

CLEAN GROWTH LEADERSHIP GROUP

Statement of Vision & Principles

Our environment and natural resources have long been a foundation of Scotland's economy and many of our businesses and industries are globally recognised as leaders of sustainability in their fields.

We recognise that to continue to deliver economic sustainability, we must do more to ensure environmental sustainability, and take the action necessary to do so. In the face of climate change, the pace of that action needs to accelerate, and every part of our economy needs to do more to tackle their impacts and identify solutions to transition to clean sustainable growth.

We know that different geographies and sectors all have roles to play on the road to net zero. We know that as we identify and act on the measures necessary to deliver environmental sustainability, we must also ensure the sustainability of our communities and their economies as we do so. We know that we can build on the strengths and advantages of our urban and rural communities, and harness the capacity of our innovators, academics and entrepreneurs.

We should not outsource our responsibilities. We have a duty to take responsibility for the full impact of our activity, recognising our territorial and footprint emissions. From farming to fabrication, Scotland can own its environmental impact from inception to realisation.

Scotland's policy response must take a balanced approach between incentives and regulations to support individuals in every community as citizens, consumers and workers, and to support businesses in every sector and of every size as producers, providers and employers, to deliver net zero, manage the transition, improve the environment and benefit from the economic opportunities.

By striking the balance between the conservation, restoration, and utilisation of Scotland's rich land and water resources, and by better harnessing its renewable energy potential, we can be home to, and a global leader in, truly sustainable business. We can develop net zero technologies and expertise for export around the world, supporting the internationalisation and growth of our own economy while also playing our part as a responsible, outward-looking global citizen in the global effort to achieve global net zero.

This is what Scotland can be known for in the global economy of the future. Our work as SCDI's Clean Growth Leadership Group will advance this agenda and develop recommendations to achieve our vision of a clean growth, waste-free, nature-rich future for Scotland.