



## **Paper 1/1: Remit and Membership of the Commission** **For information**

### **1. Purpose**

1.1 This paper outlines the remit and membership of the Just Transition Commission.

### **2. Background**

2.1 The remit of the Commission has been agreed by Ministers, and was published on 10<sup>th</sup> December. Commission membership was finalised prior to the Parliamentary Debate on “Securing a just transition to a carbon-neutral economy” on 15th January.

2.2 A copy of the remit is included at Annex A and a list of Commission members (with abridged profiles) is included at Annex B.

## **Annex A – Remit of the Commission**

1. The Scottish Government is committed to growing a low-carbon, inclusive economy. Scotland’s Economic Strategy sets out the ambition to create a more cohesive and resilient economy that improves the opportunities, life chances, and wellbeing of every citizen in our country, and the Climate Change Bill commits Scotland to being carbon-neutral by 2050.
2. The Climate Change Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament as a direct response to the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement requires parties to increase action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while taking into account “the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs”.
3. Within this context, the purpose of the Just Transition Commission is to advise Scottish Ministers on how to apply just transition principles to Scotland.<sup>1</sup> These principles can be summarised as:
  - a. Plan, invest and implement a transition to environmentally and socially sustainable jobs, sectors and economies, building on Scotland’s economic and workforce strengths and potential;
  - b. Create opportunities to develop resource efficient and sustainable economic approaches, which help address inequality and poverty;
  - c. Design and deliver low carbon investment and infrastructure, and make all possible efforts to create decent, fair and high value work, in a way which does not negatively affect the current workforce and overall economy.
4. Within two years of its inaugural meeting, the Commission should provide a written report to Scottish Ministers that provides practical, realistic, affordable recommendations for action.
5. The recommendations should support Scottish Ministers take action that will:
  - a. Maximise the economic and social opportunities that the move to a carbon-neutral economy by 2050 offers;
  - b. Build on Scotland’s existing strengths and assets;
  - c. Understand and mitigate risks that could arise in relation to regional cohesion, equalities, poverty (including fuel poverty), and a sustainable and inclusive labour market.
6. In forming its recommendations, the Commission should work openly and transparently, and engage meaningfully with workers, communities, NGOs, business and industry leaders, and other relevant bodies across Scotland. The Commission should specifically seek and consider the views of young people.

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<sup>1</sup> International Labour Organization (2016) Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all ([link](#))



7. Advice on the levels of statutory targets (such as those for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and poverty) is outwith the remit of the Just Transition Commission, as are wider issues that are already within the remit of other bodies.
8. The Commission will take into account the wider policy landscape in Scotland and identify synergies with existing programmes of work and other bodies, where appropriate.

## **Annex B – Just Transition Commission Membership**

Full profiles are available on the Just Transition Commission web page:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/just-transition-commission-member-profiles/>.

1. **Professor Jim Skea (Chair)** - Co-Chair of Working Group III (Mitigation) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; Scottish Champion of the UK's Committee on Climate Change until December 2018.
2. **Lang Banks, representing WWF** - Director WWF Scotland, Lang has worked for WWF for over a decade and has been integral in their work addressing issues relating to climate change, clean energy, and marine protection.
3. **Dave Moxham, representing STUC** - Deputy General Secretary of the Scottish TUC, with policy responsibility for the public sector and voluntary sectors, employment rights, energy and climate change, civil justice and courts reform.
4. **Richard Hardy, representing Prospect Union** - National Secretary for Scotland and Ireland, representing members in Government, Energy, Defence, Nuclear and Heritage Sectors.
5. **Charlotte Hartley, representing the 2050 Group** - The 2050 Group engages, educates and empowers Scotland's young people to take action on climate change. Charlotte works for Pale Blue Dot Energy, a catalyst business leading the Acorn CCS and Hydrogen project in Aberdeenshire.
6. **Duncan MacLennan** - Professor of Public Policy, University of Glasgow. Duncan is an applied economist with interests in cities, neighbourhoods, infrastructure and housing.
7. **Professor Karen Turner** - Director of the University of Strathclyde's Centre for Energy Policy. The Centre conducts internationally leading research on the public policy challenges of decarbonising our economy.
8. **Norman Kerr** - Director of Energy Action Scotland. Deputy Chair of the Scottish Fuel Poverty Advisory Panel and the Scottish Fuel Poverty Partnership Forum.
9. **Kate Rowell**, Chair of Quality Meat Scotland, a non-departmental public body representing the Scottish Red Meat Industry. Kate is also a livestock farmer and fully qualified veterinary surgeon.
10. **Rachel McEwen** – Chief Sustainability Officer SSE, responsible for sustainability strategy, climate change policy, community funds and corporate heritage. She is a non-executive director of Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks, the SSE subsidiary.
11. **Colette Cohen** - Chief Executive Officer of the Oil & Gas Technology Centre. The centre aims to maximise economic recovery from the UK continental shelf



and to develop the northeast of Scotland as a global technology hub.

**12. Tom Shields** - CEO of Spring Rise, a consultancy providing support to chemical processing, waste recycling and renewable energy industries. He currently sits on the UK Government's Carbon Capture, Usage and Storage Council and is acting chair of the Chemical Sciences Scotland Industry Leadership Group.