

BEFS submitted the below responses within the online Consultation form.

BEFS welcomes an outcomes-based approach to climate change adaptation derived from both the UN Sustainability Goals and Scotland's National Performance Framework.

The multiple-agency, integrated and collaborative approach to Adaptation seems necessary and progressive – inclusive of monitoring and evaluation. This integrated approach should be part of Agency working and communicating across all aspects of the wider programme for government, not just Adaptation. As such, a Forum could be a positive step to ensuring this, whilst not ultimately necessary for the longer term as such behaviours become embedded.

Much of the action around Adaptation will be linked to behaviours, BEFS is supportive of behaviours being part of the Programme.

Vision: Our overarching vision is that we live in a Scotland where our built and natural places, supporting infrastructure, economy and society are climate ready, adaptable and resilient to climate change, *if appropriate action is taken now.*

BEFS would suggest that at the level of Vision the importance of action NOW needs to be emphasised and would recommend that appropriate wording was added to ensure that message was part of the vision.

Outcomes:

High level outcomes do not mention Scotland's unique historic environment. Suggest addition: Our natural *and historic environment* is valued, enjoyed, protected and enhanced and has increased resilience to climate change.

Sub Outcome 1.2

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The historic environment is described as, "inherently resilient" which in relation to the new challenges being presented by climate breakdown does not tell the whole picture. BEFS would prefer the wording: *The historic environment is **resilient, but it is also finite and irreplaceable**, it can be made vulnerable to climate change without regular **and appropriate** maintenance and care.*

The place the historic environment has as part of an adaptable, existing resource, containing embodied energy – and therefore a resource which mitigates against negative impacts on our climate should be stated clearly.

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Under Communities – Adaptation Behaviours point 4.

Historic properties are described as "prone to issues". BEFS feels this is a misleading description. All buildings which are poorly maintained are prone to issues, it is not their historic character which makes this more, or less likely.

BEFS would suggest rewording to: Scotland's historic buildings require, as do all buildings, **appropriate** maintenance. This maintenance alongside appropriate adaption, retro-fitting and reuse will enable continued use for generations. Historic Environment Scotland have **policies and** resources ...

The appropriate nature of the maintenance needs to be emphasised as poor, incorrect workmanship for the building type can cause, rather than prevent, future problems.

Additional policies:

Skills: Adaptation measures and behaviours are clearly detailed within the document but the associated skills and training to enable the delivery of these Adaptations are not present. How alignment of skills and actions is to be made possible should be detailed, for Adaptation of any kind to be successful the appropriate skills being available is paramount.

Respondent Details:

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Organisational response for BEFS – Built, Environment Forum Scotland - which MAY be published with name.

May be contacted in relation to this consultation.