

PE2160/A: Introduce an energy strategy

Petitioner written submission, 22 May 2025

Some people do not understand that Scotland has its own processes and procedures which may not align with those of the UK Government. These are matters for the Scottish Government to address with the UK Government, and the UK Government must take them on board.

People are aware that energy is being distributed to the south and do not know how to prevent it happening.

Below I provide some examples of other work that is happening that is relevant to the petition:

- Climate Emergency UK is launching Council Climate Action Scorecards, an assessment on all UK councils on the actions they've taken towards net zero. As a volunteer, I have had a big input to them over the last two years. The Highland Council is the biggest Council in Scotland, and has a poor record in the climate change arena. This is partly due to the geographical spread but also they focus on different aspects in the scorecards than the developer. Heating for homes and retrofit is a priority for the Highland Council on the scorecards, but not for other Councils.
- There are gaps in provision between Climate Emergency UK, the community action hubs and what the Highland Council are actually carrying out. More research is required to see if this is evident over all of Scotland. For example, there is a "gap" in provision for the Climate Action Hubs which are voluntary sector and based on communities, they are not scientifically measured. The scorecards fill this "gap". Another "gap" is that SEPA are not fully engaged due to lack of resources.
- ClimateX in Edinburgh provide specifications for projects which are not always "doable" due to collaborative work necessary. Research has shown that academics do not always want to collaborate, and to carry out much of the work one requires to be attached to a university, and / or already have a PhD, regardless of experience and other qualifications.

The information above has been obtained via Freedom of Information requests from the Highland Council, the Adaptation Scotland team and other entities.

Tina Marshall BSc (Hons) PgDip Para Legal