

Just Transition Commission Final Report

Easy Read Version



Just Transition
Commission



This is a short Easy Read summary of a much larger report. We have tried to make it as simple as possible but it still contains a lot of complicated words and ideas.

Introduction



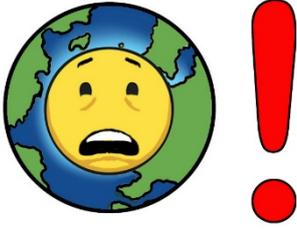
The **Just Transition Commission** was set by the Scottish Government in 2018.



The commission is a group made up of business leaders, environmental organisations and trade unions. It also includes experts on Scotland's energy, transport, agriculture and buildings.



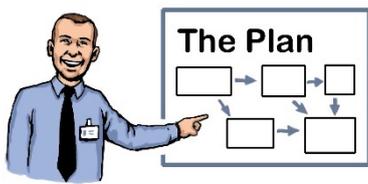
Just transition is how we reduce the bad effects of climate change. People will see changes in how they live, work, and travel. A just transition is about sharing the costs and benefits of these changes fairly.



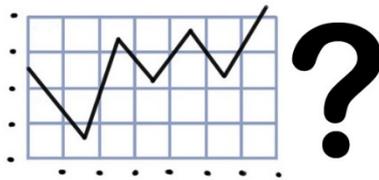
The climate is the weather we expect to have. Climate change means we will have more extreme weather - more heavy rain and hotter, drier summers.



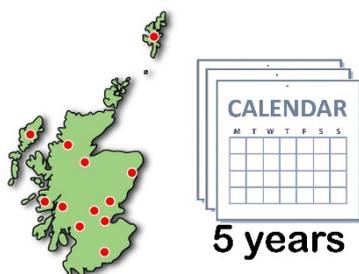
Just transition will support workers in oil and gas to take new roles. It will also help people with costs as we change where we get our energy from.



The Scottish Government has asked the Commission to:



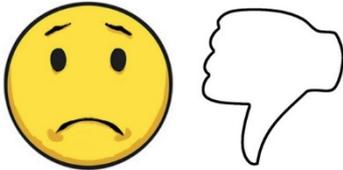
- Give advice on the Scottish Government's just transition plans.
- Give advice on how progress should be checked and measured.
- Work with those most affected by the transition and other experts.
- Publish a yearly report on Scotland's progress.



The Commission held events, meetings and community visits all over Scotland for the last 5 years. It also held a Just Transition Summit in Edinburgh October 2025.



The Commission published advice on the Scottish Government's just transition plans. It also published the final report called **No time to lose**.



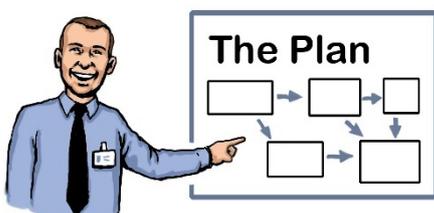
In 2024 the Commission warned that just transition was at risk of going backwards. It said that not enough has been done.



The Commission reported that the Government has done some of the work. But there have been too many delays in the last 5 years and we are not taking enough action.



We are taking too long to reduce car use and stop the use of gas boilers. Important plans like the Scottish Government's **Energy Strategy** have not been completed.



The Energy Strategy is a plan for a non-pollution energy system. It should give affordable, reliable and clean energy to Scotland's workers, households, communities and businesses.



Delays are having bad effects on our transport system. They are also affecting workers in sectors like forestry and fishing. They also affect the homes we live in.



The Government needs to be brave and take action in lots of areas. We have to make difficult choices and learn from what has been successful across Scotland.



The Commission has published examples of successful projects. These include **green manufacturing** and community projects.



Green manufacturing includes making parts for Scotland's new wind turbines at sea. Or wind turbine farms that are owned by communities and share the money they make with their local community.



But if we do not do things faster and at a bigger scale, then the most vulnerable people will be at most risk.



A key problem now is there is too much uncertainty. This is not good for households, businesses, and communities.

Recommendations



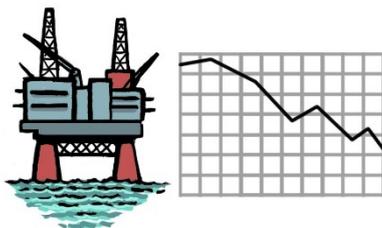
These are the Commission's recommendations for government.

1. Plans for places that cause a lot of pollution must come first. These plans must include the workers.



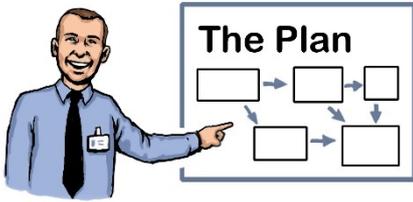
Our Government and councils must use what we have learned from the Grangemouth and other closures.

2. The Scottish and UK Government need a plan for North Sea workers.



North Sea workers fear losing their jobs and not being able to get another job. Lots of people have already lost their jobs. The plan must give proper support for all staff including catering crews.

3. Complete just transition plans for sectors like agriculture, transport, energy, and housing.



In each of these sectors, businesses, workers and public sector organisations need clear plans to follow. Then they will know what they have to do and how much it will cost.

4. A new skills plan for the transition is needed.



Women, ethnic minorities and the disabled must be included in new plans for hiring and training staff. There are currently not enough people from these groups.

5. Colleges are important and need to be funded well.



Increased funding should be given to colleges to help them train people with the skills we need in the future.

6. Communities should have more of a say in how we look after the land.



Communities should be more involved as Scotland does more tree-planting. Communities should own more of the land they use.

7. Funding for forestry should be updated to help restore and expand woodland.



Make native woodland and forests bigger and improve local landscapes.

8. Invest more in biodiversity.



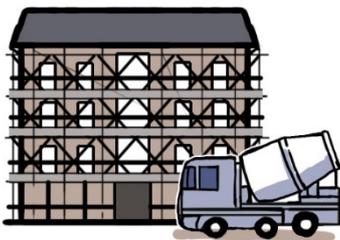
Biodiversity means an area has a wide range of wildlife. The law on biodiversity should be clear when planning large building and energy projects.

9. Improve how we are repairing homes and making homes energy efficient.



Make sure we are putting the right amount of funding into repairing old homes and building good new ones. Also make sure we use good materials and that the work creates good jobs for people.

10. Use more modern methods for building housing.



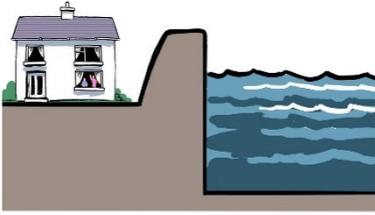
Use modern methods to build good homes faster. There should be less waste and lower costs and harm to the environment. This will help communities.

11. Work out how insurance costs are changing as part of the transition.



The Government should look at the costs of insurance against climate damage to buildings and property. It should make sure it is helping the most vulnerable.

12. Add new duties for the Just Transition Commission on how we adapt to climate change



Any future Just Transition Commission should have a clear duty to look at issues around extreme weather and other risks from climate change.

13. Make better transition plans for transport workers.



This will need to include new training to support those whose roles may change or no longer be needed. There should also be support for those who need new jobs.

14. Make sure Scotland's new low pollution bus system provides good services for all parts of Scotland



Bus companies need to have fair pricing, safety on board, and make sure they are accessible

15. Make electric vehicles more affordable for everyone.



Look at new schemes to help make electric vehicles a good option for everyone. These could include loans.

16. People who pollute more when they travel pay more.



Those who cause most air pollution should pay more for the costs of the transition. This should include people who travel by plane a lot and drive high pollution vehicles.

17. Make sure just transition is addressed across government.



All parts of government need to think about just transition. We need to have processes that make sure this happens.

18. Make new plans to bring in high quality business investment.



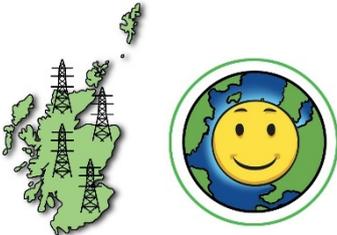
We want more businesses to invest money across Scotland. We need to make sure this is high quality investment that brings new well paid jobs.

19. Set clear dates for cutting out technology that causes pollution and restoring nature.



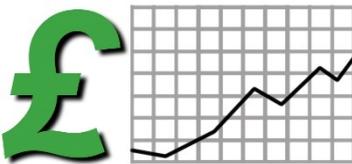
Set clear deadlines so businesses know when they have to make changes and spend money.

20. Get more investment in public goods.



Make sure government helps businesses to invest money in areas they do not usually invest in. Such as community energy and restoring nature.

21. Make sure the Just Transition Fund can meet the £500 million target



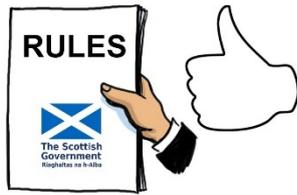
Make sure the Just Transition Fund keeps getting enough funding to make sure we can meet our goals.

22. Work to connect big financial businesses with the just transition.



Get big banks and businesses to work with us and help the just transition happen faster.

23. Set clear business rules for just transition.



Set clear rules for business and industry about how they will be involved. These will make sure they do good things, like pay their workers well.

24. New solutions for difficult problems.



Find new ways of dealing with problems, including low pollution heating, transport, getting people to buy electric vehicles, restoring nature and peatland.

25, Give communities the right to share ownership of renewable energy projects.



Give local councils and communities the right to be part owners of renewable energy projects like wind and wave power. This will make these projects happen sooner and benefit the communities.

26. Ask UK Government to make community benefit part of the law



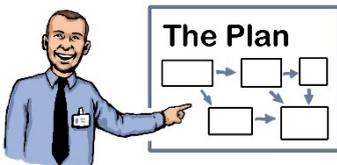
Change the law so that any energy, forestry or other business activity in an area must benefit the local community.

27. Assess where services are facing pressure.



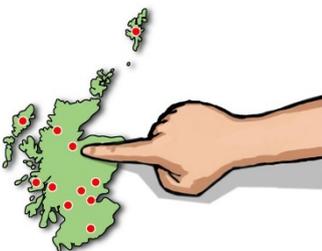
Make sure that just transition plans think about pressures on local services. For example, care, health, education, and housing.

28. Make a national plan for measuring success



This plan should set targets and say how they will be measured. It should set deadlines for when the targets will be met. It should promise that there will be yearly progress reports.

29. Put this measurement plan into action across Scotland.



Bring together local councils, public bodies, charities, business and industry across Scotland. This could begin in areas where oil and gas industries were based.

30. Set up an independent body to check progress



Setting up a group like a Just Transition Commission would help us reach our goals. This group would be made up of experts who would check and measure how well we are working towards just transition.

