

# Place Standard with a Climate Lens

Detailed guidance for organisers & facilitators



Scottish Government  
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# Overview

Using a Climate Lens with the Place Standard Tool helps people to see the place-based dimensions of climate change by providing further information and additional prompt questions to help set the context. Using the Place Standard with a Climate Lens helps us plan the future of our places. It can help to increase the benefits of climate action and decrease the negatives of the changing climate.

## What is this document for?

The [Place Standard](#), launched in 2015, has already proven to be a useful tool to structure conversations about a place. It helps make the complex interaction of the social, physical, and economic aspects easier to understand and think about. The knowledge generated across 14 core themes can help create places that support health and wellbeing, and a good quality of life.

We now understand that the climate emergency is the biggest collective issue facing the world. At a local level, we need to rethink how we design and use our places. So, we have developed supplementary resources to help people to think about climate change in the context of their place. We designed these to be used with the [Place Standard tool \(updated 2022\)](#). We call these resources the '**Place Standard with a Climate Lens**'. Within this guidance, the Place Standard with a Climate Lens will be referred to as 'the Climate Lens'.

This document is a guide to help facilitators to carry out a Place Standard Assessment with a Climate Lens. This in-depth guidance is designed to be used alongside other existing Place Standard Tool resources. You may find the general [Guidance for the Place Standard tool and the Learning Resources](#) particularly useful.

### Did you know?

The Place Standard Tool wasn't originally designed as a climate change tool. But it does provide a simple framework to help people to think about their places in a joined-up way.



The Climate Lens has been designed for use with this updated Place Standard to empower communities to consider climate change in their place in greater depth. It is a great way to get people to think about different ways that climate change might affect their place and local action they can take.



# Why use the Climate Lens to consider how global trends could impact a local area?

The Climate Lens can help you consider how global trends will play out in a local area. There are some big issues on the horizon that will change Scotland's places, such as:

- Impacts of climate change
- Decarbonising how we live
- An ageing population
- Digitalisation and the rise of homeworking
- Recovering from the pandemic
- BREXIT and changing international relations
- Smart technologies and the internet of things
- Resource depletion.

Of these, over the medium to longer term, climate change is likely to have the most serious impacts.

But our places will need to respond to all these trends simultaneously. Where big changes happen together, unexpected interactions between them can happen. Uncertainties like this make good placemaking more difficult. Other unexpected changes may also appear which will impact on our plans for a place. It can be difficult to predict what the consequences may be. It will be important to create flexible and resilient places and plans.

## Placemaking

Placemaking is a collaborative process that includes planning, designing, regenerating and managing spaces where people live, work and play. These places can be as big as a whole city or as small as a single neighbourhood or park.

The approach builds on a local community's assets, inspiration, and potential. The aim is to create places that promote health, happiness, and wellbeing.



# Ideas for how to run a Place Standard with a climate lens session

You can use the Place Standard tool whenever people want to discuss the future of a place. Adding the Climate Lens will help to consider how big trends such as climate change and decarbonisation might affect a place.

To use the Place Standard with a Climate Lens effectively you will need to consider 3 key stages. Suggestions of what to do at each stage are noted below and further details provided in the following pages.

## Planning the session (Step 1-3)



1. Choose when to hold your Place Standard with a Climate Lens assessment.
2. Consider which are your most important questions and the needs of your audience(s). Structure your sessions around these.
3. Consider using some of the new Climate Lens facilitation tools to support conversations (see Appendix I).

## During the session (Step 4-8)



4. Explain climate concepts and trends at the start to help participants understand them.
5. 'Set the scene' in a way that encourages people to think beyond their daily experience.
6. Define the timeframe that you want to consider in the session introduction.
7. To help tackle challenging problems, help the group identify what actions might be needed.
8. Use the extra Climate Lens prompt questions for each Place Standard theme. These will help to draw out the links between your place and climate change.

## After the session (Step 9)

9. Provide follow up communication to session participants.

# Planning the session



## 1

### When to hold a Place Standard with a Climate Lens assessment

Places do not stand still. Changes to our places can occur slowly but also in rapid leaps. So, it can be confusing to work out when to hold a Place Standard with a Climate Lens assessment. There is no single best time to do so.

It might be helpful to do a Place Standard with a Climate Lens assessment:

- When significant new development or regeneration is proposed in a place
- When a large site becomes vacant
- After an extreme weather event
- During the creation or revision of plans such as neighbourhood plans, Local Development Plans, Local Development Frameworks, local area plans, or shoreline management plans
- When a community want to take climate action themselves and want to work out what to prioritise
- To build awareness of climate change in a place where there are sustainability issues. This can help change hearts and minds, leading to changes in behaviour and an understanding of more sustainable choices.

You could even consider periodically repeating assessments. This will help to understand how local people's opinions change as their knowledge increases and as their place evolves.

Remember that the Place Standard tool is simply a way of starting a structured conversation. The best conversations develop over time as awareness grows, changes happen, and as new information emerges.



It might be helpful to think ahead about when you might revisit the assessment at a later stage. You can then include this information in communication to participants (see point 9).



## 2

# Ways of structuring your Place Standard with a Climate Lens session(s)

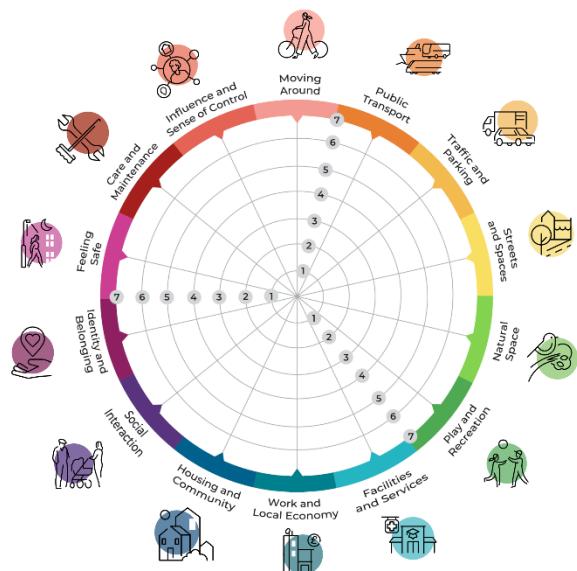
## Session design & framing

Over time, everyone everywhere will experience the impacts of climate change and the changes required in order to transition to a net zero economy. It will very likely affect different places in different and specific ways. However, it is hard to imagine an example where climate change shouldn't be part of placemaking discussions.

Session organisers and facilitators need to think about the balance of emphasis on the climate change prompts versus the 14 core themes. This will depend on the type of project it is being used for. For some sessions, climate change will be the main focus, for others, it will be one of many issues to discuss.

The Place Standard tool covers many topics over 14 themes, supported by prompt questions for each theme. Prompt questions are used to keep conversation flowing and draw out further points. The Climate Lens aims to explore complex climate issues in further detail. So, we provide extra climate prompt questions (see point 8) for each of the Place Standard themes to help with this.

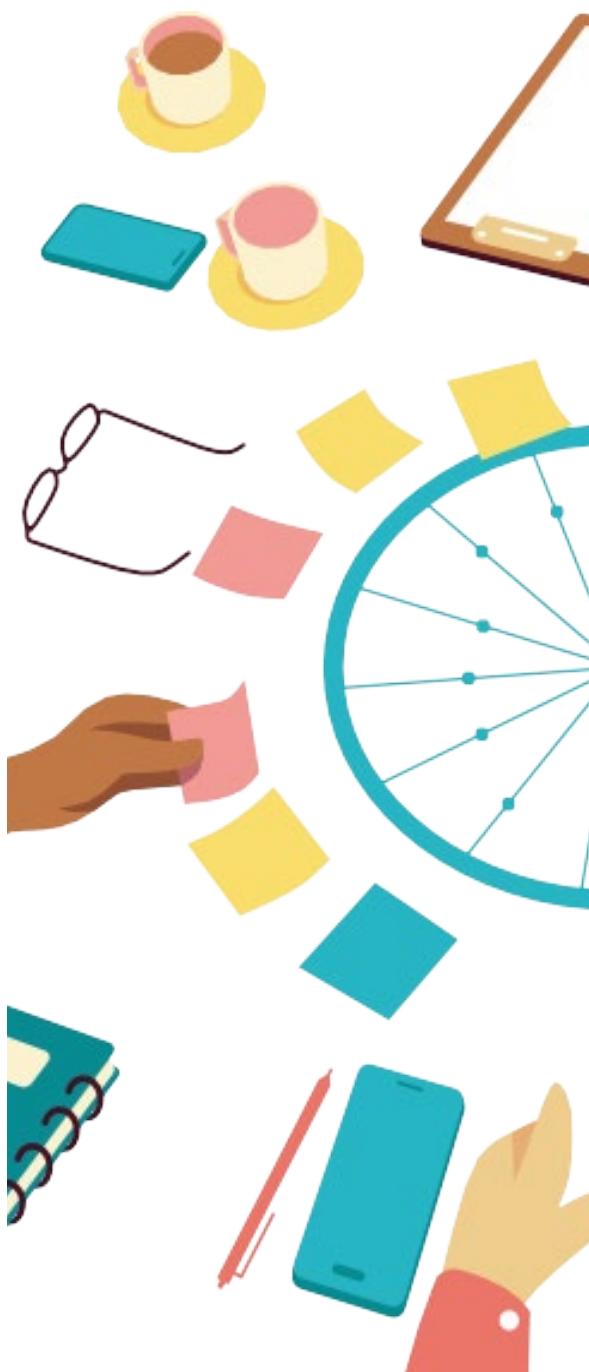
You might not want to use all of the core or the Climate Lens prompt questions for each theme. They are supplementary to the headline questions for each theme in the Place Standard. We'd love you to cover every theme in your assessment but be guided by the interests of your audience and the nature of your place. Use those prompt questions that you think are most suitable for your place, the audience, and also what you are seeking to learn.



Additional prompt questions for each of the 14 themes.



Some suggestions for how you could run a Place Standard tool with a Climate Lens assessment are:



### Option 1

#### Place Standard conversation with a Climate Lens

Session facilitators ask the standard headline questions for the 14 core themes. They can then use the Climate Lens prompt questions and the core prompt questions to help expand conversations around each theme. This helps participants identify how climate action and impacts could affect each theme. It reinforces how climate change will influence all aspects of place and that action is vital.

### Option 2

#### Climate conversation with a Place Standard lens

You can use the Place Standard tool as a lens for looking at climate change and its many impacts. In this type of session, climate change is at the centre of discussions. Session organisers can use the Climate Lens prompt questions as a useful structure for exploring how these big global issues may affect everyday life in a place.



When you plan your Climate Lens session, we also recommend adding extra time, compared to a traditional Place Standard session, to allow for this discussion.

## Structuring your session

There are several ways to structure Place Standard with a Climate Lens sessions. Your choice should be informed by the time available, the needs of your audience(s) and what you want to achieve. You can hold sessions in person, online or via a hybrid format. You can also take different approaches to how you cover the 14 themes. For instance:



### Place Standard in one session

Often seen as the ‘standard’ approach. Participants work through all 14 themes plus related prompt questions – including the extra climate prompts – in one session. This structure is likely to need at least half a day to provide enough time for discussions.



### A local priorities approach

Select a smaller number of themes to explore in depth during the workshop. Base these on key local priorities if known. People who know the area well - such as community groups, Local Authority staff or a Community Development Trust - may be able to help identify these. It is also useful to encourage participants to complete the full tool online out with the workshop. This would allow the gathering of a more holistic picture to better guide action in a place.



### Sequential sessions

Carry out the climate lens over three or more sessions. You can decide whether you want to do this with the same group, or allow the group composition to be different each time.



### Sharing the load

Divide session participants into smaller groups. Each looks at a smaller number of interrelated themes during the one session. The aim is to cover all 14 themes between the groups.



The type of format – in person, online, hybrid - you choose will have implications for logistics. For example, if using the ‘Sharing the load’, format it is important to choose a suitable venue. The venue needs to allow for several group discussions without noise becoming a barrier. Breakout rooms might work better than one large echoing hall.

## Inviting people to participate

Think about your audiences and how you want to recruit people to take part in your Climate Lens sessions.

- You might want to invite specific stakeholders in advance.
- Or you might want to hold a drop-in session or sessions open to everyone in the community. If it is a drop-in, you may need to allow more time to introduce the concepts you want to discuss. And you - or an assistant facilitator - may have to repeat this as more people drop in and join the conversation.

Think about whether your session will be online or in-person.

If hosting a session online, send clear instructions on how to join the meeting ahead of the session. Consider providing a back-up telephone number for anyone who is experiencing technical issues.

With all formats, allow participants thinking time to digest any new information. Either within the session itself or by providing materials in advance.



### More information to help you

There are several general resources which will also help you plan, organise and undertake any Place Standard tool assessment, with or without the Climate Lens. You will find them useful alongside this Climate Lens Guidance.

- [Place Standard tool Guidance \(Updated 2022\)](#)
- [Place Standard Learning Resource](#)
- [National Standards for Community Engagement](#)



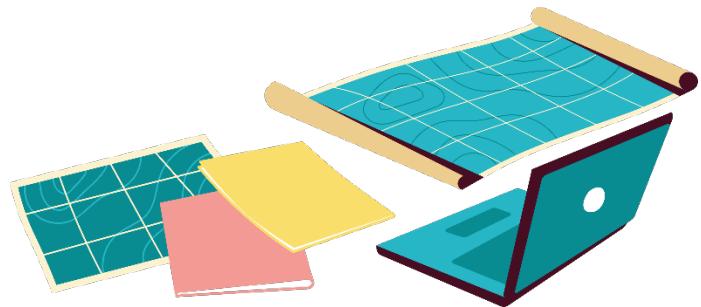
# 3

## Deciding which tools to use to deliver your Climate Lens sessions

The Climate Lens has been designed with some ready-made facilitation tools to make planning and delivering sessions as easy as possible. You can also make or adapt your own. Be as creative as you like!

As part of planning your Climate Lens session, think about which tools will:

- Help you to communicate effectively with the participants
- Be engaging and accessible
- Meet the needs of your participants
- Fit with your time available
- Work best for the format you have chosen (online or in person, drop-in or invitation event).



The tools we developed to accompany the Climate Lens are detailed in [Appendix 1](#).

## During the session

# 4

## Introducing key terms & concepts



Make sure you clearly explain the main concepts that you will use in a session. Having a clear understanding of terms such as 'adaptation' and 'mitigation' will help people to take part in discussion.

Introductory presentations and support videos are available to help you with this (see [Appendix 1](#)). You can send these to participants and facilitators in advance or show them at the start of the session.

The glossary of terms [here](#) should be useful to help you explain these complex ideas in simple words. It can be helpful to distribute this in advance also, especially for digital sessions. Or have copies available during the session for in-person events.

And remember that people might need reminders of the explanations as discussion unfolds.

# 5

## Set the Scene

At the start of your Climate Lens session, explain why climate change is being considered in placemaking. Also, explain how climate impacts and transitioning to net zero might affect the place.

It is natural for humans to ‘get stuck’ in the present, in what they know from their own experience. We can all struggle to picture an alternative future or see how our places should or will change. Where existing changes are visible, they tend to be incremental or continuing trends. For most of us, it can be difficult to imagine what transformative change is. For example, what it would take to decarbonise our society between now and 2045.

It can be challenging to imagine our places in a very different climate to today's one. Linking future changes to past events that people can visualise can be helpful. But we need to make it clear that climate change will not be the same as historical extreme weather. In our future climate, extreme events - such as storms, floods, droughts, and heatwaves - are likely to be more severe and to happen more often.



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© Lochalsh and South West Ross Community Fire Stations 2022

▲ Storm Arwen devastation

▲ Lochalsh wildfire

It can also be difficult to understand what climate change mitigation and adaptation - and the interactions between them - might mean for a place. So, it can be helpful to set the scene and picture what an alternative future might look like in your place.

The following page gives some suggestions about ways to get your audience thinking about climate change.

Look around your place and think about:

How have past extreme events affected your place?

Extremes could be heat, cold, drought, flood, pandemic, or other disruption. Imagine if these events became the new normal or became more extreme and more frequent. How can your place become more resilient?

How are energy and resources consumed or wasted?

Imagine that you can actually see the invisible emissions from cars, heating, electricity. All these contribute greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Now imagine if petrol, diesel, and natural gas were no longer available. What could replace them for heating, industry or transport? How might infrastructure and people's behaviour change? How might you generate energy locally? How could you make the best use of local resources?

How fair is your place today?

How can we move to a net zero economy without leaving some people and businesses behind? Can we achieve our climate goals and tackle local inequalities at the same time? Who is disadvantaged or left out? How can we include them in the future? How can we build more resilience in our community?

What other information will help people understand the local context?

It can be also be very effective to use quantitative data and local and national policy documents when using the Climate Lens. For instance, to illustrate the impacts of a changing climate and what a move to net zero might look like in their place.

As mentioned, we've created some supporting material and videos for this tool which might help with this ([see Appendix I](#)).

The resources and links listed in [Appendix II](#) also provide more useful and detailed information. We used these to create the supporting materials. But these should also be helpful to you in preparing your sessions.

# 6

## Define the timeframe for the discussion

Think about the timeframe you want to consider. Set this out in the introduction to your placemaking session. For many people this might mean thinking about from now to 5-30 years into the future. But you can choose any timeframe that is appropriate.

You may find it useful to explain why it is important to think long-term:

- Climate change has long term implications. And many actions to address it will take a long time to plan and put in place. For example, building new infrastructure or changing how land is used.
- Climate change is already happening now but things will continue to change. So we need to think about how we want our places to develop in a way that will be suitable for the future too. Our places will need to support health, wellbeing and quality of life while reducing emissions and adapting to a changing climate.



In general, uncertainty increases the further into the future we look. But, high-impact events – such as storms, floods, supply chain disruption and harvest failures - can also occur at any time, often unexpectedly. Such events can result in huge changes to a place happening very quickly. You can discuss these short and long-term uncertainties during the Climate Lens sessions. This is a useful part of the process of helping people understand the issues of developing places in the face of climate change.

Again, see the resources in [Appendix I](#) & [II](#) for more information that can guide these discussions.

# 7

## To help tackle challenging problems, help the group identify what actions might be needed.

### What does climate change action look like?

Climate change action is not only an issue for the future. The concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is at a historic high and we are experiencing the effects of climate change now. Climate change is already impacting people and places in Scotland. This will increase as climate change progresses in the future. We need rapid action now - and over the years ahead - if we are to avoid the worst of climate change. Timely action will enable people and places to develop well into the future and will deliver better places.

But it can feel very overwhelming to think about such a huge global challenge. People often don't know where to start with it. The Climate Lens has been designed to structure local conversations about climate change, and to think about the two aspects of how we must address it.

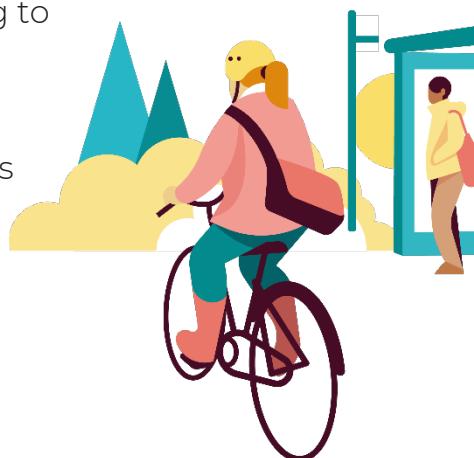
There are two interrelated aspects of how we must address climate change:

### 1. Action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions - mitigation

Climate change mitigation involves reducing the flow of heat-trapping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Either by reducing sources of these gases - for example stopping the burning of coal, gas, and oil. Or by improving the “natural sinks” that collect and store these gases - such as the oceans, forests, and soil, or by using technology to remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and store them in “artificial sinks”.

At a local level climate mitigation will involve action to:

- ➡ Reduce our use of fossil fuels for example by walking, wheeling and cycling, or switching to electric vehicles rather than using diesel or petrol vehicles
- ➡ Consume less energy and natural resources
- ➡ Increase the use of renewable sources of energy like wind and solar
- ➡ Create, manage or restore natural carbon sinks such as woodlands and peatland.



Scotland's ambitious climate change legislation sets a target date for net zero emissions of all greenhouse gases by 2045. 'Net Zero' means that emissions must be cut dramatically, and natural and artificial carbon sinks increased so that by 2045 there are sufficient carbon sinks to match any unavoidable emissions. Our contribution to climate change will end, definitively, within one generation. This is challenging and we need to take action now.

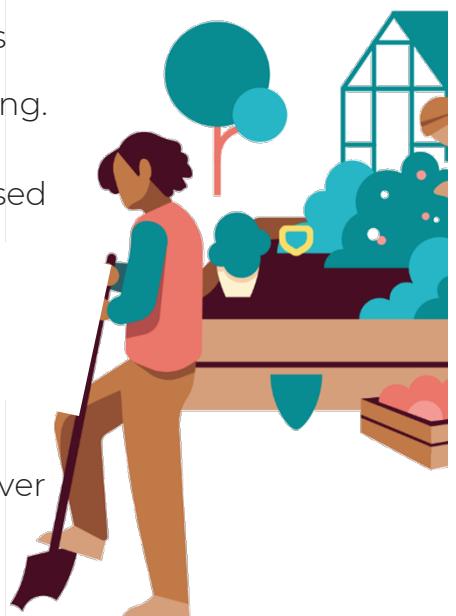
## 2. Action to adapt to the impacts of a changing climate - adaptation

Climate adaptation is adapting to actual or expected climate change. The goal is to reduce the risks from the harmful effects of climate change - for example, rising sea-levels, extreme weather events, or food shortages. These are happening today and will worsen in the future. Adaptation involves supporting people and places to become more resilient to extreme weather experienced locally. It also means becoming resilient to the impacts from climate change further afield which could have knock on impacts for Scotland. Some changes like drought might happen far away but will have local impacts through global supply chains.

Adaptation also means looking at likely longer-term climate change impacts and developing plans to adapt further to address these. Some global changes will play out in quite specific ways in certain places. For instance, the impact of sea level rise will depend on the shape of the coastline. Extreme rainfall has place-specific flooding impacts, so we know that some locations will be more vulnerable than others.

At a local level climate change adaptation may involve action to:

- Make our places more resilient to extreme weather by retrofitting buildings and infrastructure to cope with rising temperatures
- Design our places to be more resilient to flooding. This can involve large scale flood defences, property level protection, and using nature-based solutions to slow the flow of water and store flooding in green areas where it can do least harm
- Strengthen local supply chains and key infrastructure to minimise the likelihood of disruption and reduce the time it takes to recover after an extreme weather event
- Manage growth and change in coastal areas in a planned way as sea levels rise.



Scotland's objectives on adaptation are set out in the second Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme ([SCCAP2](#)). This outlines how Scotland is preparing for the impacts of climate change over the period to 2024.

## Considerations for the future

We must act to both mitigate and adapt to climate change at the same time. Climate change is already happening now and will continue as a certain degree of warming is already 'locked in' from past emissions. This means we must adapt our places to withstand these changes.



© Adaptation Scotland

### Climate Ready Places, Adaptation Scotland.

But the more we can also mitigate - cut greenhouse gas emissions and remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere - the better. Restricting gases should mean a lesser degree of temperature change and less extreme impacts on climate. Then our places would need less complex adaptation to make them sustainable.

Without a rapid cut in emissions, we could reach inadvertently trigger major, widespread changes to the climate and planet systems which might be irreversible. This would have catastrophic impacts around the world. For example, if warming goes beyond 1.5°C, it could trigger the melting of the major Arctic and Antarctic ice sheets. Then sea levels will rise by many metres. Adapting to changes of this scale would be very challenging indeed.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation are both needed to develop flourishing and resilient places. So there are two big climate challenges for participants to think about in their place:

'How can we achieve our target of net zero emissions by 2045?'

'How can we adapt this place to already unavoidable climate change?'

Guidance is available in the following section on how you can introduce these two big challenges. The Climate Lens enables the Place Standard conversation to focus on climate change. There are some new prompts to help consider each of these two challenges on a theme-by-theme basis.

Facilitators should note that in real life actions to meet these two challenges are likely to be interlinked. But dealing with them individually when introducing the concepts to people can help. Make sure that less familiar topics are not overlooked as people focus on ideas that are more familiar.



Remember... Some of the language used in climate change discussions can seem complex. The definitions given in this document should help you to explain the key themes in simple terms.

It is helpful to introduce key terms - such as adaptation and mitigation - during your Climate Lens workshop. But it is also important to not get caught up in too many technical details. This will help to ensure the topics are accessible to everyone.



# 8

## Additional Climate Lens Prompts for use with the Place Standard

Prompt questions within the Place Standard tool are designed to support and expand discussion. You will find it helpful to plan which to use in advance to suit your project and your place.

First, refer back to the decisions that you made earlier about the structure and purpose of the session. Review the new Climate Lens prompt questions for each of the Place Standard themes below. Also, any of the prompt questions already in the 2022 version of the Place Standard climate could also be useful, so have a look at those too.

All of these prompts are intended to help you but are not prescriptive and can be tailored for your local situation. You may want to create a bespoke 'script' or prompt sheet for facilitators with the key prompts that you have selected.

Within the Climate Lens there are also some more general questions – the two big Climate Challenges - to help people better understand the climate challenge and the different type of action needed to cut emissions and respond to climate impacts. These general questions set the scene and help people to visualise what climate action and impacts might look like in their place. The questions in the Climate Lens cover the topics of decarbonisation /net zero, and adaptation which have been framed as two big challenges, which are:

### Big Challenge 1

How can we achieve our target of net zero emissions by 2045?

### Big Challenge 2

How can we adapt this place to already unavoidable climate change?



When thinking about how these challenges and the prompt questions fit into the structure of your Climate Lens session, we suggest:

**1!**

**2!**

Using the two 'big challenges' (see the following pages) and the general questions linked to these as a more accessible way for people to think about the two sides of the climate action coin - adaptation and mitigation.



Using these helps people visualise the local implications of climate action in a general sense. Then, by using the additional prompts for each theme, you can integrate the two 'big challenges' into the structure of the Place Standard Tool – which is already successful at turning complex ideas about health, wellbeing, and the physical, social and economic environment into simple questions.



With the extra prompts we are simply able to layer on the climate 'stuff' into this straightforward place-related structure. This makes it easier for people to discuss how climate change impacts and action will impact their places across many different themes.

The Place Standard Tool is designed to help you consider complex issues at a local level. Using the Climate Lens will help you to layer climate change as one issue (amongst others) that needs to be considered across our placemaking.

Prompt questions - created for each of the 14 Place Standard themes - are designed to support discussion. The additional Climate Lens prompts for each theme are designed to integrate the topics of mitigation / NetZero and adaptation / resilience into the placemaking conversation. This helps to make considering the 'big challenges' more accessible to people.

You can also find these in the following pages.

# Big challenge 1 How can we achieve our target of net zero emissions by 2045?

What might a net zero place look like?

- People can access what they need locally.
- People choose walking, wheeling, cycling, public transport and ride sharing over private car use.
- There are lots of green and wild spaces. There is a healthy natural environment which stores carbon. For example, peatland, forests, marshes, and seagrass flourish.
- Healthy, happy, active people with good community and access to secure employment, education, and volunteering opportunities.
- The benefits of the green economy are shared widely, and no community is left behind. People are supported to participate in the green economy and there are employment, retraining, education, and volunteering opportunities.
- Homes and buildings are energy efficient, cosy, and cheap to run. Gas and oil heating has been replaced by electric, biomass, heat pump or district heating.
- Using low carbon energy for heating and renewable energy to generate electricity is common. For example, wind turbines, solar panels and renewable heating like biomass, district heating and heat pumps.
- People think about what they are buying, where products come from, and the environmental impacts associated.
- People's consumption habits include more repairing, conservation, sharing and recycling.
- Sustainable energy, goods, and services are provided. Locally grown food is popular. More money stays in the local economy.
- Safe and well-maintained spaces and shared community assets with space for nature.

General prompt questions for thinking about net zero / mitigation / decarbonising

- In your place, what activities use fossil fuels such as petrol, diesel, and gas? What could be done to minimise fossil fuel use by doing these activities less? Or can we do these activities in a different, low carbon way?
- How can your place be developed to allow people to live without fossil fuels?
- What industries, businesses and people could be left behind if we cut out fossil fuels? How can we include everyone in the move to net zero?
- Is there local space for greenspace, tree-planting, and natural habitats (peatlands, wetlands) so that greenhouse gases can be removed from the atmosphere naturally?

Prompts specific to each of the 14 themes can be found in a table in the following pages.



# Big challenge 2 How can we adapt this place to already unavoidable climate change?

What might a climate resilient place look like?

- Empowered people who take personal responsibility for their resilience if they can. People who look after their neighbours. Strong community spirit, and a culture of looking out for vulnerable groups.
- Monitoring and warning systems to alert the community to extreme weather.
- Somewhere that is resilient to extreme conditions. For example, a place that is designed to slow and store the flow of rainwater. Places designed to store floodwater in communal green areas like parks and sports pitches where it can do the least damage.
- Green streets with trees and greenery. Green buildings with planting on roofs and walls for shade, natural cooling, air quality and flood prevention
- Strong local supply chains and spare / back up capacity for essential materials / services. A culture of local food and sustainable agriculture.
- Robust buildings and infrastructure. Passive solar design, natural ventilation, and flood protection features. For example, flood doors and air brick covers.
- A place where vulnerable activities and communities are protected from climate risks. For example, somewhere where coastal development is planned with sea level rise in mind.

General prompt questions for thinking about adaptation / resilience to climate change

- How does this place cope with current hazardous weather events? For example, heavy rain, snow, and high winds, are problems visible already?
- What features (physical, economic, social) make the place vulnerable or resilient?
- How do you think your place can be more resilient?
- Would you describe the community as strong, cohesive, and integrated? Are there divisions and marginalised groups? How could we support people to help each other?
- Climate change events happening somewhere else could impact on your place. Has this happened before?

Prompts specific to each of the 14 themes can be found in a table in the following pages.



## Prompt questions for each PST theme

The below table outlines prompt questions for both big questions 1&2 in relation to the 14 Place Standard tool themes. A facilitator resource is also available which has the standard category questions alongside the Climate Lens ones for ease if being used in tandem. However, it should be noted that there may be some areas of duplication.

PST theme	Big challenge 1 'How can we achieve our target of net zero emissions by 2045?'	Big challenge 2 'How can we adapt this place to already unavoidable climate change'
Moving around 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What could encourage people to move around in ways that avoid using petrol and diesel? Consider walking, wheeling, cycling, electric vehicles?</li> <li>How could people reduce the amount of travel done using petrol or diesel?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is moving around in different weather conditions - for example, rain, snow, wind, and heat - possible for everyone?</li> <li>What alternative options are there? What would help to make active journeys more comfortable in all weathers?</li> </ul>
Public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What would support people to use public transport more? How could we reduce or replace car use?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there delays or cancellations due to the weather?</li> <li>What do people do?</li> <li>How could we make it more comfortable to use public transport - waiting for it and travelling on it - in any weather?</li> </ul>
Traffic and parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can we change our place so that cars are not the most convenient choice, especially for short journeys? This may involve traffic free spaces, dedicated active travel routes, e-bikes, changing where cars park.</li> <li>Is there safe parking available for alternatives such as mobility aids, buggies, cycles, electric cycles, including bigger cargo bikes and trike?</li> <li>What about parking and charging for electric cars?</li> <li>How could walking and cycling become the more convenient and appealing option?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there locations that a lot of people go to in good weather?</li> <li>Are there covered and secure cycling parking areas?</li> </ul>

PST theme	Big challenge 1: ‘How can we achieve our target of net zero emissions by 2045?’	Big challenge 2: ‘How can we adapt this place to already unavoidable climate change’
Streets and spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where could streets and spaces have trees and more green spaces? This can help to improve air quality, store carbon, and grow food?</li> <li>How can we enhance streets to make them an appealing place to spend time and carry out daily activities on foot?</li> <li>How can we make streets safe and inclusive for everyone? Including those with physical and sensory disabilities?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can we make sure streets and spaces are still safe and pleasant places to walk, meet or socialise even in bad weather?</li> <li>Or do they go elsewhere?</li> <li>Are high temperatures an issue in areas where there is no shade?</li> <li>Could streets and urban spaces be rearranged to make room for trees and greenspace? These can provide benefits in reducing temperature extremes and surface water flooding.</li> </ul>
Natural space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can existing natural spaces be made better at absorbing carbon from the atmosphere? For example, through tree planting, peatland restoration, or wetland creation?</li> <li>Are existing natural spaces accessible and engaging?</li> <li>How can green spaces - such as parks, gardens - better enhance biodiversity?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Could more natural space be available in your place? Even small spaces can develop to encourage wildlife.</li> <li>Is there space available to soak up rainwater and provide space for flood water? Also to provide shade, and shelter?</li> </ul>
Play and recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can we increase local play and recreation opportunities? What is available to avoid people feeling they need to drive for their leisure time?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Think about how and where people play and spend their time in different weather conditions.</li> <li>Could playspaces or parkland become multipurpose allowing for flooding to protect buildings and infrastructure downstream?</li> <li>Does the weather ever lead to overcrowding of spaces or facilities? For example, outdoor spaces in hot weather, indoor facilities in rain or cold?</li> </ul>

PST theme	Big challenge 1: ‘How can we achieve our target of net zero emissions by 2045?’	Big challenge 2: ‘How can we adapt this place to already unavoidable climate change’
Facilities and services  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food security is becoming more challenging. Is food grown in the area and how could this be better supported?</li> <li>What else do local people need to reduce the impact of their consumption? Is there recycling, repair or sharing resources nearby?</li> <li>What space is there for removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere? Either trees or through technical carbon capture?</li> <li>Can I access what I need locally? Are there spaces where I can access services online to reduce the need to travel? For example, digital medical consultations?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do facilities and services cope with extreme weather?</li> <li>Is demand affected by different weather?</li> <li>Are there plans in place to help people access services in hazardous conditions?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Work and local economy  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there opportunities for work and training that is part of the move to a net zero economy? For example, jobs in green technologies providing low carbon products and services?</li> <li>Think about new jobs that could be available in the area, especially if there has been a loss of traditional industry. For example, renewable energy, forestry, retrofitting homes with energy efficiency measures, repair and reuse, maintenance of low carbon technologies, habitat restoration?</li> <li>How can we make sure everyone has a role when it comes to the transition to a low carbon economy? Are there local industries that will suffer or people who may need to retrain?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have any businesses struggled following severe weather? What could help them to cope or get up and running again?</li> <li>Are people able to work from home/ a local work hub if bad weather disrupts travel to a more distant workplace?</li> </ul>

PST theme	Big challenge 1: ‘How can we achieve our target of net zero emissions by 2045?’	Big challenge 2: ‘How can we adapt this place to already unavoidable climate change’
Housing and community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are homes energy efficient, easy/ affordable to heat?</li> <li>Are there local renewable energy or low carbon energy resources to heat or power homes? For example, wind, wave, rivers, forestry, solar, district heat networks.</li> <li>Do homes have space for cycle storage, charging electric vehicles and for recycling facilities?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are homes healthy places to live? Are they prone to flooding, damp/ mould, draughts, cold, or over-heating?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Social interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there opportunities for people to support each other to reduce their emissions? For example, informal sharing of bikes, cars, excess food, and other items to reduce waste?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In an emergency - such as flooding, heatwave - is everybody looked after? Think about vulnerable groups and their support needs (some effects can be long-lasting).</li> </ul>
Identity and belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does everyone feel that they can contribute to take action to address climate change at a local level?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there a sense within the community that climate change will affect everyone?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Feeling safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can we help people feel safer, so they don't feel they need private cars to protect them?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there environmental or weather conditions which make this place feel unsafe? (Flooding, air quality, busy roads, ice, high winds, storm surges).</li> </ul>

PST theme	Big challenge 1: ‘How can we achieve our target of net zero emissions by 2045?’	Big challenge 2: ‘How can we adapt this place to already unavoidable climate change’
Care and maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are spaces for walking and cycling cared for and maintained? For example, to the same safe level as spaces for private vehicles?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do local buildings and infrastructure cope with the climate today? What about in the future?</li> <li>Are repairs carried out? Has there been damage or increased maintenance due to the weather?</li> </ul>
Influence and sense of control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do all people in the place feel part of, and connected to, a vision and plan for a net zero future?</li> <li>Do people feel they have the tools and support they need to reduce their emissions?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there a positive vision for the community’s future?</li> <li>Does it include what the place may look like because of climate change?</li> </ul>

# After the session

9

## Follow up communication



Communication should be guided by the best practice set out in the [National Standards of Community Engagement](#). The Climate Lens should be used as part of a process with regular engagement with local people. This offers the opportunity to discuss what is going to change and to support action.

A Place Standard session can be a long and involved process which can result in a challenging airing of opinions. When considering complex problems such as climate change there is also a risk of consultation fatigue, or participants feeling disillusioned.

People who give up their time to take part in Place Standard sessions usually care about their place. If people think sessions are to be a ‘one off’ event where locals share their opinions, and little occurs as a result, they can become cynical about their ability to shape their local place. So, it is important to communicate what will happen with the findings from the Place Standard with a Climate Lens assessment.

Participants will be especially interested when:

- Views shared at a Place Standard session influence important decisions being made about a place
- A material change is going to take place because of a community’s ideas or opinions
- The priorities from a Place Standard assessment aren’t able to be progressed or are progressed but not as community members had originally planned.

Place Standard conversations represent the beginning of a process of continuous engagement, empowering communities to act. Ideally, the Place Standard with a Climate Lens should be an ongoing conversation, leading to co-design of actions, and continuous refinement and evolution of plans as the community and place-makers learn by doing and as places, and their priorities evolve.



# Appendix I Additional Facilitation tools

A range of additional resources to support is available at <https://www.ourplace.scot/place-standard-climate-lens-resources>. These have all been created and piloted to support facilitation of Climate Lens sessions. We've listed the main resources here to give you an overview of what is available. You can adapt them to suit the needs of your Climate lens assessment or develop your own resources. We'd love to hear from you at placestandard@gov.scot if you would like to share them, as we hope to add to the list over time.

## Slides and presentations

Presentation slides can help to introduce the tool and give an overview of how climate change will play out at a local level. They also cover the type of action that will be needed to respond to climate threats and opportunities. You might find it useful to use these as they are or adapt them for your Climate Lens session.

## Online Whiteboard

You can record the results of your Place Standard Session using this online white board template/ by uploading the pdf template slides on an online white board:

## Print outs

To make sessions easier to organise we have designed print outs of each theme and the associated prompt questions (including original Place Standard tool and climate lens questions) which can be used on tables or when participants are moving around the room as a basis for discussion.

## Training videos

A series of video resources are being produced to help you design, run, and facilitate a PST with a climate lens session. These resources will be available on the Our Place website and the Place Standard tool website in winter of 2022.

## Abridged facilitator notes

A short summary of this document, readily printable for PST sessions.

## Glossary

A glossary of climate change terms to assist facilitators and participants. In addition a full glossary of climate change language can be found:

<https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/glossary/>

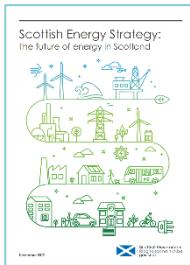
# Appendix II Useful Resources

The following information sources will help you to illustrate in your Climate Lens session our best understanding of future conditions including Scotland's national plans for decarbonisation and what the future climate might be like:

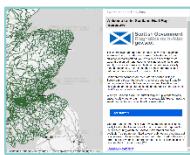


- Scotland's Climate Change Plan Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero: climate change plan 2018–2032 – update [Link](#)

A helpful overview is found [here](#)



- [An introduction to local energy](#) in Scotland and [The future of energy in Scotland: Scottish energy strategy](#) [Link](#)

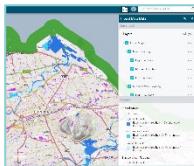


- [Scotland's Heat Map](#)



- [UKCP18 projections](#) of anticipated changes to climate variables such as rainfall and temperature.

# Appendix II Contd.

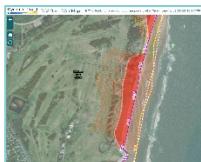


- SEPA's existing river and coastal flood mapping, and new surface water flooding mapping (outputs expected in Spring 2023).  
[Link](#)

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- The emerging CCAP (Coastal Change Action Plans) for which guidance is currently being developed which will refresh local Shoreline Management Planning in Scotland.  
Pilot expected soon.
- 



- Adaptation Scotland's **Climate Ready Places** to show how typical Scottish places can be adapted to increase resilience.  
[Link](#)



- Dynamic Coast 2 resources which illustrate the likely changes to Scotland's coasts from sea level rise and coastal erosion.  
[Link to web maps](#)



[www.placestandard.scot](http://www.placestandard.scot)

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