

# **Grangemouth Industrial Just Transition Plan**

## **Island Communities Impact Assessment**

**November 2024**

## Island Communities Impact Assessment

Name of policy: Grangemouth Industrial Just Transition Plan

### **1. Objectives**

The Grangemouth industrial cluster is responsible for circa 7.2% of Scotland's total GHG emission. Our work is attempting to establish a cluster-based approach to maximise opportunities to address this significant geographic source point of emissions – supporting the industrial operators to achieve net-zero whilst also embedding wider Just Transition outcomes as critical requirements of the transition.

The overarching aim of the Grangemouth Industrial Just Transition Plan (GMJTP) is to provide strategic outline and guide decision making in support of an economically prosperous future for the manufacturing cluster, that is both compatible with net-zero targets, and improves outcomes for those living and working there.

The plan aims to develop and support the delivery of a business credible pathway to achieving net zero by 2045 in Grangemouth, in line with the Scottish Government's wider targets for Scotland. It includes a socio-economic baseline of Grangemouth currently, a vision for the Grangemouth cluster in 2045, a proposed actions plan that could be completed to support delivery of the vision, and a monitoring framework.

The intended outcomes of the plan are guided by the Scottish Government's National Just Transition Planning Framework. This framework outlines four areas across which Just Transition benefits should be achieved. These are : Jobs, Skills and Economic Opportunities, Community and Place, People and Equity, and Environment, Biodiversity and Adaptation. The Scottish Government has identified a range of Grangemouth-specific matters within each of these four outcomes for targeted action.

This plan has been further developed in line with the Scottish Government's Just Transition policy, meaning it will be both co-designed and iterative. Resultantly, the plan has been developed with and will sit as the strategic guiding document for the Grangemouth Future Industry Board which consists of representatives across industry, the workforce, the public sector including both the Scottish and UK Governments as well as the wider Grangemouth community.

The plan is geographically limited to the Grangemouth industrial cluster and surrounding area. As such we do not foresee any direct impact on Island residents. Through the development and publication of this plan, we do not have any intention to suggest new policies for Island residents.

### **Data and Stakeholders**

We have been unable to identify substantive data that would suggest any clear links between the Grangemouth cluster and island communities. We have concluded that efforts to collate or generate new datasets would be significant and yield limited tangible evidence, in contrast to the scope of the wider programme of work.

The only evidencable link between Grangemouth and the Islands is the manufacture of aviation fuel; the Grangemouth refinery is currently responsible for 100% of Scotland's aviation fuel and this will have a clear influence on connectivity to mainland Scotland. Demand for other fuels including petrol and diesel, kerosene are sourced from other providers.

As the Grangemouth cluster transitions, cluster operators will consider the technical and commercial viability of new low carbon products including Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) and future decisions here should consider how Island communities remain connected. However, the GMJTP in its current form, will not have an imminent influence on either the volume of traditional jet fuel supplied from Grangemouth or new products such as SAF or the subsequent availability to Island communities. Moreso, it will focus on supporting the decision making process in aid of achieving wider positive benefits for the region of Grangemouth.

Our stakeholders are comprised of the wider Scottish public sector including government agencies and Falkirk Council, Grangemouth community representatives, Grangemouth's industrial leadership, the Grangemouth industrial workforce, relevant academic bodies, further and higher education and the UK Government.

These stakeholders are all represented on the Grangemouth Future Industry Board (GFIB). The Board's make up includes an operational level Programme Board which is responsible for activity and a strategic level Leadership Forum which is attended by Scottish and UK Government ministers, CEOs, union convenors and community leaders).

When considering changes in the industrial makeup of the Grangemouth Cluster, we do not foresee any outsized impacts on the Islands if new operators move in or, old ones cease to operate.

## **2. Consultation**

We have engaged stakeholders extensively when developing the draft Grangemouth Just Transition Plan. During the course of this work, no tangible links to the Islands were identified due to the restricted geography of the just transition plan in question.

Further engagement is planned to run simultaneously with the release of the draft Grangemouth Just Transition Plan. A public consultation hosted on CitizenSpace will give stakeholders with an interest in the plan an opportunity to register their thoughts and ideas for the final publication. We will encourage our Grangemouth Future Industry Board members to respond to the consultation on behalf of their respective organisations. Further to this, our partners CVS Falkirk & District will promote the consultation via in-person events to ensure that community stakeholders throughout Grangemouth are given ample opportunity to convey their views on the plan.

We do not anticipate a need for Island specific consultation events as the plan is specifically tailored for the Industrial Cluster within the Grangemouth area.

### **3. Assessment**

Our initial assessment of the GMJTP is that the plan is unlikely to have significant impacts on Island communities, given the geographic remit of the programme of work. The document is designed to sit at a strategic level that guides decision making and supports the transition to net zero in way that enhances positive outcomes for people, place and environment in direct proximity to the industrial cluster.

The primary communities who will be impacted by this plan are situated wholly within the wider Grangemouth area. Our assessment does not identify any unique impacts on demographic, socio-economic, or linguistic considerations related to Island communities.

We acknowledge that as the Grangemouth cluster diversifies to support the transition to net zero, the production of SAF and other low carbon alternatives is one area that may impact on the cost of flights to and from the Islands and this should be continuously reviewed as more definitive steps are taken to influence that realisation. However, currently there is an extremely low volume of SAF manufactured in Scotland, with much more work needed to consider the commercial and regulatory barriers to its expansion as a viable alternative to jet fuel. Furthermore, there are no actions within the GMJTP that mandate the production or use of SAF or other alternatives. The Scottish Government chairs a working group on SAF which has a remit to analyse mitigations relating to present and future production and consumption of SAF and impacts on Island communities should be considered at the appropriate stage of that work.

The Scottish Government will keep this under review as work around decarbonisation at Grangemouth continues.

### **4. Is a full Islands Communities Impact Assessment required?**

In preparing the ICIA, we have formed an opinion that our policy, strategy or service is **NOT** likely to have an effect on an island community which is significantly different from its effect on other communities (including other island communities). The reason for this is detailed below.

The plan is primarily intended to support the development of policy and actions planning for the businesses and workforce of the Grangemouth industrial cluster as well as residents of the wider Grangemouth area. Our assessment did not identify any unique impacts on demographic, socio-economic, or linguistic considerations related to island communities.



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