

# Infrastructure Commission *for* Scotland

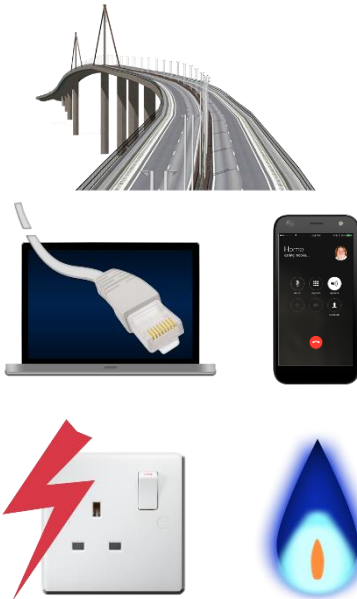


## Phase 1: Key findings report A blueprint for Scotland



### Why do we need infrastructure and what do we need?





Infrastructure is the buildings and services that a country needs to work well – things like:

- roads and transport
- internet and phone services
- and how we get power and water.



Scotland's natural infrastructure is included.

This includes our parks, forests, lochs and seas.



Good infrastructure is part of everyone's life.

It helps Scotland to be a country that works well.



The Infrastructure Commission for Scotland was set up in 2019 to give advice to Scottish Ministers.

The Scottish Ministers want to have a plan for Scotland's infrastructure for the next 30 years.



This is the Phase 1 Report - the first part of the work.

It says what infrastructure we need and why we need it.



To help us with this, more than 1000 Scottish people have told us what they think using online surveys or by coming to workshops.



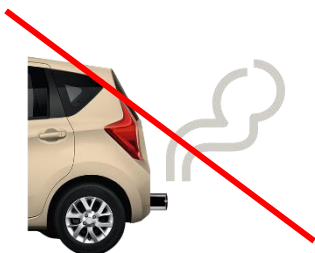
We asked infrastructure experts for advice.

An expert is someone who knows a lot about a subject.

150 experts told us what they thought.



The Commission had events across Scotland and asked international organisations for advice.



We want Scotland's air to be cleaner and for infrastructure to help make Scotland a fairer place to live.

Work on this is already happening but we want things to change more quickly.



It will mean making some decisions that are difficult.

We need to know if the changes are working well.



This report looks at 8 areas.

Each of these areas describes the things that the Commission wants to see happen.

Governments, councils, business and people all need to work together to make the plan work.



**What does the Commission think should happen?**

**1. Leadership. The Scottish Government should look at how they make decisions about infrastructure and how it affects the environment.**



Projects that get money from the Scottish Government should be good for the environment and help make Scotland fairer.



By 2021 the Scottish Government should have a new way to decide if infrastructure is working well, how money is spent on it and how decisions are made.



The Scottish Government should have a plan by 2023 about what infrastructure Scotland needs, including natural infrastructure.

The plan should be looked at every 5 years to see if it is working well.



The Scottish Government should have a plan by 2025 about how money is spent on infrastructure, using this new way of deciding.

## 2. Place should be at the centre of all infrastructure planning.

When we talk about 'place' it can mean streets where you live, a town or city, a council area or even two or more councils working together.

2021



By 2021 the Scottish Government should have a plan to look at the amount of houses Scotland needs.

There should be a plan for jobs and new businesses that will happen if we are working in ways that are better for the environment.

2021



By 2021 the Scottish Government should change the way the planning system helps deliver infrastructure.

It should look at how land is used and how to make investments happen in the best way.



An investment is something that we put money in to help it grow.

This can be things like fixing roads or building schools so that we make Scotland a better place to live.



**3. Making the most of the infrastructure we have now.  
We will still be using most of the infrastructure we have  
now in 30 years' time.  
We must use it well, look after it and make it better.**



By the end of 2020, the Scottish Government should ask public services to have a plan to look after their infrastructure and make it better instead of building new things.

The Scottish Government must make new guidance to help this.



We should share buildings and services if we can instead of building new things just for one organisation.



By 2023 the Scottish Government should have a plan for how we use our resources so we have less waste.



This may mean using things for longer and collecting waste and making it into other things instead of putting it into landfill.



By 2023, the Scottish Government should have a plan to look at how infrastructure must change to cope with climate change.

#### 4. Heat and Transport.

**We want Scotland to be net zero carbon in the next 30 years.**

**This means finding ways to put less carbon dioxide or greenhouse gas into the air.**

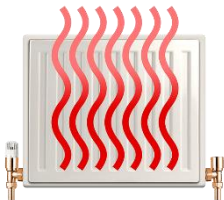
**Most of Scotland's carbon dioxide gas comes from heating our homes by gas and from vehicle exhausts.**

**This means looking at the way we provide heat and transport.**



#### **Heat:**

By the end of 2020, the Scottish Government should plan to have more buildings across Scotland which don't add to the carbon emissions.



There must be new ways to encourage and support people who own properties to change their properties and make them better.



By 2022, the Scottish Government, councils and industry should work together to find a way to have heating in buildings and transport that is good for the environment.





## Transport:

Money should be spent on:

- active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling)
- and ways to encourage people to share transport and use public transport, instead of driving.



Money should be spent on the roads we have to make them safer and work better in the future, instead of building new roads.



By the end of 2021, the Scottish Government and Transport Scotland should have new guidance on how they make decisions about spending money, and how they decide if projects are working well.



The Scottish and UK Governments should work together on a new way for people to be charged for driving on roads, instead of the road and fuel charges we have now.

## 5. Regulation.

**Rules will be important so that everyone works in the same way.**



The Scottish and UK Governments should work together so by 2021 Scotland has new rules and prices for the infrastructure that gives us energy:

- things like gas and electric
- and telecoms – things like phone signal and internet connection.



By 2021 the Scottish Government should look at ways to improve the rules for how water is provided, and to make sure we can stop floods from happening.

## 6. Digital & Technology

**Make sure every person, organisation and business in Scotland can find online ways to find public services, to buy and sell goods and to trade across the world.**



Everyone in Scotland should have full-fibre broadband internet access by 2027.



This will help us move to 5G – a faster internet connection.

Full-fibre broadband is a way of sending information through thin threads.



The information may be sound, pictures or computer codes.

The information travels in the form of light.



The Scottish Government should support a Scottish data centre market.

Data is facts and information and how it is stored on computers.



The Scottish Government should put money into international cable connections – the cables that go under the sea between countries.



This would give Scotland better internet networks.



From 2020, the Scottish Government should look at how public services can collect and use data better.

This includes how new infrastructure can collect useful data.

## 7. Getting people involved in making decisions.



By 2022, there should be a plan for how to tell people about the work that is happening and find out what they think.

## 8. Advice for the future.



By 2021 there should be an organisation to give advice to the Scottish Government about what infrastructure is needed.

## What happens next?



The next work will say how the infrastructure happens and if a Scottish National Infrastructure Company should be set up.

This will be Phase 2.

The Commission will keep talking to people and asking them what they think about the work.

The Phase 2 Report will be written in 2020.

