

Climate Conversations

The Scottish Government values the input of stakeholders in developing plans to reduce emissions in Scotland and we are committed to the development of the Climate Change Plan being a wide participative process.

As part of on-going engagement with the public, we have also initiated a series of climate conversations being held across Scotland to encourage a public discussion on climate change. The purpose of these conversations is to 'take the temperature' of public views on climate change and actions that might be needed to tackle it.

These facilitated group discussions enable participants to share their views on climate change, on potential policies to tackle climate change, and on potential changes to people's everyday lives. This includes a discussion on participants' thoughts on what life in a low carbon Scotland in 2030 might look like and explore views on respective roles of the individuals and Government in reducing emissions.

We have commissioned Sniffer and Surefoot to hold 20 climate conversations in summer/ autumn 2016 across Scotland and many eco-congregations and other community groups are also holding climate conversations at the same time. Findings from the climate conversations will feed into the development and communication of the Climate Change Plan, with a short report of the key findings published alongside the draft Climate Change Plan.



We have developed resources including a How to Guide to help as many organisations and community groups as possible to participate in the climate conversations. These resources, based on the research undertaken by Climate Outreach on behalf of the Scottish Government and ClimateXchange, can be used to facilitate conversations with the public that move beyond existing approaches, engaging people in meaningful conversation about the wider impacts of climate change and the measures that might be needed to mitigate its causes and effects.

The development of the resources was informed by six climate conversation pilot focus groups undertaken in Scotland, in which the guide was piloted and refined. These resources will be published on the Scottish Government website during Climate Week (16 – 23 September).