

Hello,

As I unlikely to be able to attend a road show event, I would like to share my first thoughts on what should be new in NPF4.

Thank you

Chris

1 Climate change mitigation

Introduce measures to reduce the capacity of the road network.

- Scotland's largest contribution to climate change comes from transport. Vehicle-miles travelled have increased to consume additional road network capacity as it has been created. Therefore to reduce vehicle-miles travelled, the road network capacity must be reduced in parallel with the provision of alternatives: proper public transport, home-working, e-commerce and access to quality jobs with shorter commutes.
- The NPF should start with a ban on road network expansion, then progressively downgrade capacity. e.g. make one lane of motorway exclusive to buses, or cars with passengers; then close down lanes for good; downgrade motorways to A roads, etc..
- eliminate requirement for parking space for new houses/ flats.

Use caution on electric vehicles

- Scotland is never going to have sufficient 'on-tap' renewables capacity to electrify transport and heating. Hydrogen makes this worse because of the energy losses. Anyway the world doesn't have enough lithium and rare earth metals for a worlds worth of batteries.
- AVOID requirements for EV fast chargers in residential or commercial developments. They place unsustainable peak demand on the network.
- REQUIRE smart charging and vehicle-to-grid at houses. i.e. trickle charge cars 2 - 4am when its windy, power the grid with the cars between 4 and 7pm.
- provide kerbside trickle chargers in existing housing areas with vehicle-to-grid capability.
- this requires a standard smart communication network to co-ordinate supply and demand at sub-station level.

Anticipate and encourage a move away from goods consumption

- To eliminate Scotland's contribution to climate change, the economy must move away from goods consumption and even further towards experiences and services.
- Support circular economy. Retail developments must include repair/ upcycle/ re-purpose workshops and tool loan services.

Protect rural land for food production

- To minimise food miles and dependence on imports, rural land must be reserved for agriculture. Tree-planting must only be in marginal and unproductive land.
- enforce requirement for tree-planting on brownfield spaces that have been undeveloped for one year. Should deter land speculation and land banking.

Provide support for heat decarbonisation

- define a single standard (or set of standards) for heat electrification across Scotland. heat network pipe diameters, temperatures,
- eliminate business rates for heat networks.
- enforce co-ordination across utilities and builders to ensure heat networks and connections buried ASAP, even if not to be used immediately.

2. Health and wellbeing

Introduce controls on the provision/ over-provision of fast food takeaway near schools
- (similar to the control of over-provision of off-license alcohol sales).

4. Character of places

Reduce litter - Introduce bans on single-use plastic in takeaways as part of licensing / change of use permission.

- e.g. you can't open a new takeaway without committing never to use polystyrene trays or plastic forks.

5. Infrastructure

Transport budget must be majority committed to public transport and active travel infrastructure

Provide capped single ticket, multi modal public transport system across Scotland.