

AMBITIONS TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE ARE AT RISK WHEN CORE BUDGETS ARE UNDER THREAT

To address climate change we need:

- Fair funding for revenue and capital budgets
- Freedom to take a **place-based approach** to tackle issues locally, for transition to zero carbon and the creation of resilient communities.
- National bodies empowered at a local level to provide local leadership, and the ability to plan across public bodies, business, communities.

Strong local leadership is required if ambitious targets are to be met by 2045. It's about investing so Councils can develop world class digital infrastructure, to enable the transformation of services and reduce the need for travel; it's about enabling investment in cleaner, greener fleet, public transport and buildings; it's about supporting businesses in all sectors to achieve zero carbon; It's about providing and maintaining vibrant green spaces across the country. Only Councils work across all these agendas.

Addressing climate change depends on these essential services:



PASSENGER AND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICES allow people to travel in a sustainable way every day, reducing emissions and linking people with training and employment.



Every year households, businesses and communities are being protected by **FLOOD PROTECTION CAPITAL INVESTMENT** made by Councils.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES and other essential **REGULATORY SERVICES** ensure that our land, air and water are clean and protected for the future.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVICE AND GRANTS are ensuring that homes, public buildings and businesses are using less energy - for some households, a reduction in energy bills can mean a substantial increase in disposable income, addressing child poverty and wellbeing. And investment in local authorities to improve housing stock has already reaped benefits.



WASTE SERVICES provide householders, businesses and communities with the facilities to recycle, whilst proactive and coordinated local campaigns and education initiatives encourage everyone to reduce the amount of waste generated.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES are supporting businesses across a range of sectors to be greener, but tough decisions about this support will have to be taken over the next few years nationally and locally to meet ambitious targets and work towards zero-carbon.

Our vision: Scotland's communities are sustainable, vibrant places to live, work and visit.



COSLA

#essentialservices

Addressing Climate Change



FLEET SERVICES are already using new technologies and investing in greener vehicles for waste collection, school and passenger transport, roads and winter maintenance and a co-ordinated and well-maintained network of **electric charging points** will help tourists and businesses stay on the move and reduce emissions



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES are working hard to reduce energy consumption in high-use sectors such as care homes, schools, and leisure centres, as well as retro-fitting the current estate.



DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT enables training and remote working, not only reducing emissions but helping to create opportunities for working and learning in even the most remote of rural locations.



The risks of not investing include missing nationally set targets; families continuing to live in energy inefficient homes that affects their finances, health and wellbeing; remote and rural communities facing declining services, increased social isolation, limited opportunities and depopulation; ageing fleet that contributes to poor air quality; ongoing payment of landfill tax; flood risks in our most vulnerable communities; poor business practice in relation to energy usage and waste.

To address **climate change**, investment in strong local leadership is needed now, if 2045 targets are to be met