

Scottish Government

PROGRAMME FOR SCOTLAND 2020-2021

Scottish Chambers of Commerce

Network Summary

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY



- A £60 million Youth Guarantee, so every young person aged between 16 and 24 will be guaranteed an opportunity at university or college, an apprenticeship programme, employment including work experience, or participating in a formal volunteering programme. This will be backed by additional funding for apprenticeships and the new Job Start Grant.
- An initial £25 million National Training Transition Fund to provide retraining opportunities for people who have lost their jobs or are at risk of doing so.
- Create a £100 million Green Jobs fund, investing alongside a range of sectors – such as manufacturing, tech, and land based organisations – to support new and increased opportunities for green job creation across Scotland.
- An additional £2.35 million for the Parental Employability Support Fund for those most at-risk of poverty, including disabled, young, and ethnic minority parents.
- A £1.6 billion investment over the next Parliament to decarbonise the way we heat our home and our buildings, reducing emissions, tackling fuel poverty and creating new jobs.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY



- A new Inward investment strategy, to give people new skills, and attract investment and jobs into Scotland, with the potential to generate 100,000 high value jobs over the next decade.
- Invest £1.5 million in the next phase of the Unlocking Ambition programme, which provides grant and specialist wraparound support for early stage, growth potential businesses, with a new focus on low carbon and economic recovery.
- Steadily increase Scotland's annual infrastructure investment until it is £1.5 billion higher by the end of the next Parliament than in 2019-20.
- Capitalise the Scottish National Investment Bank with £2 billion over ten years, with a primary mission to support the transition to net zero emissions.
- A £62 million Energy Transition Fund to support businesses in the oil, gas and energy sectors over the next five years as they grow and diversify, and help attract private sector investment in the North East.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY



- £60 million to support decarbonisation of the industrial and manufacturing sector – driving down emissions and protecting jobs.
- Work with trade unions and employers to pioneer new ways of embedding fair work practices in all workplaces. We will also tackle the discrimination and unfair practices towards minority ethnic people.
- Doubling the Flexible Workforce Development Fund to £20m – enabling employers to access up to £15,000 each to address skills gaps in their workforce.
- Establishing a national network of world-class start up incubators, "Tech Scalers", with the aim of creating and supporting between 300 and 500 high quality start-ups over the next 5 years.
- Commit an additional £23m this year to help more digitally excluded people get online – providing both devices and internet connections. This will bring the total number of people supported to 50,000 by the end of the year.
- Investing £150 million over the next five years in forestry to support the economy and net zero goals.



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



- Continue to develop a world-class public health service that builds on COVID-19 response.
- Continue to suppress - and preferably eliminate - COVID-19. Also provide support to those who have the virus and to those who are recovering from it, focusing not just on physical health but also on mental health and social support.
- Launch in September a new proximity app, Protect Scotland, to enhance and support Test and Protect.
- Remobilise NHS Services focusing on (1) a move to deliver safely as many of its normal services as possible; (2) ensuring the capacity that is necessary to deal with the continuing presence of COVID-19; and (3) preparing the health and care services for the wider pressures of the winter season.
- Extend the seasonal flu vaccine to those working in social care who provide direct personal care, those over 55, those living with someone who is shielding, and those aged 50-54 depending on vaccine supplies, to protect people and our NHS this winter.
- Create a new role of Patient Safety Commissioner.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



- Immediately establish an independent review of adult social care. This will examine how adult social care can most effectively be reformed to deliver a national approach to care and support services. This will include consideration of a national care service
- Implement a Workforce Specialist Service, which will provide confidential assessment and treatment for mental ill health.
- Scale up access to digital care - for both physical (Near Me video consultations) and mental health (Cognitive Behavioural Therapies) care.
- Introduce a high quality and clinically safe thrombectomy service in Scotland which will ensure that those who experience severe stroke receive the best possible care, reducing their risk of long term disability.
- Develop a nationwide network of community treatment centres to help patients manage their conditions and get treatments closer to home.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



- Redesign accident and emergency services to ensure patients get safe and effective care in a way that protects them from exposure to COVID-19.
- Expand mental health and wellbeing support for health and social care staff, including the development of a Health and Social Care Mental Health Network and enhanced access to digital resources.
- This will be delivered through a multi-disciplinary team of mental health care providers, and be supported by the continued delivery of digital wellbeing resources through the National Wellbeing Hub and the National Wellbeing Helpline.
- Establish community health and wellbeing services that will support children, young people and their families – and have a particular focus on mental health – across all local authorities in 2021.
- Work with Boards to retain, develop and support Mental Health Assessment Centres, as part of a broader approach to improving access to appropriate help as quickly as possible for people with mental health needs or distress.

COMMUNITIES, EQUALITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE



- Open the Scottish Child Payment for applications for children under 6 in November 2020, with the first payments made in February 2021.
- Make payments of the new Child Winter Heating Assistance in winter 2020.
- Deliver increased early learning and childcare and set a new target date for the expansion of childcare to 1,140 hours for all three and four year olds, and vulnerable two year olds, across all local authorities by the end of 2020.
- Ensure young people catch up on any lost education due to Covid-19 with £135 million additional investment. This will include funding to recruit 1,400 additional teachers and 200 support staff and help close the poverty related attainment gap.
- Support children to learn on-line through the provision of 25,000 chromebooks.
- Allocate £3 million to support young people to engage in youth work activities.

COMMUNITIES, EQUALITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE



- Conduct a broad independent review of the Scottish approach to assessment and qualifications and learn lessons from this year's SQA results.
- Keep the promise to care experienced young people, investing £4 million to deliver holistic family support, and establishing an independent oversight Board to drive forward progress.
- Delivering a revolution in children's rights, by fully and directly incorporating the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, to the maximum extent possible within the Scottish Parliament's powers, into Scots law.
- Take radical action to end homelessness – designing night shelters and dormitory-style provision out of the homelessness system, and continuing to scale up Housing First.
- Establish a £10 million Tenants Hardship Loan Fund, increase Discretionary Housing Payments support for tenants by a further £3m; and ensure notice periods continue to be extended until March 2021.

COMMUNITIES, EQUALITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE



- Building energy efficient, zero carbon housing with access to outdoor space, transport links, digital connectivity and community services for 2040. Improving the quality of all Scottish Government grant funded homes.
- Work with local government to take forward ambitions for 20 minute neighbourhoods where people can live, work and learn in communities close to home.
- Provide over £500 million over five years for large scale, transformational active travel infrastructure projects, access to bikes and behaviour change schemes.
- Introduce Low Emissions Zones in Scotland's major cities in the first half of 2022.
- Take forward work to transform the justice system, with a specific focus on developing alternatives to prison, and safeguarding witnesses and victims.

EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS



- Enable better collection and use of minority ethnic health data, to ensure the public health response is properly focused.
- Undertaking an audit of past and current initiatives to tackle systemic racism.
- Take actions to tackle the barriers faced by minority communities in work, education, health, and housing.
- Sponsor an independent expert group to recommend how Scotland's existing and future museum collections can better recognise and represent a more accurate portrayal of Scotland's colonial and slavery history.
- Work with the John Smith Centre to establish a leadership development programme for people from minority ethnic communities.

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