



Dear Convener & members of the Net Zero, Energy & Transport Committee,

30 August 2023

CERG report: Committing to delivery: Certainty and leadership for a just transition to a net zero, climate resilient future for Scotland.

The [Climate Emergency Response Group](#) (CERG) has today (30 August 2023) launched a [report](#) outlining a set of actions the Scottish Government must take now to remove barriers to progress in simultaneously tackling the climate and cost of living crises. The group urges the First Minister to show steadfast leadership and act swiftly on the government's strong commitment to deliver a just transition to a net zero, climate resilient economy.

CERG's new report, entitled: '[Committing to delivery: Certainty and leadership for a just transition to a net zero, climate resilient future for Scotland](#)', sets out clear, practical, workable actions that the Scottish Government can, and should, take now, focusing on the following four policy areas:

- Introduce a Net Zero Test to inform all policy and investment decisions.
- Enable local authorities to unlock the finance needed to drive action on climate change mitigation and action.
- Introduce fiscal levers as part of a coherent strategy to reduce car reliance and improve places for people.
- Create the right environment for commercial building sector commitment to a large-scale retrofit and heat decarbonisation pilot in every Scottish city.

The published report presents summaries of the four proposals, with links to more [detailed proposals](#) available on our website.

CERG believes the swift delivery of these recommendations by the Scottish Government, which are underpinned by a strong emphasis on finance and engagement, will deliver a significant step change in Scotland's response to the climate emergency. Meaningful action against these recommendations is essential for Scotland to meet its ambitious climate targets of 75% emissions reduction by 2030 and achieving net zero by 2045, coupled with providing businesses, investors, and citizens the clarity they need so they can take meaningful action too.

CERG is a group of like-minded leaders spanning Scotland's private, public and third sectors, delivery organisations, and membership bodies, and it hopes its recommendations will help to inform the Scottish Government's upcoming Programme for Government, which sets out the actions to be taken in the coming year and the legislative programme for the next parliamentary year.

We would be delighted to share any further information about our work with the Committee and its members.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Leighton & Kate Studd