the Annandale North Ward in Dumfries and Galloway since 2007. She previously served as COSLA's Resource Spokesperson before being appointed to the role of Environment and Economy Spokesperson at COSLA's Convention in June 2022.

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ANNEX B

ACTIVE TRAVEL TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

Background

The Active Travel (AT) budget has been growing year on year since its inception, doubling to £80m pa in 2018/19, and currently £150m pa in 2022/23. The budget is mainly distributed through annual grant funding to a number of partner organisations that are specialists in the delivery and project management of walking and cycling infrastructure, behaviour change programmes and access to bikes. These partner organisations include not only bodies who deliver AT schemes directly, but also those who fund and support third party organisations to deliver AT schemes.

The Bute House Agreement committed to increase the AT budget to at least £320m pa, or 10% of the total transport budget, by 2024/25. In this context, and the agreed need to evolve to deliver the AT agenda, there is consensus that existing AT delivery models will not be scalable, nor in many cases suitable.

It is therefore a critical moment if we are to realise our shared vision for AT - that Scotland's communities are shaped around people, with walking or cycling the most popular choice for shorter everyday journeys – and the long term outcomes designed to drive its delivery - with the rationale for transformational change in delivery accepted, both within SG and across stakeholders.

The Active Travel Transformation Project has been created to maximise the opportunities in AT delivery presented by increased budgetary commitments, for the most effective and efficient achievement of AT outcomes. Delivered across two phases, the Project is currently nearing the end of its evaluation and assessment phase,

Leadership and Engagement Workshop

The Project is being delivered across five pillars aligned with our Active Travel vision:

- Innovation and Exemplar Activity
- Capacity and Capability
- **Leadership and Engagement**
- Funding Design and Governance
- Legislative Enablers/ Barriers

Each pillar will be the subject of at least one workshop-style session. Given the subject matter, it is intended that the two remaining workshops will be smaller in profile from those previously delivered, with key stakeholder attendance only.

The high-level objectives for the workshops are to:

- inform the evidence-base behind any proposals for an alternative system for Active Travel delivery in Scotland to help realise our Active Travel vision; and
- help provide criteria against which these proposals may be evaluated.

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This workshop will be attended by both senior officers and elected members, and will:

- Focus on **leadership and engagement**;
- Examine coordination at a local, regional and national level including consideration of: good practice on local / community engagement;
- Bring together useful approaches and perspectives to resolving challenges to AT delivery at a local level;
- Links to the wider context; political support; promotion, messaging and demonstration of associated benefits; the role and impact of ambitious projects;
- Consider current **engagement** activities at local level and how it could be improved and increased.

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ANNEX C

Question topics for Panel discussion – these questions have been provided to facilitator Clare Reid (SCDI)

Question #1 - I think it is fair to say that everyone here today is interested in changing the status quo. With the car widely seen as the default, how can we better normalise everyday walking, wheeling and cycling across Scotland?

- Getting more people walking wheeling and cycling is a long term vision of the Scottish Government. To do this, we need people to feel safe, we need to feel confident, and as Jon said earlier, I think we need to look at ways to get people out of their cars.
- Providing safe infrastructure is the way in which we help people move around with confidence – high quality networks of segregated infrastructure.
- Cycling is also a life skill, which is why it is so important to provide children with the skills they need to cycle safely from an early age. In the coming years we will continue to expand Bikeability Scotland so that every child can leave school equipped to make the most of the new facilities in our towns and cities.
- Cycling should be for everyone, and removing the barrier to accessing a bike in an affordable way is also key to growth, which is why inclusion is at the heart of our Active Travel response in Scotland. There is a notable split in cycling participation which exists at a gender and socio-economic level and we need to do more on this to make active travel the default choice for short trips.
- Walking, wheeling and cycling are also often just one part of a multi modal journey and we need to recognise that in prioritising active travel investment. We will continue to work with operators and local authorities to ensure that active travel facilities are prioritised.
- The Scottish Government has been working for a number of years with industry partners to boost rail and cycling integration, by improving facilities for cyclists, including providing more space for bikes on trains, backed by better signage for travellers.
- And there are a variety of initiatives that, taken together, are improving safety around our schools: from behaviour change initiatives like those delivered by Living Streets and Sustrans to encourage safe, active journeys to school; to 20mph zones in the surrounding areas of schools, and both temporary and permanent changes to infrastructure. The pavement parking ban due to come into effect at the end of next year will also help to provide safer walking and cycling space for anyone wanting to make everyday journeys by foot and on their bike.

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Question #2 - Active Travel is often seen as distinct from the rest of transport. For example, we often hear about the Active Travel budget and the Transport budget as two separate items. Do you consider this a help or hindrance, and why?

- As I have ministerial responsibility for Active Travel, I'm going to say that I believe it helps!
- More seriously though, the distinction in my case makes a lot of sense because we have such a long way to go.
- In the first half of the twentieth century, you'd often find more people riding their bikes than you would driving a car. History shows us there is no fundamental or systemic reason why we can't return to this sort of arrangement.
- But we've spent the last 60 or 70 years giving primacy to the motor-vehicle, at great cost.
- So until we start to approach a place where walking, wheeling and cycling have real parity with other modes of travel, I think it is only right that there is a distinct and driven focus on active travel.

Question #3 - Making changes and reallocating road space for more sustainable modes often surfaces strong opinions, both for and against. What advice do you have for people here today having to navigate that experience?

- I mentioned earlier today places like Copenhagen and Amsterdam, and how these are places loved and enjoyed by both their residents and visitors from all over the world, including from Scotland.
- Looking at Amsterdam, for example, is always interesting. If you were to look at a picture of Amsterdam in the 60s, excepting perhaps the canals, it could be any city here in Scotland.
- Streets dominated by traffic and parked cars, with walking, wheeling and cycling pushed to the margins and minimalized.
- It was the fact that the Netherlands had the highest child mortality from traffic collisions that helped drive them to such transformative change. Incidentally, the oil crisis of the 70s was another structural issue that drove change there too.
- That change process was not easy. It was opposed fiercely by some but the decision-makers of that time, **and in the decades since**, have built and delivered mandates for active travel.
- **They are now reaping the benefits of that strong leadership across municipal and national levels of government.**
- And the same sorts of experiences can be found in other cities like Copenhagen
- I think we are in the early days of that process here in Scotland. There are strong opinions and difficult experiences that we as decision makers need to navigate – but it is absolutely vital that we keep our focus on the horizon and remind ourselves of why we are doing this and what is up for grabs if we do it well.

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DEFENSIVE LINES FOR Q&A

The funding of organisations throughout Scotland, including Local Authorities.

Lines to Take

- Multi-year funding has featured heavily in discussions with stakeholders and delivery partners through the Active Travel Transformation Project, with a recent survey of delivery partners identifying **single year funding** as one of the highest priority challenges faced by organisations trying to scale-up.
- In terms of respondents' ambition, and the degree to which Local Authorities have developed a pipeline or programme of projects, many pointed to a lack of multi-year funding as a barrier to this, and the challenges it can pose to securing long-term staffing resource.
- The Programme for Government for this year has committed to considering multi-year funding, and such discussions are underway.
- However, this is a complex issue in the context of unprecedented uncertainty stemming from the wider fiscal context and increasing budgetary pressures, as well as lack of clarity of our funding allocations due to delays in UK fiscal statements.
- We have significantly increased our funding to local authorities, for example with a record £35m for Cycling and Walking Safer Routes this year, with an additional direct resource pot of funding of £2m that goes directly to the authorities.
- Places for Everyone, the NCN and the Ian Findlay Paths Fund are all available to local groups to draw down funding and progress their own infrastructure projects.
- It is important we don't forget the crucial role of behaviour change programmes as well, and the benefits that can be delivered for example through those programmes managed by Living Streets, Cycling Scotland, Cycling UK, Sustrans and Paths for All.
- Taken together, these delivery partners and their respective programmes offer a wide range of choice for organisations looking to enhance the active travel offering in their community.

Questions for Workshop Discussion

- **Table 1 – What actions would make Active travel more attractive?**
- **Table 2 – How do we achieve meaningful and representative community consultation?**
- **Table 3 – Working across local, regional, national levels – how can we create greater benefits from co-ordination?**
- **Table 4 – Navigating controversy**
- **Table 5 –Communicating the benefits for everyone**
- **Table 6 – Better integration of Active Travel across my area**

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Each table will be asked the following questions:

1. What is working well in Leadership/Engagement? What are the examples of good practice? What do we want to avoid? (20 min)
2. In what (specific) ways in my authority could we improve leadership and engagement? What are the enablers/barriers? (30 min) Include examples of good practice from Scotland or elsewhere
3. Prioritise these for action highlighting any quick wins (10 min)

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ANNEX D

ATTENDEES

Confirmed attendees accurate as of 10 November (total - 39).

Name	Area	Role
Miranda Radley	Aberdeen City	Councillor (SNP)
William Hekelaar	Aberdeen City	Officer
Colin Young	Argyll and Bute	Officer
Robin Currie	Argyll and Bute	Councillor (Lib Dem)
Fiona Law	Clackmannanshire	Councillor (SNP)
Iain McDonald	Clackmannanshire	Officer
Jule Bandel	City of Edinburgh	Councillor (Green)
John Campbell	Dumfries and Galloway Council	Councillor (SNP)
Gail Macgregor	Dumfries and Galloway Council	Councillor (Conservative)
Anthony Topping	Dumfries and Galloway Council	Officer
James Mullen	Dundee	Officer
Mark Flynn	Dundee	Councillor (SNP)
Pamela Marshall	East Dunbartonshire	Councillor (SNP)
Alison Laurence	East Dunbartonshire	Officer
Shona McIntosh	East Lothian	Councillor (Green)
Chris Milne	East Lothian	Officer
Ian Lennock	East Lothian	Officer
Paul Garner	Falkirk	Councillor (SNP)
Lynn Slavin	Falkirk	Officer
Angus Millar	Glasgow	Councillor (SNP)
Christine Francis	Glasgow	Officer
Ranald Robertson	Hitrans	Officer
Gail Macfarlane	Inverclyde	Officer
Bruce Kiloh	SPT	Officer
Ronald Fisher	West Lothian	Officer
Rab Dickson	Nestrans	Officer
Susan McDougall	North Lanarkshire	Officer
Ben Wilson	Perth and Kinross	Officer
Elliot Williamson	Perth and Kinross	Officer
Robina Barton	Shetland	Officer
Maureen Devlin	South Lanarkshire	Councillor (Labour)
Mark Speed	Tactran	Officer
Neil MacRae	Transport Scotland	Officer

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Luke Macauley	Transport Scotland	Officer
Eachann Gillies	Transport Scotland	Officer
Bettina Sizeland	Transport Scotland	Officer
Rosie Leslie	Transport Scotland	Officer
Clara Vergez	Transport Scotland	Officer
Tom Conn	West Lothian	Councillor (Labour and Cooperative)

SPEAKING NOTE – 10 minutes

Introduction

- Welcome to attendees and thanks to colleagues at COSLA for their efforts in helping to develop this workshop and for hosting us here today. I am very much looking forward to today's session.
- I'm delighted to be overseeing the largest ever budget for active travel in Scotland's history and a step on the way to our commitment to allocate £320m or 10% of Scotland's transport budget to walking, wheeling and cycling by 2024-25. It's a level of investment equating to £58 per person in Scotland. That compares to £10 per head in England and £23 in Wales.
- That level of investment is crucial but as you all know it is what happens on the ground that matters – quite literally. So how **much** we invest must translate into how **well** we invest
- In order to deliver the rapidly growing Active Travel programme, I initiated the Transformation Project to ensure the ambition of our funding and policy can be met with a delivery model that has the scalability and flexibility to meet our new challenges.
- However, the Project alone cannot make this happen – this is our collective challenge.
- And it is only by working closely with all of you here in this room that we can make the change happen.

Context of challenge

- As the Scottish Government Minister for Active Travel, of course I have responsibility for policy, and for this record level of active travel investment.
- But from my own experience of cycling and walking around our towns and cities, and from visiting many local projects over the last year, I know we have a significant way to go to make walking, wheeling and cycling the easiest choice for those who are able.
- And despite the obvious benefits there are real hurdles to get over.
- Above all, we have spent decades planning places in a way which assumes that cars have priority. Not only has this dramatically influenced the shape of our streets. It has also embedded itself in how we think about places. Hence the reallocation of space to accommodate active travel often leads to vocal protest on upsetting the “natural” way of things.

Current work

- Significant work is underway already to support the behaviour change needed to ensure modal shift, and take advantage of our investments in infrastructure. For example, we will continue to expand Bikeability Scotland so that every child can leave school equipped to make the most of the new facilities in our towns and cities.

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- Last year we also launched the Free Bikes for schoolchildren programme, fulfilling a Programme for Government commitment. The initial pilot phase ended in August with over 2,600 bikes having been issued.
- But we also need to accelerate the move to walking and cycling at the strategic level. The biggest barrier to cycling is how safe we feel on our roads - we've already seen during the early stages of COVID restrictions how reductions in motor-traffic were associated with large increases in the number of people walking and cycling.
- The response to removing that barrier is partly infrastructure related, which can be a complex investment. Previous Project workshops, which I know some of you have attended, have covered this issue in more depth and we are working hard to tackle this barrier.
- Most recently, we've seen the completion of eye-catching investments such as Stockingfield Bridge, that is connecting key communities in Glasgow and will provide a valuable link along the canals from central Glasgow though the central belt and on to Edinburgh
- We are also seeing the start of a really innovative Active Travel Network in Levenmouth that will connect communities along the river Leven and to the new rail line being built.

Persistent issues

- But it remains true, despite all of this, that delivery of active travel, most especially active travel infrastructure like segregated cycle tracks, is delayed, or watered down, or even removed.

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- And yet, cities such as Amsterdam or Copenhagen are places we travel to on holiday because we love walking, wheeling and cycling there. People living in these thriving cities would not change that aspect of it for the world.
- So those of us in positions of leadership across Scotland need to be bold and confident in how we create such places here, and in how we bring people with us on that journey. So that people here who tell us that they would walk, wheel and cycle more often and in far greater numbers can feel confident to do so.
- The evidence is overwhelmingly clear that everyone can benefit from the move to sustainable and active travel. But I also know that not everyone sees it the same way.
- Everyone receives and processes change in different ways, and some dissenting voices may be brought on that journey with good engagement and an inclusive approach to designing our infrastructure.
- It is also true that it is almost impossible in politics to find a decision that will please everyone. There will always be those who are disgruntled or unhappy with certain decisions.
- *[joking]* - But I think it is fair to say that if you're making changes that nobody is complaining about, you're probably not changing very much at all!
- We must acknowledge and act on the fundamental driver that underpins the challenge of funding and policy ambitions to the scale of delivery.

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- That our work is driven by the urgent need to move quickly in response to the climate emergency, and the severity of this challenge cannot be overstated.
- It was only just over a year ago that COP26 concluded in Glasgow and I understand Cllr MacGregor has this morning been taking part virtually in an event for COP27.
- The climate emergency and its impact on our daily lives is only going to increase and become more urgent with each passing day.
- So our approach to engaging communities, to communicating the benefits, and to delivering on our mandates for change has to be right, and we do not have the luxury of endless consultation and frequent delays.
- Indeed, some of you have raised TROs as one of these crucial, and problematic, issues. This is something we are looking closely at as part of the Transformation Project because we recognise the way it can hinder the pace and scale we need.

Conclusion

- I think that all of us are here today because we want to do more, to go further and faster with the delivery of Active Travel.
- But we cannot afford to be complacent and assume that record levels of investment alone are enough to make this happen.
- I urge you all to keep this focus on pace and engagement at the forefront of your conversations today.

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- And after today, to maintain that focus as you start the work of transforming your high streets, and your communities.
- So let's ensure today is a real opportunity to come together, to listen to each other and some great speakers with lived experience, and to create solutions to these issues.
- Through this workshop and the work of the Transformation Project, we have a unique opportunity to enact positive and meaningful changes across our towns, villages and cities, and I am really looking forward to hearing from everyone here about how we can do that. Thank you.

**Word count – 1210
Length – c8 minutes**