



Planning guidance

Climate Mitigation and Adaptation

Charlie Nathan - August 2025

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Welcome

Today's session



New climate guidance



Climate assessment, tools and approaches



Case studies and discussion

Planning guidance: Climate mitigation and adaptation

Background and context

- **Why:** Demand/ NPF4 Delivery Programme
- **Who:** Prepared in-house, informed and supported by:
 - Expert Advisory Group;
 - Research; and
 - Stakeholder consultation
- **What for:** Policy - application in practice



National Planning Framework 4

...proposals will be sited and designed to:

minimise lifecycle GHG emissions as far as possible; and

to adapt to current and future risks from climate change....

Who is the guidance for?



Planning authority



Applicants



Consultants



Agencies



Public

Guidance overview



Covers best practice approaches to support development in the transition to net-zero and adapting to current and future climate.



Structure:

- Core Principles
- Plan led LDP section
- Applications focus on both climate topics
- Resources



NPF4 Planning Guidance

Policy 2 - Climate Mitigation and Adaptation

June 2025

 Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

[NPF4 Planning Guidance:
Policy 2 - Climate
Mitigation and Adaptation](#)

What's new and need to know!

Terminology and concepts - lifecycle GHG emissions // whole life carbon assessment; embodied carbon; and current and future climate.

Supports a proportionate approach to suit full range of development types.

Includes step by step, guided approach, including reporting templates/ checklists to aid consistency of approach.

Resources are included, informed by experts, research and best practice.

Tools, resources and practical application



Next two parts of session

Benefits and impact

- 
- **Best practice resource**
 - **Flexible and proportionate**
 - **Enables consistency**

Next steps

- The guidance is there to be used and applied.
- Share feedback on experience and case studies to help build evidence base and inform future iterations of guidance.



■ Credit: Ann Nisbet Studios

Temperature change in Scotland since 1884

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