

Crofting Commission Climate Emergency Charter

As a public body, we will lead by example in promoting our work on the climate crisis. The Crofting Commission recognises the climate crisis, and we are continuing to develop and review our climate emergency charter.

We also pursue the <u>Sustainable Development Goals</u>. In the following recommendations, in addition to our environmental policies, we are publishing a climate emergency charter for the organisation to clarify our aspirations regarding the Crofting Commission team and how we work with external partners.

1. Following the sustainability goals as set out in the National Performance Framework. https://nationalperformance.gov.scot/sustainable-development-goals. We are closely following the aims of the National Performance Framework in our work.

2. Recognising the climate crisis in policies.

At the Crofting Commission we will take the environment into account in the policies we create. This includes minor and internal policies.

3. Aiming to be carbon neutral.

One of the outcomes recorded in our Corporate Plan is to reduce our impact upon the environment. We are focused on progress to become carbon-neutral and intend to consider our Action Plan during the coming year. In our statutory <u>Annual Climate Change Report</u>, we are required to provide:

- 3.1 The Commission's target date for achieving zero direct emissions of greenhouse gases, or such other targets that demonstrate how the Commission is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets
- 3.2 Where applicable, targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases
- 3.3 How the Commission will align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emissions reduction targets
- 3.4 How the Commission will publish, or otherwise make available, its progress to achieving its emissions reduction targets
- 3.5 Where applicable, what contribution the Commission has made to helping deliver Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme.

4. Wherever possible, we encourage the most environmentally friendly travel and avoid travel where we can.

We are closely examining our practices for the future to ensure that we can balance our obligations to the environment, while covering such a large, and at times remote area within the Crofting Counties of Scotland. Technology will help us to meet this challenge, but we must have a balanced and sensible approach to interacting and working with the Crofting Community we serve.

Where reasonable we will use the most environmentally friendly modes of transport. This will also be reflected in our travel policy.

A recent example of this approach relates to the Commission Board facilitating 2 Board Meetings entirely electronically for reporting year 2025/26.

5. Adhering to the latest best practice in relation to Scotland's environmental goals and adapting our approaches where appropriate.

We work closely with other public bodies to pursue sustainable policies in Scotland and if working methods improve, we will change them. Where possible we share services, an example of this is our shared finance function with Nature Scot.

6. We will be mindful of the environment in everything we do.

In our work to regulate the crofting system fairly, and to protect and strengthen it for future generations, we will have an awareness of the climate crisis and encourage the organisations we work with to be similarly aware.

7. We will use sustainable procurement.

The Crofting Commission will primarily use Scottish Government Framework Contracts for major procurement purposes. Our procurement process will follow the Government's plan. https://www.gov.scot/policies/public-sector-procurement/sustainable-procurement-duty/

The Crofting Commission will use sustainable provision at the highest level. We will be aware of sustainability risks and opportunities when accepting any bids.

8. We will create a dedicated environmental team within reporting year 2025/26.

We will create an in-house environmental team, taking advantage of various skills sets within the Crofting Commission, to build on our sustainable systems.

9. We will continue to focus upon our Carbon Management Plan.

Crofting Commission Executive Team

March 2025