

# Consultation on the Draft Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme



## RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response to ensure that we handle your response appropriately

### 1. Name/Organisation

Organisation Name

Scottish Communities Climate Action Network

## CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

### 1 Views on the Overarching Framework

**1a** To what extent does the overarching framework of the Programme outlined in Figure 1 set an appropriate long term direction for climate change adaptation in Scotland?

Fully  **Mostly**  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments: We welcome the overarching aim of the programme to increase the resilience of Scotland's people, environment and economy. However, the unpredictable effect of the climate change already locked into the system is just one of the challenges facing Scotland's communities along with the challenge of rapid decarbonisation, increasing inequality and economic turmoil. Creating resilient, low-carbon communities, including resilient eco-systems, food systems, buildings and infrastructure networks needs to be at the heart of all Scottish Government policies and programmes. A clear vision of what a low-carbon, resilient Scotland will look like is required and communities need to be empowered and inspired to take action to create local economies and systems that are adapted to local circumstances and resilient to whatever unexpected shocks arise. The programme needs to take more account of the fact that all actions to implement it will be required to take place in the context of a rapid reduction in use of fossil fuels. The draft programme considers Scotland in isolation and takes no account of our current vulnerability to shocks arising elsewhere in the global economy, including from climate change. Scotland's food system is particularly vulnerable to shocks elsewhere in the world.

**1b** Does the overarching framework address the current and predicted impacts to Scotland identified in the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

## 2 Views on the Natural Environment Theme

**2a** Do objectives **N1**, **N2** and **N3** collectively set an appropriate long term direction to ensure that Scotland's natural environment is able to adapt to our changing climate?

Fully  Mostly  **Partially**  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments: SCCAN endorses the response from Nourish Scotland concerning the need for the development of a resilient Scottish food system to be a central focus for the Adaptation Programme.

**2b** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **N1** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**2c** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **N2** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**2d** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **N3** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**2e** Taken together, do the policies and proposals listed under objectives **N1**, **N2** and **N3** address the current and predicted impacts to the natural environment in Scotland identified in the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

### 3 Views on the Infrastructure and Built Environment Theme

**3a** Do objectives **B1**, **B2** and **B3** collectively set an appropriate long term direction to ensure that Scotland's buildings and infrastructure networks are able to adapt to our changing climate?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

See comments on properties of resilient systems in 'Society' theme. Reducing energy demand and dependence on fossil fuels in domestic buildings is crucial in reducing vulnerability to climate change. Private householders need much easier access to finance for whole house retrofitting while planning policies regarding solid wall insulation in conservation areas need review. Increased air-tightness requirements for new build should go hand in hand with requirements for breathable construction to maintain air quality and avoid damage to building fabric from wind driven rain. Reducing the need to travel through relocalised economies, is as crucial as increasing the resilience of our transport infrastructure.

**3b** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **B1** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**3c** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **B2** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**3d** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **B3** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**3e** Taken together, do the policies and proposals listed under objectives **B1**, **B2** and **B3** address the current and predicted impacts to Scotland's buildings and infrastructure networks identified in the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

#### 4 Views on the Society Theme

**4a** Do objectives **S1**, **S2** and **S3** collectively set an appropriate long term direction to ensure that our communities are able to adapt to our changing climate?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments: we propose that there need to be two further objectives:

- to support and empower communities to become resilient
- to support the development of resilient local economies

SCCAN is concerned that 'resilience' is in danger of becoming equated with 'emergency planning'. Building deeply resilient systems is a long term process that needs to go far beyond preparing for short-term emergencies, important as this is.

SCCAN proposes that there needs to be much more research into the characteristics of resilient systems and communities, followed up by a programme of awareness raising and knowledge building within communities and at all levels of government. The work started by the Carnegie UK Trust and summarised in their publication [Exploring Community Resilience](#) provides a good starting point.

Some of the characteristics of resilient communities include:

**Diversity** – to ensure that all their eggs aren't in one basket, communities need a broad base of livelihoods, land use, enterprise and energy systems

**Modularity**- to ensure that collapse of one part of the system doesn't bring the rest down with it, communities need the ability to meet more local needs from local resources and to have built in 'surge protectors' for the local economy, such as local food production, decentralised energy systems and localised community scale infrastructure

**Tightness of feedback** – rapid awareness of what is going on elsewhere in the community and of the consequences of local actions

**Innovation** – ability and openness to experimentation and flexibility and willingness to embrace change, to learn and adapt

**Connections** – social capital and the ability to self-organise

The potential for relocalised, low-carbon economies to create jobs, retain and

create wealth locally at the same time as creating local resilience, meeting carbon reduction targets, regenerating communities and contributing to improved health and wellbeing needs to be much better understood. Work on this should form part of the Society theme.

**4b** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **S1** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**4c** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **S2** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**4d** To what extent will the policies and proposals listed under objective **S3** provide an appropriate focus for the lifetime of the Programme in order to progress towards the long-term objective?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

**4e** Taken together, do the policies and proposals listed under objectives **S1**, **S2** and **S3** address the current and predicted impacts to Scottish society identified in the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  Tick one box only

Comments:

## 5 Views on the Role of Others in Delivering the Programme

**5a** What support will public bodies require in meeting their duties to help deliver the programme?

Comments:

**5b** Are the arrangements for ensuring public engagement and for involving employers, trade unions and other stakeholders in meeting the programme objectives sufficient?

Yes  No

Comments:

## **6 Views on the Environmental Report**

**6a** To what extent does the environmental report set out an accurate description of the current environmental baseline?

Fully  Mostly  Partially  Poorly  *Tick one box only*

Please give details of relevant sources:

**6b** Do you agree with the predicted environmental effects of the draft adaptation programme, set out in the Environmental Report?

Yes  No

Comments:

**6c** Do you agree with the recommendations set out in the Environmental Report?

Yes  No

Comments:

**6d** Do you agree with the proposals for monitoring of the environmental effects of the draft programme set out in the Environmental Report?

Yes  No

Comments:

**6e** Are you aware of any further environmental information that will help to inform the environmental assessment findings?

Yes  No

Please give details of relevant sources:

**6f** Are you aware of other 'reasonable' alternatives to adaptation programme and its content that should be considered as part of the SEA process?

Yes  No

Please give details of relevant sources:

## **7 Additional Comments**

**7a** Please provide any additional comments you would like to make on the draft Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme.

Comments: