

NPF4 / RSS EVENTS

'Carbon' – 24 May 2021



This note provides a summary of the 'carbon/climate change' event held on 24th May attended by 50+ participants from RSS groupings, stakeholder interests, SG policy leads and key agencies.

Following an overview update from Kevin Murray (KMA) a series of presentations set the context for the workshops:

- [David Fleetwood, SG, FM Policy Unit](#)
- [David Mallon, SG, Climate Change Division](#) (also available as a [slide show](#) without narration)
- [Anna Beswick, Adaptation Scotland](#)
- [Digital Narrative - 'Carbon'](#)

(Note: Self-read versions of the four digital narratives – carbon, people, work, place – are available on the [resource platform](#) – Password = NPF4document - the link will expire on Wednesday 30 June 2021.)

Key presentation themes included:

- The significant role for NPF4 to link policy with delivery.
- The necessity of collaborative action from across society to achieve targets.
- Work to tackle climate change impacts on places and communities with opportunities to address social concerns such as poverty & inequality.
- Acting now and aligning investment to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Breakout workshop group sessions



Attendees moved into sub-groups to reflect on significant patterns from the combined RSS mapped outputs and to discuss what strategic contribution each area might make to a national spatial strategy?

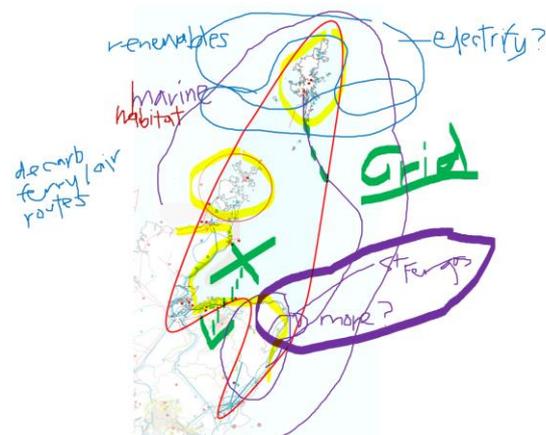
Feedback was provided from each of the sub-groups as follows:

This work is being supported by Kevin Murray Associates (KMA)

Kevin
Murray
Associates

1. North East and the Northern Isles

Repurposing the coastline + linking marine and terrestrial interests

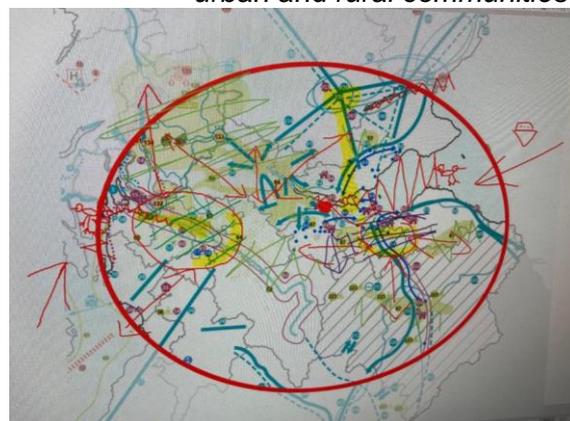


Key points:

- **Marine as key asset/resource** (e.g. carbon sequestration) that includes offshore renewable investment (+ need to overcome grid constraints).
- **Green fuels** e.g. hydrogen, ammonia + associated innovation / support.
- **Coastal resilience and regeneration** due to sea level rise / adaptation.
- **Decarbonisation** of air + ferry routes (+ importance to island communities) along with reducing transport demand.
- **Managing risk** – making available evidence and data to enable local informed decisions + co-benefits of involving local communities.

2. Central Scotland

Demonstrating decarbonisation across urban and rural communities



Key points:



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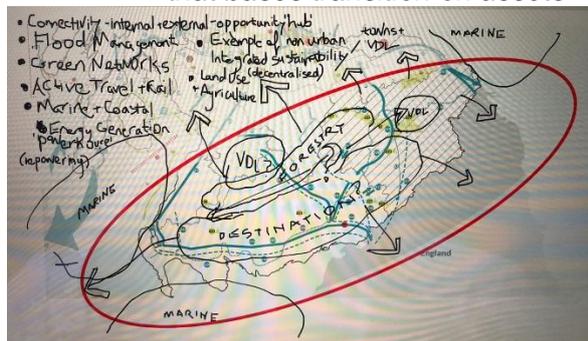


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- **Managing climate impacts** and adaptation / resilience on the Clyde, Forth and Tay Estuaries + tensions between environmental sensitivities / biodiversity and major infrastructure.
- **Innovation in decarbonisation** of transport and key sites e.g. Grangemouth.
- **Fabric first:** make best use of existing built environment assets and land.
- **'Brown-green' model:** Opportunities for urban densification + reuse VDL which builds in green infrastructure.
- **Sustainable transport and mobility** – link urban and rural mobility issues; mass transport for major cities, strategic active travel, and key connections to ensure resilience.

3. Southern Scotland

Green energy conscious, low carbon living that bases transition on assets



Key points:

- **Land (and marine) use** – key roles of agriculture, forestry and biodiversity (e.g. reduce/slow run-off in Tweed, Nith & Irvine valleys) + importance of marine activity in Solway and Clyde estuaries + North Sea; sequestration and address coastal sea level change.
- **Energy** – repowering of onshore windfarms, exploit offshore and wind/tidal + opportunities for storage across the South + opportunities for local generation / microgrids etc.
- **Connectivity** - become a stronger 'destination' rather than a place to 'pass through' - through active travel strategies, rail access / expansion, and rural mobility initiatives.

Freight connectivity is important, to NI and to/from rest of Scotland. Digital connectivity is crucial to support an inclusive economy.

- **Community** – build on quality and range of settlements to create attractive, well established, low carbon communities across less urbanised Southern Scotland; promote and ensure quality of life, decarbonising homes and industry, addressing VDL, and promoting lower carbon tourism and agriculture; IT capability to enable more remote living and working.

4. North, West and Islands

A peripheral geography with opportunities for rural communities



Key points:

- **Sequestration** - Protect land and sea assets that can play a role – European / International in scale. E.g. Flow Country peatland restoration.
- **Generation** - Bigger not always better – role for smaller scale schemes, capturing benefits in different ways, new economic activity.
- **Decarbonisation** - Road and logistics network; Ferry routes; Homes; Tourism – electric vehicle travel + tax?
- **Sustainable communities** - Food production; Digital connectivity; Rural 20 min neighbourhood model; Energy benefit; Land and governance – role in creating sustainable communities.

Feedback will be summarised at the next day's event and will help to inform the development of spatial strategy options for the national spatial strategy in NPF4.

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