



Paper 1/3: Research commissioned from Cambridge Policy Consultants

For information

1. Purpose

1.1 This paper provides Commissioners with background information to agenda item 4, a presentation by Cambridge Policy Consultants on the Scottish economy.

2. Background

2.1 The Scottish Government commissioned research in November 2018 to support the early deliberations and work planning of the Just Transition Commission. The research aims to give an overview of the Scottish economy along the following themes:

- Population
- Labour market
- Business and industry landscape
- Household income distribution
- Skills and skills development landscape
- Greenhouse gas emissions

2.2 A 20-30 minute presentation will be given by the consultants on their work, with an open discussion afterwards. The consultants are aware of the format for the session and will be expecting questions from Commissioners regarding their interpretation of the current and future state of the Scottish economy.

2.3 A report summarising the findings of the research will also be produced, a completed draft of which will be available in February. The final report will be shared online at the Commission's dedicated webspace at [gov.scot](#) ([link](#)).

2.4 Additional detail on the research taken from the tender specification document is included in the Annex to this paper.



3. Annex

3.1 The following is an extract of the tender specification for the project.

Introduction

3.2 The Scottish Government's purpose is to create a more successful country with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish through increased wellbeing, and sustainable and inclusive economic growth. Within this context, the Scottish Government is establishing a Just Transition Commission that will provide the Scottish Government with practical advice on how to maximise the opportunities and manage the challenges of decarbonisation in relation to fair work, tackling inequalities and poverty; and delivering a sustainable and inclusive labour market.

3.3 The Scottish Government wish to commission the production of a background report to inform the Commission's first meeting and work programme.

3.4 The outputs of the project will be a high quality oral presentation followed by a written report that synthesizes what is currently known about the current and projected population and labour market, businesses, household income distribution, skills and skills development, and current and projected greenhouse gas emissions across sectors, in Scotland. The presentation will be given at the first meeting of the Just Transition Commission in January 2019, and the written report will follow shortly after that. The aim of both is to inform the Commission's deliberations, work planning and requests for further evidence and analysis.

Aims & Objectives

3.5 This project will deliver a presentation and a written report that synthesises what is known about the current and projected:

- population
- labour market
- business and industry landscape
- household income distribution
- skills and skills development landscape
- greenhouse gas emissions,

across sectors, in Scotland. The aim is to inform the early deliberations of the Just Transition Commission as it starts to develop its work plan for the 2 year period.

3.6 The information presented should set out both the current landscape and projections for up to 2050, where they are available (2030 is also a key year with respect to Sustainable Development Goals and Nationally Determined



Contributions). It is expected that all information used will be existing, published information - new projections are not required to be produced.

3.7 The presentation and report will be factual and objective, drawing on publicly available, reliable information. Neither the presentation or the report will make recommendations. The report should be transparent about assumptions and draw attention to any convergence/divergence in published projections.

Outputs: Presentation and Report

3.8 The presentation should be no more than 20 minutes long, aimed at an intelligent professional audience. It should provide an overview of current and projected population and labour market, businesses, household income distribution, skills and skills development, and current and projected greenhouse gas emissions across sectors, in Scotland.

3.9 The written report should be prepared with an intelligent, educated and busy audience in mind, and should provide the detail and background of the points made during the presentation. It should be no more than 75 pages in length including all annexes and should contain an executive summary of no more than 2 pages. All sources of information used should be clearly identified and verifiable.

3.10 The report will be of publishable standard, the quality of the writing will be very high, concise, and in plain English. Any output not achieving this standard will be returned for revision.