
SFC NET ZERO & SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

Purpose

1. SFC published its Net Zero & Sustainability Framework for Action 23 November 2022.

Recommendations & Overview

2. **RKEC is invited to note** the progress SFC is making on responding to the climate emergency with the publication of our Net Zero & Sustainability Framework for Action.
3. The document is intended to draw together the work SFC directorates are doing and elevate it in support of the leading work of our institutions and the Scottish Government.
4. RKEC is invited to note that the Framework is a platform for action, including preparing SFC and our stakeholders for the ways in which we intend to evolve our role as part of our net zero response.
5. We intend to deploy our policy and funding levers in an increasingly focused way towards net zero, supporting the sector in delivering its response.
6. **RKEC may wish to raise issues or ask questions on any part of the paper.**

Financial implications

7. The Framework reflects existing “net zero” related commitments in specific budget lines. Commitments in the Framework will have implications across SFC capital and revenue budgets over time. Staff time will also be needed to implement the Framework.

Risk assessment

8. Net zero success or failure is strongly tied to SFC’s statutory net zero role as a public body in the Scottish landscape, including reputation, fulfilling our legal obligations, and reflecting our national role in the just transition and sustainability. This includes publishing the Framework, and increasing corporate accountability, compliance etc.
9. Implementation is linked to SFC’s Strategic Plan, Operational Plan and Review delivery.

Impact assessments

Equality and diversity

10. One of the guiding principles in the Framework is increasing climate opportunity for people who benefit from our funding interventions and engagement. Delivering the actions in the Framework should increase climate inclusion and resilience in communities. Action points are owned by individual SFC teams, supported by net zero advice available in the internal net zero cross-Council teams. Equalities issues are considered by action owners.

Island communities

11. An Island Communities Impact Assessment will be completed during delivery planning.

Carbon reduction

12. The Framework is SFC's first net zero route map to 2045 and all the actions in it, if delivered, have the potential to set a firm net zero trajectory to 2045.

Publication

13. This paper has been published on the SFC website at <https://www.sfc.ac.uk/news/2022/news-91689.aspx>

Further information

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