



Scottish
Environment
LINK

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Dear members of the Advisory Group on Economic Recovery,

We are writing to introduce ourselves and to offer any input that might assist in the delivery of your remit.

Scottish Environment LINK is the forum for Scotland's voluntary environment organisations, with over 35 member bodies, with a membership of about half a million people, representing a broad spectrum of environmental interests with the common goal of contributing to a more environmentally sustainable society. LINK works through several working groups, one of which, the Economics Group, has been learning about and developing the means through which environmental and economic policies can be integrated. Our members have in-depth knowledge of Scotland's environmental challenges including the actions required to meet net zero targets and the importance of a circular economy.

It is important that all recovery measures for the various sectors and regions should contribute to achieving a net zero economy by 2045 and to restoring nature, securing the wellbeing of our society for generations to come. As you set about preparing a work plan, we would like to point out that there is a wealth of knowledge and experience in Scotland on which you should draw, not obviously covered by the membership of the Advisory Group.

We would like to emphasise the importance of biodiversity, recognised by the First Minister in a letter last year to LINK regarding the climate and biodiversity crises '*The challenges facing biodiversity are as important as the challenge of climate change, and I want Scotland to be leading the way in our response*'. Can you confirm that the need to meet climate change targets, address the biodiversity crisis and considerations of our international footprints will be central to the advice which you will give?

We are keen to meet with the Group to share insights into opportunities for job creation, wellbeing benefits and a fairer more sustainable society in a green recovery, and to constructively input into your deliberations. We are in the process of developing proposals

which we will share with you in due course, and in the mean-time would like to recommend this [paper](#) by the European Environment Bureau. We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,



Dr Deborah Long
Chief Officer
Scottish Environment LINK