



# 2030 CLIMATE STRATEGY

*Delivering a Net Zero,  
Climate Ready  
Edinburgh*

Executive Summary  
Draft: June 2021



## Introduction

This draft strategy lays out how we will enable, support and deliver action to meet our net zero ambition by working with leading strategic partners in Edinburgh and highlights actions citizens, communities and the wider business community could take to help drive down emissions.

Together we have enormous power and influence over the emissions in the city and we can create a thriving net zero future for the benefit of everyone.

Climate change is the biggest threat facing our planet. That is why the City of Edinburgh Council declared a climate emergency, established an independent Climate Commission and set a target for the city to be net zero by 2030.

2020 has seen the world work together to combat a global pandemic. It has also shone a light on what communities and organisations can achieve in the face of an emergency. As we continue to deal with the pandemic, we

need to plan to ensure the city's recovery is both fair and green.

To achieve that goal, we need to improve air quality, protect our thriving green spaces, support active travel and continue to build warm, good quality places to live and work to make Edinburgh a healthier and happier place to live.

Young people have been at the forefront of demanding faster action on climate change and our residents have told us they want Edinburgh to become a sustainable, fair and thriving city - but we know this won't be easy.

The challenge we face is clear. We must reduce our transport emissions 12 times faster; emissions from buildings need to be reduced twice as fast year on year and our homes need to be retrofitted 50 times faster.

Our work with Edinburgh Climate Change Institute and the Place-Based Climate Action Network<sup>1</sup>, shows that we can get over 65 percent of the way there with actions that pay for themselves within their lifespan. We also

know that taking climate action will create opportunities for the city that can offer new and exciting skilled jobs and make Edinburgh a leader in green industries and innovations.

The Council will continue to play a leading role in co-creating a healthy, green, clean, and sustainable future for the city. Our communities, businesses and residents have a strong record of climate action and I know the city will work together to deliver change at the speed and scale needed.

We will launch our strategy just as leaders from across the world come to Scotland for COP26 and we are confident Edinburgh will be alongside the most ambitious cities striving towards a net zero future.

*Cllr Adam McVey Leader of the City of Edinburgh Council*

*Cllr Cammy Day Depute Leader of the City of Edinburgh Council*

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<sup>1</sup> [A Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap for Edinburgh, Edinburgh Climate Commission/ Place-Based Climate Action Network](#)



## A net zero vision for the city

### Our vision for a net zero, climate resilient city by 2030

Citizens told us in the City Vision<sup>2</sup> that they want Edinburgh to be:

- A Thriving City that is clean, green and sustainable.
- A Welcoming City that is happy, safe, and healthy.
- A Pioneering City built on data, culture, and business.
- A Fair City that is inclusive, affordable, and connected.

Climate action will contribute to this vision by addressing every aspect of our lives and city activity. From the houses we live in and the buildings we work in, to the way we travel about the city, the jobs that we hold, and the way we use our consumer power.

This strategy is about more than reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It's about creating a city where:

- People live in neighbourhoods with easy access to greenspaces and local services reducing the need to travel.
- Homes are well-insulated, energy efficient and heated and powered by low-cost, renewable energy.
- More people work from home or in local hubs more of the time.
- The city has a network of safe and attractive active travel routes, and an integrated world-class sustainable public transport system, which is affordable for everyone.
- Most citizens find they no longer need a car, and a network of car clubs and electric vehicle charging hubs is available to support those who do.
- The city centre will have been re-imagined as a place for people walking, cycling and wheeling, with excellent public transport accessibility and with the needs of the most vulnerable fully catered for.
- Edinburgh is a hub for net zero innovation, with a new breed of sustainable local businesses creating local jobs and skills development opportunities.
- Our city is cleaner, healthier and greener, with natural habitats helping to protect the city from flooding and other climate change impacts.

This strategy lays out how, as a city, we will enable, support and deliver action to meet our net zero ambition. It's aimed predominantly at partners within the city who have:

- a duty to transition to net zero.
- a significant city emissions footprint.
- the power and budgets to make impactful change.

However, the strategy also speaks to citizens, communities and the wider business community who collectively could have the greatest impact of all.

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<sup>2</sup> [Edinburgh City vision website](#)

# Summary of the 2030 Climate Strategy Approach and Actions

## Principles for climate action



**A Just Transition:** Everyone must share in the benefits of the transition to net zero.



**Preventing future emissions and adapting to unavoidable climate change:** We will take actions and make changes that prevent future emissions, as well as reducing those we currently emit.



**Creating 20-minute neighbourhoods:** We will make it easier for citizens to access the services and amenities they need locally.



**Energy efficiency:** We will improve the energy efficiency of the city's buildings, adopting fabric first approaches to new developments and seeking to reduce energy demand and emissions.



**Electrification first:** We will ensure the network's capacity can respond to the substantive increases in the city's electricity demand while keeping an open mind to innovation in other energy sources, such as green hydrogen.



**Progressive policy:** We will work with the Scottish Government to develop regulatory frameworks that are progressive, promote innovation and create incentives for citizens and businesses to make practical changes in the way they live and work.

## The Council will play a leadership role

The City of Edinburgh Council has a key role to play in providing city leadership on climate change.

It will use the levers that are within the control or influence of the Council to enable net zero action in the city.

These levers include the ability to:

- build strategic relationships and collaborations for change
- deliver high-quality low carbon infrastructure and services. make strategic investments to drive change
- lobby for change as the capital of Scotland and a major UK city.

## We will create conditions for success

The strategy focuses on creating the right policy, regulatory and infrastructure conditions to support net zero behaviour change by committing to:

- Delivering the 2030 City Plan and **setting the highest standards for net zero, climate resilient development and growth.**
- Delivering the City Mobility Plan **strategic investment in public transport and active travel** and consulting on the place and role of a **Workplace Parking Levy.**
- Creating **skills development programmes** to ensure the city has the workforce needed to transform with a **focus on green construction skills** and targeting those at greatest risk of poverty.
- Developing a plan for the delivery of **public service EV charging hubs** at strategic points across the city and a **pilot for mixed finance EV infrastructure investment.**
- Identifying and **costing climate impacts on the city to unlock collective investment** in change.

## We will collaborate for speed and impact

No individual partner has the knowledge, skills, capacity or resources to deliver our net zero target. This strategy lays out key areas where collaboration and partnership will be required to deliver for the city, committing to establish:

- A strategic **City Heat and Energy Delivery Partnership** and delivery of a **Heat and Energy Master Plan.**

- A strategic **Partnership with Scottish Power Energy Network** to align grid development investment to the needs of the city.
- An **Energy Efficient Public Buildings Partnership** to collaborate on retrofit, align investment plans, and encourage confidence in, and planning for, the business and skills supply chain needed to deliver.

### We will support sustainable communities

A net zero city must be built upon net zero action within communities. This strategy recognises the importance of place, community capacity and action in thriving local neighbourhoods as drivers of more sustainable everyday lives.

That's why this strategy focuses not only on city and strategic enablers, but the importance of progressing 20-minute neighbourhoods. The strategy commits to:

- Ensuring **20-minute neighbourhoods support net zero action and exploring local energy communities.**
- **Scoping net zero community pilots** that could unlock and support grass roots activity.

### We will encourage individual commitments

While the strategy lays out a number of collective actions, pilots and partnerships that will support change across the city, there will be no substitute for the buy-in and action of individual organisations and citizens. This is why this strategy:

- Calls on all organisations and businesses to **adopt the Edinburgh Climate Commission Climate Compact** as part of their own commitment to transition to net zero.
- Commits to **public campaigns that aim to inform citizens and raise awareness of funding** available for net zero action.
- Commits to **explore establishing a new Green Innovation Challenge finance scheme** to complement the Climate Compact.

### We will innovate and learn

Alongside supporting joint and individual action to happen at speed, the strategy recognises that we need to do more to share knowledge and skills and innovate to tackle some of the challenges we face.

This is why the strategy highlights and commits to the following pilots and innovative projects:

- Developing two '*net zero neighbourhood*' pilots to support grassroots action on climate change.
- Delivering an ambitious new net zero development at Granton Waterfront and

around 200-hectares of enhanced coastal park in north west Edinburgh.

- Delivering '*Edinburgh Homes Demonstrator*', using new materials and on-site building techniques to deliver net zero, energy efficient buildings.
- Testing approaches to retrofit in challenging mixed-tenure and heritage settings, including Edinburgh's UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Investigating the potential for '*Nature Climate Bonds*' to support investment in the city's natural environment.

**A full list of delivery actions is given by thematic area in Appendix 1.**



## How we work with partners

### We will call on others to ACT with us

To help drive change we are setting out a number of strategic asks of the key sectors within the city, focused on the actions which will have the most impact, targeting partners with the greatest emissions and the greatest power and resources to make change.

We're asking:

**All city partners** to sign up to the Edinburgh Climate Compact and pledge to reduce their emissions, adopt sustainable business practices and support their staff to make more sustainable choices in their professional and private lives.

**Citizens** to make more sustainable choices in their everyday lives and use their democratic and purchasing power to support change in others.

**Civil society** to support ongoing open dialogue about the transformation that needs to happen in the city and how we can collaborate to take decisions and deliver change together.

**Public bodies** to join up budgets and work together in a place-based way to create economies of scale and design services and new infrastructure around the needs of communities. Use their purchasing power to encourage markets and green supply chain and skill development.

**Edinburgh Climate Commission** to challenge the public sector to go faster and further on tackling climate change and call on the private sector to play a greater role in supporting change. Hold Edinburgh to collective account while offering expert advice and support for change through the Climate Compact.

**Investors** to support city partners to develop a pipeline of scalable projects to attract capital into the city for programmes that deliver social, economic and environmental benefits, as well as financial returns.

**Developers** to make the transition to net zero practices now, moving faster than national regulatory requirements to ensure Edinburgh can lead the way on net zero development and growth.

**Businesses** to adopt net zero business models as part of a green and resilient Edinburgh economy. Invest in sustainable practices that also benefit the communities they are a part of.

**Edinburgh's universities** to turn their academic expertise into support for net zero programmes and projects. Unlock the data, innovation and research that the city partners need to adopt change with confidence. Target the skills needed to deliver the city's transition.

Call on the **Scottish Government** to support the city.

The city and its partners will act individually and collectively to drive our net zero ambitions forward but we need the support and action of the Scottish Government to support our transition.

The strategy lays out a series of specific asks of the Scottish Government, which come under four key calls for national action, to:

- Share the risk of net zero project and programme development, to unlock funding options and deliver enhanced funding packages and invest in local capacity and expertise.
- Ensure national decisions and powers reinforce and empower city partners to deliver at speed on planning, transport, regulations, licensing and taxation.
- Develop place-based funding packages that recognise the system-wide investment needed to reach net zero rather than routing funding through policy silos.
- Develop a programme for targeting private owner retrofit and a series of incentives to support citizen and business transition to net zero.



# How we take decisions together

## A governance framework that supports effective action at speed and scale

Achieving net zero by 2030 will require city-wide co-operation at a level, depth and pace that will challenge citizens and city partners to hold each other to account for delivery.

A Climate Delivery Group will bring city partner Chief Executives and senior officers together to:

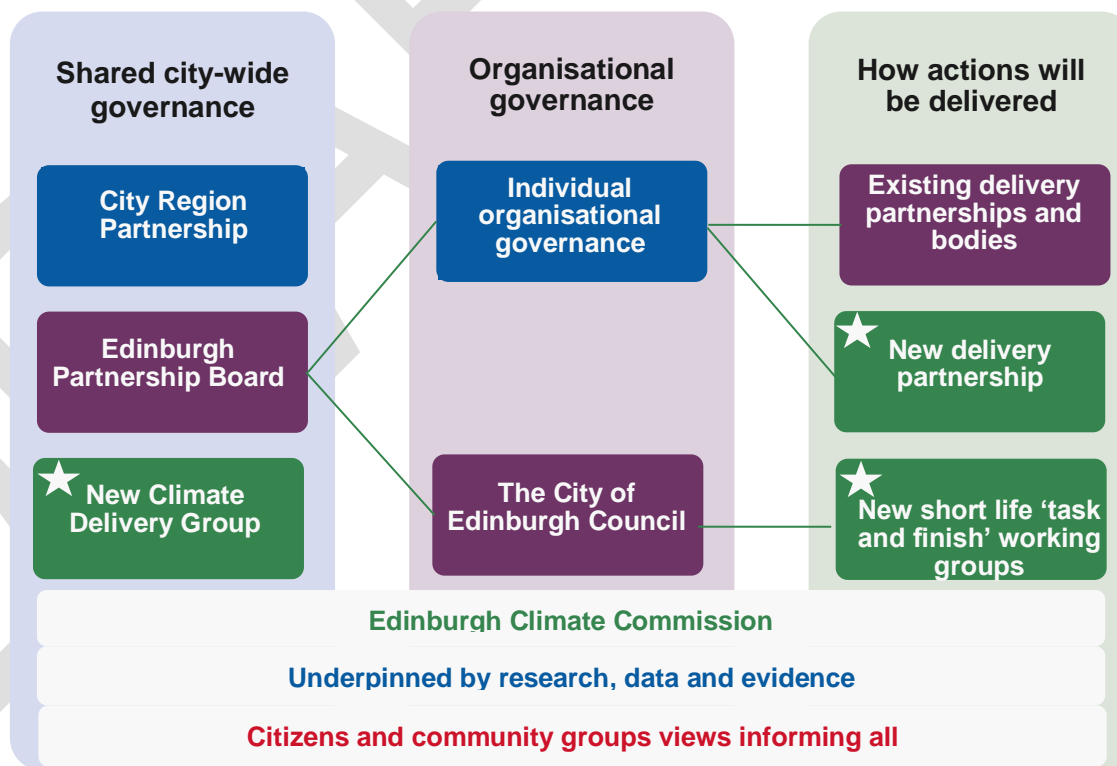
- Provide operational oversight.
- Align city partners' mainstream programmes and budgets to support net zero
- Hold delivery mechanisms to account.
- Scrutinise performance, including city emissions reductions.
- Be accountable to their individual organisation for participation and delivery, in-line with their own political or organisational governance arrangements.

There are many delivery groups, boards and partnerships that have a role to play in delivering the strategy including the City Region Partnership, Edinburgh Partnership Board, The City of Edinburgh Council and individual organisational governance.

New structures - Climate Delivery Group, Delivery Partnerships and short life working groups - will be convened to bring together resource and expertise across the city to lead specific strategic action programmes.

Edinburgh's Climate Commission will continue to work independently to influence and provide constructive challenge and expertise to all parts of the city as we work to deliver our net zero ambition.

The strategy's delivery will be informed and driven by citizen's views – through the Council's democratic processes, through the work of the Commission, and through direct engagement and collaboration on delivery to co-produce better outcomes for communities.



## Listening to citizens and empowering communities in all we do

Edinburgh's citizens have huge influence over the city's emissions through their power to collectively demand change from national and local government, the private and public sector, local businesses and each other.

Citizens must be active participants, engaging in and designing the actions to deliver a net zero city. City partners need to engage, collaborate and listen to citizens to secure that trust and support for change.

Citizens also have the power to make choices in their own lives which can contribute to climate action.

We believe the Council in particular, has an important role in supporting all citizens to be able to make changes and ensure no one is left behind: delivering a fair and just transition.

### **We will collaborate to empower young people**

Young people have been at the forefront of raising awareness on climate change and demanding change from those in power.

We will ensure young people are at the centre of decisions that will determine the kind of city they inherit. We will work with children and young people – through schools and in communities – to listen to their views, to ensure

young people from all backgrounds are informed and able to have their voice heard.

### **We will ensure a fair transition to net zero**

We know vulnerable groups and people in poor health will be more affected by reduced air quality, increased damp, and severe fluctuations in weather such as heatwaves.

Those on lower-incomes may also find addressing the impacts of climate change harder – for example meeting the costs associated with flood damage to property, or of switching from gas to more sustainable heating systems.

We are committed to working with national and local government, public bodies, trade unions, the private sector and citizens and communities to ensure that climate change does not disproportionately impact anyone in our society.

### **We will ensure there is equal access to opportunities**

It's estimated that Scotland's transition to a low-carbon economy could create up to 367,000 jobs, with Edinburgh being well-placed to secure a substantial share of these. We will

work with city partners, to align skills development programmes to support Edinburgh residents to access new green jobs and target those at greatest risk of poverty.<sup>3</sup>

### **Making sustainable choices easier**

We know from consultation and engagement exercises that many Edinburgh citizens are not fully aware of their carbon footprint, or all the actions they could take to reduce it.

We will deliver awareness raising campaigns to ensure people have access to information about climate change, how to measure their carbon footprint, and where to access support to reduce their emissions. This will include information about where people can get financial and other help to make changes.

We will call on the Scottish Government to improve existing support schemes and develop new approaches to incentivise change – especially in adapting homes and heating systems.

### **We will support the creation of net zero communities**

Our vision is for all of Edinburgh's neighbourhoods and communities to be net zero.

<sup>3</sup> [STUC, Green Jobs in Scotland, 2021](#)



We will work with community councils, Edinburgh's universities and at least two neighbourhoods to scope and develop funding bids for two local pilots to understand what it would take for them to become net zero. The pilot scope will include at least one community with high levels of deprivation and one with high emissions.

### **We will engage to build and maintain consent for change**

We will involve citizens in decisions about the targeting, scope and speed of large-scale change and ask for citizen support on changes which protect the city for future generations.

As the scale and complexity of actions increase, we will facilitate more in-depth engagement approaches, such as citizen juries or similar models, to ensure citizens' views are central in decision-making.

### **The ask of citizens**

Citizens' choices can achieve big emissions reductions, and Edinburgh's residents also have the power to influence others, from big business to public policy.

We ask citizens to:



#### **Understand your carbon footprint:**

Use online and other resources to learn what your impact on the environment is.



#### **Make the easy decisions:**

Like leaving the car at home for shorter trips or reducing your food waste. These could save money or time and can often improve quality of life too.



#### **Consider and explore investment:**

Many changes, such as home insulation or heating, have an upfront cost but repay that cost over time.



#### **Use your purchasing power:**

You can send powerful signals to businesses by choosing products and services that are more environmentally friendly, this includes locally grown food, low-packaging items, and goods and services which use renewable energy and recycled materials



#### **Use your democratic power:**

Make your voice heard in local and national decision-making and tell elected representatives what future you want.



#### **Stay involved:**

Keep engaging with local services, community groups and neighbours. Support the right changes when you see them, advocate for change when you don't.

## Funding change

We can achieve over 60 percent of our carbon emissions target with current technology and through investment that would pay for itself over time.

Organisations and businesses across the city are already investing in climate action through their fleets, their buildings, their energy sources and their work practices.

But new investment will still be needed, particularly investment to support access to upfront capital investment in buildings and infrastructure.

### Align public sector budgets

Public sector organisations such as the Council, the NHS, the Scottish Ambulance Service, Edinburgh's universities, Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have legal duties to transition to net zero and are already investing in climate action.

Through stronger more focused partnership working we will align our operational and investment plans – where that makes sense – to maximise the collective impact on carbon emissions, share knowledge, skills and capacity as well as investment and operational risks and opportunities.

### Maximise national funding opportunities

We will make sure that Edinburgh is well placed to successfully access the funding which will be available over the coming years

from the UK Government, the Scottish Government and other funding bodies such as the National Lottery.

We will focus on accessing funding streams that allow us to meet strategic objectives of:

- Adapting to new post-Covid realities such as repurposing town centres and enhancing active travel infrastructure.
- Preparing the city for the development of clean energy heat networks.
- Adapting to the effects of climate change by using ecosystem services and enhancing biodiversity.
- Establishing a *Climate Transition Lab* with partners that allows us to test new financing models for transformational interventions, including the retrofitting of the privately-owned housing stock across Edinburgh.

### Develop large scale place-based investment programmes

We will develop a pipeline of large-scale/aggregated investible projects that focus on delivering the major heat and energy, transport, EV, greenspace, and energy efficient housing infrastructure needed to make the transition to net zero.

These projects will provide an opportunity to create systemic change, enable rapid decarbonisation and adaptation to climate change, while creating new jobs, new green markets for local industry, and improving quality of life for citizens.

We will work with UK finance and academic experts to develop strategic approaches to mobilising place-based climate finance. We will call on the Scottish Government to work with us to connect national funding to a more strategic place-based approach.

### Foster Edinburgh's investment potential

Edinburgh is the financial capital of Scotland and a recognised leading global economic hub. Investment in green technology and business practices is increasingly at the heart of the finance industry and the city is uniquely placed to accelerate progress as a world leader in research and data innovation.

We will foster the investment potential of Edinburgh by working with partners to develop ambitious and attractive projects and proposals, test innovative finance models, including blended finance, and new approaches to sharing risk and reward.

We will **create a City Investment Prospectus** that will enable us to easily match investors to suitable projects in Edinburgh.

We will identify opportunities for Edinburgh to **develop demonstrator projects** with citizens to solving the biggest challenges on the journey to sustainability while building local skills capability and capacity, and test new financing structures.

## **Unlock private investment opportunities**

We will connect investors to city opportunities, using models which share risk and reward more equitably, and allow much larger sums of money to be raised through private sector investment.

By working with providers of capital, such as the Lothian Pension Fund, we will identify compelling opportunities to match patient finance to large-scale net zero projects which will benefit both investors and citizens.

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## Measuring our success

### Tracking and reporting

City emissions will be tracked on an annual basis and progress measured against a target trajectory.

We assume citizen and partner action will take time to build and will rapidly accelerate from around 2026 as learning from early action, innovation and investment come together to drive whole-system change at pace.

City and Council emissions will be monitored and disclosed publicly on an annual basis through CDP<sup>4</sup> and the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report<sup>5</sup>. Signatories of the Climate Compact have also committed to monitor and disclose their organisational emissions.

Reporting and monitoring will be developed in line with the strategy's Implementation Plan to be developed following publication of the strategy in late 2021.

### Carbon Scenario Tool

The Council has collaborated with the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute (ECCI) to develop an open source quantitative emissions calculation tool.

The '*Carbon Scenario Tool*' has been designed to inform Council decision making, by giving councillors and officers validated data on emissions impact at project, programme or city level, presented as a dashboard which includes wider sustainability impacts, such as air quality.

### Measuring co-benefits

Alongside net zero emissions we will monitor, measure and report progress against wider sustainability objectives and co-benefits. This will provide a comprehensive view of Edinburgh's wider sustainability progress.

These indicators will be finalised later in 2021 and will include a mix of process and outcome measures, taking account of enabling actions such as procurement activity and wider benefits such as public health improvement.

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<sup>4</sup> [CDP Disclosure Insight Action website](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Sustainable Scotland Network reports](#)

# 2030 Climate Strategy Outcomes and Actions

## Net Zero Development and Growth

### Outcomes

- People can access the support they need in the places they live and work and local neighbourhoods are resilient to the impacts of climate change.
- City development and investment deliver net zero growth and economic opportunities that protect and enhance the environment.
- The city's wildlife is thriving, and biodiversity is enhanced, protecting the city's ecosystem and helping absorb carbon.

Action	Next steps and Indicative delivery timeframe	Partners
<b>1. Long term planning on climate risk and cost</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The City of Edinburgh Council will convene city and region partners to collaborate on a long-term '<i>Climate Ready Edinburgh</i>' plan. 2021-2022</li> <li>● Undertake a city-wide climate change risk assessment and cost analysis. 2021-2022</li> </ul>	National and Regional planning partners, Edinburgh Adapts Steering Group, Edinburgh Climate Change Institute, Adaptation Scotland
<b>2. Laying the policy foundations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Set new planning policy and guidance within the City Plan 2030. 2021-2023</li> <li>● Work with developers, investors and landowners to deliver net zero development of the city. 2021-2023</li> </ul>	City partners, The City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership, The Scottish Government, private sector developers, construction industry, Edinburgh Living Landscape Partnership
<b>3. Re-designing services to meet citizen's needs locally</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Re-design services and amenities to deliver sustainable 20-minute neighbourhoods across hub locations. 2021-2023</li> </ul>	NHS, higher education sector, voluntary sector organisations, Police, Fire
<b>4. Leading the way on net zero development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All new Council-led housing developments with the 10-year sustainable housing investment plan will be net zero. 2020-2030</li> <li>● Deliver an off-site net-zero construction methodology demonstrator project. 2021 - 2023</li> </ul>	The Scottish Government, Scottish Futures Trust, Construction Scotland Innovation Centre, Edinburgh Napier University, and Offsite Solutions Scotland

<b>5. Using blue and green spaces to protect communities from climate change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver a network of green and blue spaces across the city which help protect our communities from climate change impacts, provide active travel routes, and protect and enhance the city's natural environment and biodiversity. <i>Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2021, Green/Blue Network 2021–2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, Lothian Strategic Draining Partnership, Edinburgh Living Landscape Partnership
<b>6. Meeting adaptation challenges with nature-based solutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver nature-based solutions to the impacts of climate change, beginning with the Edinburgh Million Tree City initiative. <i>2022-2030</i></li> <li>Develop an Ecological Coherence Plan for the city. <i>2021</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership, Edinburgh Living Landscape Partnership
<b>7. Develop a long-term and sustainable approach to water management across the city</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver a Water Management Vision and Strategy identifying the risks and co-ordinating actions to alleviate impacts from all sources of flooding in the city. <i>2021– 2030</i></li> <li>Integrate design for water and flooding within the urban landscape using blue-green infrastructure. <i>2021– 2030</i></li> </ul>	Edinburgh and Lothians Drainage Partnership (The City of Edinburgh Council, SEPA, Scottish Water)
<b>8. Protecting the City's coast</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapt the city's coast to be resilient to climate change, beginning with delivering around 200 hectares of new and enhanced coastal park in north west Edinburgh. <i>2024 - 2030</i></li> </ul>	The development sector, The City of Edinburgh Council, University of Glasgow, Transport for Edinburgh
<b>9. Delivering rapid whole-system change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call on the Scottish Government to use the lessons from responding to Covid to enable accelerated local action and decision making on tackling the climate emergency. <i>2021–2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government
<b>10. Shared risk-taking to develop innovative solution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call on the Scottish Government to collaborate with the City of Edinburgh Council on shared risk-taking to develop innovative solutions to tackling climate change - for example by exploring regulatory 'sandboxes' for key demonstration projects to support the testing of new approaches within more permissive and flexible frameworks. <i>2021 - 2030</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government
<b>11. Embed net zero requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call on the Scottish Government to embed net zero requirements into new and existing policy, legislation, regulations and statutory guidance. <i>2021</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government

## Net Zero Energy Generation and Energy Efficient Buildings

### Outcomes

- Heat and energy generation and distribution is clean and renewable, and buildings are energy efficient and resilient to climate change.
- The cost of heating and powering the city's homes and other buildings is reduced, helping to tackle fuel poverty.
- Retrofit and energy infrastructure projects are delivering economic and social benefits to businesses and citizens supporting a just transition.

Action	Next steps and Indicative delivery timeframe	Delivery partners
<b>1. Laying the policy foundations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set progressive planning policies to increase energy standards in new buildings. <i>2021–2023</i></li> <li>• Require the use of low and zero emissions technologies to heat and power the city's buildings. <i>2021–2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, the Scottish Government, developers, Registered Social Landlords
<b>2. Developing a city energy masterplan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene a City Heat and Energy Partnership. <i>2021–2023</i></li> <li>• Develop a city-wide heat and energy masterplan. <i>2021–2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, NHS, Edinburgh universities, Scottish Water, Scottish Power Energy Networks, Scottish Gas Network, and other key partners.
<b>3. Grid investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a strategic partnership with Scottish Power Energy Networks. <i>2021</i></li> <li>• Align current and future grid development to the city's energy needs. <i>2022-2030</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, SP Energy Networks
<b>4. Energy investment strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a long-term shared investment strategy to deliver the city energy masterplan. <i>2021–2023</i></li> <li>• Agree appropriate delivery mechanisms. <i>2021–2023</i></li> </ul>	City Heat and Energy Partnership, the Scottish Government, private sector
<b>5. Developing regional energy solutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop regional renewable energy solutions which draw on the area's wind, geothermal, hydro and solar assets. <i>2024-2027</i></li> <li>• Learn from the H100 hydrogen pilot. <i>2024-2027</i></li> </ul>	City Heat and Energy Partnership
<b>6. Developing heat networks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify heat network zones across the city. <i>Early 2022</i></li> <li>• Ensure all Council-led infrastructure investment plans seek opportunities to connect to heat networks, beginning with our learning estate programme. <i>2023 - 2027</i></li> <li>• Work with communities and developers to deliver heat networks which meet the needs of key public sector buildings and major new developments across the city, beginning with Granton Waterfront and the BioQuarter. <i>2023 - 2027</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council  City Heat and Energy Partnership
<b>7. Focussing on place-based projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate on place-based joint energy infrastructure projects which maximise opportunities to deliver low-cost, clean, renewable energy to neighbourhoods and communities, with a focus on areas experiencing inequalities. <i>2024–2027</i></li> </ul>	City Heat and Energy Partnership

<p><b>8. Retrofitting the city's social housing and public sector estate</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a plan for retrofitting social housing across the city to the highest energy standards, to reduce energy demand and tackle fuel poverty. <i>2028-2030</i></li> <li>• Collaborate on and identify opportunities for a joint public sector estate retrofit programme. <i>2023-2027</i></li> <li>• Ensure retrofit programmes create green jobs and skills development opportunities for citizens, targeting those at greatest risk of poverty. <i>2023-2027</i></li> </ul>	<p>The City of Edinburgh Council, Registered Social Landlords</p> <p>NHS, University of Edinburgh, Heriot Watt University, Scottish Fire, Scottish Power Energy Networks, the City of Edinburgh Council, skills development bodies.</p>
<p><b>9. Testing innovative approaches for challenging settings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope and test innovative approaches to retrofit in challenging mixed-tenure and heritage settings, to deliver exemplar models and accelerate progress. <i>2021–2023</i></li> <li>• Adapt Edinburgh's World Heritage site to be resilient to climate change. <i>2021–2023</i></li> </ul>	<p>EIT Climate-KIC, Edinburgh Climate Change Institute, Changeworks, Edinburgh World Heritage</p> <p>Edinburgh World Heritage, Historic Environment Scotland</p>
<p><b>10. Supporting owner-occupiers and landlords</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop models that support businesses, owner-occupiers and private landlords to invest in energy retrofits. <i>2024-2027</i></li> <li>• Call on the Scottish Government to bring forward at speed schemes to support citizens to fund energy efficiency upgrades and decarbonisation of heat in their homes. <i>2021</i></li> <li>• Call on the Scottish Government to urge the UK Government to ensure its future Heat in Buildings Strategy includes action to significantly reduce the cost of electricity, without passing costs on to other areas of households' budgets. <i>2021</i></li> </ul>	<p>The City of Edinburgh Council, EIT Climate-KIC, Changeworks, Edinburgh World Heritage</p> <p>The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government</p>
<p><b>11. Resourcing net zero public buildings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call on the Scottish Government to work with city partners to identify and deploy additional resource to deliver net zero public buildings. <i>2021–2023</i></li> </ul>	<p>The City of Edinburgh Council, the Scottish Government, developers, Registered Social Landlords</p>



## Net Zero Emission Transport

### Outcomes

- A city where travelling by foot, wheel, or by bike is the easiest and cheapest option.
- The city has a well-connected and sustainable transport and active travel network.
- Investment in neighbourhoods, town and city centres improves citizen health and wellbeing.

Action	Next steps and Indicative delivery timeframe	Delivery partners
1. <b>Investing in active travel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prioritise investment in expanding the active travel network, connecting communities to services and amenities in their neighbourhoods. <i>2021-2030</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council
2. <b>Developing integrated public transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Improve the integration of our public transport system, and review routes and interchanges, within a city and regional context. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, national and regional transport partners, public transport operators
3. <b>Decarbonising buses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Work with the Bus Decarbonisation Taskforce and private sector partners to develop a plan to decarbonise the city's bus fleet. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	Lothian Buses, The Scottish Government, The City of Edinburgh Council
4. <b>Improving local air quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Implement a Low Emissions Zone scheme to reduce harmful emissions from transport and improve air quality. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government.
5. <b>Better management of the city centre</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Create a city-centre operations plan to reduce emissions by improving the way goods and service vehicles move around the city, supporting the use of innovative zero emission solutions for 'last mile' deliveries. <i>2024-2027</i></li> </ul>	Transport sector, businesses, The City of Edinburgh Council
6. <b>Supporting public sector transition to electric vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify opportunities to align to investment in EV infrastructure for public service and blue light fleet at strategic locations across the city, which also delivers 'down-time' availability for citizens and businesses, where possible. <i>2024-2027</i></li> </ul>	NHS, Fire, Police, Edinburgh universities
7. <b>Delivering electric vehicle infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop pilot proposals for public-use EV charging hubs in locations which align with the City Mobility Plan's aims of increasing sustainable travel and avoid adding to city-centre congestion. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, private investment partners
8. <b>Engaging with citizens</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Engage with citizens and businesses on the potential benefits of introducing a Workplace Parking Levy as part of a range of measures to deliver the City Mobility Plan. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	Citizens, The City of Edinburgh Council
9. <b>Reducing emissions from flying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Encourage partner organisations to sign up to the Edinburgh Climate Compact</li> <li>● Work with citizens and city partners to support staff and residents to make more sustainable travel choices in their professional and personal lives. <i>2021-2030</i></li> </ul>	Citizens, The City of Edinburgh Council, public and private sector partners

## Business and Skills in a Net Zero Economy

### Outcomes

- Edinburgh's economy recovers from recession and key sectors are sustainable and resilient to future crises, such as those related to climate change.
- Edinburgh has a vibrant circular economy, improving resource efficiency and enhancing citizen wellbeing.
- Edinburgh's economy is built on good, green jobs which people from all backgrounds can access through education, skills and retraining.

Action	Next steps and Indicative delivery timeframe	Partners
1. <b>Connecting investment to opportunity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a mechanism for connecting those looking to invest in a net zero city with the businesses and organisations looking to drive change that supports speed and scale of net zero action. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government, developers and investors
2. <b>Net Zero Procurement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that all public sector procurement spend actively supports this strategy so that by 2030 all new investment and purchase decisions are net zero. <i>2021-2030</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian, Police Scotland and other statutory partners
3. <b>Edinburgh Climate Compact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and encourage city businesses to sign up to the Edinburgh Climate Compact and commit to reduce their emissions. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	Edinburgh Climate Commission, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, and The City of Edinburgh Council
4. <b>Explore a green innovation challenge finance scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore establishing a finance scheme to complement the Commission Climate Compact, stimulate new lead markets, and support Edinburgh businesses to play a full part in a net zero economy and a green recovery. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council and other partners
5. <b>Business Mentoring and support for net zero transition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver business mentoring and business support programmes to help employers take practical steps to realign their operations towards becoming net zero. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, Scottish Enterprise
6. <b>Circular Edinburgh</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase participation in the Circular Edinburgh programme which supports businesses to reduce, re-use and recycle as part of embedding circular economy principles into their ways of working. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and Zero Waste Scotland
7. <b>Skills and workforce development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope skill needs and align workforce development programmes to meet the needs of net zero businesses, and to promote accessibility of well paid, rewarding career opportunities. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	Further and higher education partners, Skills Development Scotland, and The City of Edinburgh Council

<b>8. Enabling powers for local government, business and city partners to respond to climate change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call on the Scottish Government to build coherent and flexible legislative and regulatory frameworks that empower local government, business and city partners, so they can rapidly respond to the climate emergency in an agile and adaptive way. <i>2021</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government
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## Engaging and empowering citizens to help tackle climate change

### Outcomes

- Citizens are engaged and empowered to respond to the climate emergency.
- Edinburgh is a city where sustainable choices are cheaper and easier to make, and people are taking action to reduce their carbon footprint.
- Citizens are empowered, engaged and acting to influence the public and private sector to go further on tackling climate change.

Action	Next steps and Indicative delivery timeframe	Partners
<b>1. Information about climate change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver awareness-raising campaigns. <i>2021 onwards</i></li> <li>• Support citizens to measure their carbon footprint. <i>2021 onwards</i></li> </ul>	The Scottish Government, The City of Edinburgh Council
<b>2. Citizen engagement and dialogue</b>	<p>Maintain an ongoing open dialogue with citizens about the transformation that needs to happen in the city and how we can collaborate to take decisions and deliver change together. <i>2021 onwards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call on the Scottish Government to work with Edinburgh on awareness raising campaigns to support a frank discussion on climate change action. <i>2021</i></li> </ul>	<p>The City of Edinburgh Council, community councils, community and civil society groups</p> <p>The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government</p>
<b>3. Supporting and engaging young people</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise opportunities to focus on climate change across our whole education system, including independent schools. <i>2021 onwards</i></li> <li>• Work with young people in schools and in communities, to embed a legacy of change, drawing on COP26 coming to Scotland. <i>2021 onwards</i></li> <li>• Strengthen climate change within our curriculum. <i>2021 onwards</i></li> <li>• Pilot a carbon footprinting app within at least two schools. <i>2021 onwards</i></li> <li>• Deliver a Hydrogen Education Programme and schools challenge. <i>2021- 2022</i></li> </ul>	<p>The City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh schools, youth and community groups</p> <p>The City of Edinburgh Council, Scottish Cities Alliance</p>
<b>4. Net Zero Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop proposals and seek funding for creating '<i>net zero communities</i>' in at least two neighbourhoods within the city. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, higher education partners, community councils

## Investing in Change

### Outcomes

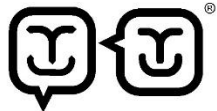
- City partner budgets are aligned towards net zero place-based investment
- Edinburgh is a centre for global capital investment, supporting the infrastructure projects needed to transition the city
- Investment in Edinburgh is also delivering social and economic benefits for citizens

Action	Next steps and Indicative delivery timeframe	Partners
1. <b>Create a pipeline of investible projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase capacity and resources to develop feasibility studies and business cases that enable the development of a pipeline of investible projects. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The Scottish Government
2. <b>Providing an evidence base for investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop Edinburgh's Carbon Scenario Tool and wider shared data, especially around mobility and energy, to drive net zero innovation and provide an evidence base for investment. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	Edinburgh's further and higher education sector
3. <b>Developing innovative finance modes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop innovative finance models that share risk and reward and deliver economic and social benefits for Edinburgh's citizens, beginning with Nature Climate Bonds and exploring, for example, city investment bonds. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The Scottish Government, Scottish National Investment Bank, The City of Edinburgh Council, private sector partners
4. <b>Funding scalable tests of change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Seek funding to deliver scalable tests of change which use innovative finance models to deliver place-based net zero projects and build community wealth, beginning with net zero development and community retrofit. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, EIT C-KIC
5. <b>Developing capital investment opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Bring forward a pipeline of capital investment opportunities at scale, to deliver major heat and energy, transport, EV, greenspace, and energy efficient housing infrastructure projects that support the city's transition to net zero. <i>2024-2027.</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, public and private sector partners
6. <b>Delivering place-based investment at scale</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Call on the Scottish Government to work with public bodies to develop joined-up funding streams to deliver place-based investment at a scale which supports the transition to net zero. <i>2024-2027.</i></li> </ul>	The Scottish Government, The City of Edinburgh Council, public sector partners
7. <b>Partnerships for infrastructure investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Call on the Scottish Government to work with the City of Edinburgh Council and other public sector partners to invest in and share the risks associated with developing a pipeline of rapid action net zero infrastructure projects. <i>2021-2023</i></li> </ul>	The Scottish Government, The City of Edinburgh Council, public sector partners
8. <b>Retaining economic benefits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Call on the Scottish Government to use existing mechanisms, and consider the development of additional measures, to ensure economic benefits resulting from city partner action on climate change and Covid recovery are shared with the city – helping to fund future action. <i>2021</i></li> </ul>	The City of Edinburgh Council, The Scottish Government

**9. Working with UK partners**

- Develop strategic approaches to mobilising place-based finance.

Place-Based Climate Action Network



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