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COMPLETE

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Page 2: About you

Q1 Are you answering this consultation on behalf of yourself as an individual or in another capacity? **On behalf of an organisation, public body or charity**

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Q2 Please provide the name of the organisation, company or local authority you are responding on behalf of.

RTPI Scotland

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Q3 Perceptions and attitudes towards climate change often vary depending on age. To allow us to track trends in the responses we receive, please tell us your age bracket. **Respondent skipped this question**

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Q4 Perceptions and attitudes towards climate change often vary country to country. To allow us to track trends in the responses we receive, please tell us where you're responding from. **Scotland**

Page 6: Climate Change and Environmental Action Plan

Q5 The plan has eight themes covering different areas of climate change action. How relevant are the themes in the action plan?

Climate impacts, risk and adaptation	Very relevant
Energy and carbon management	Very relevant
Sustainable travel	Very relevant
Biodiversity	Very relevant
Behaviour change	Very relevant
Research, education and training	Very relevant
Sustainable procurement	Very relevant
Circular economy	Very relevant

Q6 Are there any themes missing? Please list them below.

Achievable, but not ambitious enough.

Q7 Under each theme, we have listed our proposed actions. How ambitious and achievable are these actions? **1**

Q8 Please make suggestions on how we can improve the plan, including comments on what's missing.

See Q11

Q9 How clearly does the plan express the role of Historic Environment Scotland in tackling climate change? **3**

Q10 How clear is the language and wording in the plan? **3**

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Q11 If you have any documents, letters or other files that you would like to share with us for consideration, please upload them here.

TCPA RTPI planning for climate change guide_final.pdf(4.9MB)

Q12 If you have any other comments on the CCEAP, please share them with us.

Given the recently announced ambitions of Scottish Government regarding zero carbon targets, there may be a need to reframe the strategy and make it more ambitious

Climate Impacts, Risk and Adaptation - The climate change risk assessment results may result in a difficult recommendation to decommission certain heritage assets as a result of the prioritisation process. Whilst RTPI Scotland are aware that this is a difficult choice, it may have to be dealt with directly with a clear and upfront wording.

Energy and Carbon Management – the inclusion of decentralised renewable energy, whilst mentioned in this action, is not prominent enough. This is key consideration when factoring in increased demand for electricity through low carbon heating and EV charging facilities. The consideration of what is deemed appropriate in terms of low carbon infrastructure may require further evaluation in the light of new zero carbon targets announced by Scottish Government.

Active and Sustainable travel – The wider benefit of Action 7 “Improve visibility of visitor sites that are linked to the National Cycling Network and Local Authority cycle/walking networks. This could increase the potential for partnership working on regional walking and cycling routes and networks.” and the internal benefit stated under Action 10 “Potential for improved partnerships internally, and with organisations or Local Authorities who want to develop green networks, paths, etc” are confusing in terms of which outcome they directly deal with and whether they should be an action, provide an internal or external benefit.

For example in action 10 the intent to increase accessibility and path networks, is a very different objective to improving landscape connectivity for wildlife for the purposes of enhancing biodiversity. Therefore the wider benefit of action 7 and internal benefit of Action 10 should be combined into a new action under the Sustainable Action theme recognising the key role HES sites should play in supporting wider active transport networks.

Whilst being explicit about EV charging infrastructure, a specific commitment to better cycling park infrastructure such as bike parking would be welcomed.

Biodiversity – In supporting the Climate Impacts, Risk and Adaptation outcome and biodiversity a specific reference to the promotion of Sustainable Urban Drainage schemes on HES sites, in particular blue/green infrastructure would be welcomed. Whilst improving resilience to changing rainfall and flooding patterns this would clearly signal intentions to provide wider benefits to society and deliver ambitions of improved biodiversity.

The general intention to improve existing maintenance regimes and safeguarding existing assets for biodiversity is welcomed however the intention to identify new opportunities to introduce green infrastructure across sites could be emphasised more strongly. For example grassland management could also include the active planting of carefully selected wildflower species in order to provide a greater, connect resource for pollinating insects – a scheme currently under way in London by Brent Council.

Skills - Whilst skills related to energy efficiency and climate change adaption related restoration were mentioned, with a big increase expected in workload, is a workforce strategy required to understand current and future skills gaps?