

# Draft 2030 Climate Strategy

Thank you for your interest and engagement in the City of Edinburgh Council's Draft 2030 Climate Strategy.

The consultation period for the strategy was between 14 June 2021 and 12 September 2021. In total, 920 residents and other stakeholders took part in our online survey, submitted a letter, or participated in one of the virtual focus groups held over the summer.

This note summarises what questions we asked, what participants said, and what we did because of their feedback.

## We asked

We asked questions about:

- How well people understood climate change and how much they supported action to combat climate change
- Whether they supported the overall vision, principles and actions of the strategy
- How we should deal with transport, energy generation, energy efficient buildings, and economic growth in Edinburgh – while meeting our 2030 net zero targets
- How we ensure public and private organisations and individuals can invest in change, and ensure a fair transition to net zero
- How we ensure Edinburgh has the right skills for a net zero economy
- How we govern our programmes of action and whether we locally use carbon offsetting

## You said

Participants overwhelmingly supported the strategy's aims and vision and the strategy's actions were broadly welcomed.

Participants appreciated the depth and breadth of the strategy reflected the complex and systemic nature of the climate challenge. However, they wanted the strategy and city partner action to focus on actions that would have the most impact on the net zero target.

Some feedback from city partners suggested that the draft strategy did not sufficiently cover specific issues including public health, greenspaces, adaptation, the importance of sustainable tourism, and the circular economy.

Third and public sector partners also commented on the need to ensure commitment from the private sector is in place, and many city partners shared where their activities could contribute to delivery.

The need to support, empower, and engage citizens – especially young people – was a common theme.

Participants wanted the strategy to find the right balance between restrictions on behaviour, penalties, and incentives.

More generally, participants wanted to see more detail on how, when, and by who, strategy commitments will be delivered.

Read the [full report on the consultation findings](#) (page 12 onwards).

## We did

Following the feedback, the 2030 Climate Strategy is now supported by an Implementation Plan which details deliverables, milestones, timescales, resources, and an approach to measuring outcomes and impact. This is a working document that will continue to develop and evolve along with the Strategy as work is progressed.

The strategy has also been reviewed and adjusted. It now:

- Has a new action creating a community climate forum to support collaboration and provide citizens with information and support to take action climate change. This forum will be sponsored by the Council and established by EVOC and Our Future Edinburgh.
- Provides a greater focus on the role and importance of young people.
- Identifies seven priorities which respond to the top sources of emissions within the city, and are at the forefront of partner collaboration and action.
- Has a detailed governance framework that includes partnership workstreams, overseen by a climate strategy investment program board which will develop a green investment plan for the city.
- Gives greater profile to the climate emergency and includes new actions that strengthen our focus on public health.
- Improves the visibility of adaptation, greenspaces, biodiversity, food growing, the circular economy, and sustainable tourism in the strategy – all of these areas also have actions in the implementation plan.
- Creates new structures for enhancing private sector involvement and engagement, including a new business support network.
- Has additional actions to develop support for small businesses, owner-occupiers, and private landlords to affordably retrofit their properties.
- Includes a new principle to act on the city's global footprint (scope 3 emissions) and new actions on public sector procurement.

Read the [full report outlining changes to the 2030 Climate Strategy](#)