

Programme for Government asks

June 2026

Legislation

- Introduce a **Human Rights Bill**, including a **human right to a healthy environment**, with recognition of the key substantive and procedural features of that right.
- Work with other devolved administrations and UK Government to legislate for an **end to peat sales in horticulture** across the UK.

New commitments

- Commit to develop and roll-out an **INNS Rapid Response Fund** to tackle Invasive Non-Native Species quickly and efficiently, preventing more expensive costs in future, and directly supporting the ambitions of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and INNS Action Plan.
- Set a new target to **double organic land cover** by the end of this parliament, building on the success of this policy over the last five years.

Policy issues to be progressed

- Commit to a timeline for the **introduction of nature targets** under the Natural Environment Act.
- Establish **the independent working group on habitats regulations** and consult on group's outputs by early 2027.
- Set a clear policy process to ensure well developed **targets under the Circular Economy Act are in place by 2027**.
- **Publish the National Register of Ancient Woodland** by autumn 2027 to help land managers to maximise the effectiveness of efforts to restore our most valuable natural woodlands for climate, biodiversity and wellbeing.
- Progress manifesto commitment to take **new approaches to advice for farmers and crofters** to develop individual farm action plans which support actions for nature, climate and sustainable food production.
- Introduce the **National Marine Plan 2**, consult on the Clyde Regional Marine Plan and commit to roll out the remaining RMPs for Scottish Marine Regions.
- Commit £60,000 to complete a sector-led **Route Map for a Just Transition in Scotland's deer sector**, directly supporting delivery of the new National Deer Management and Venison Plan.
- Fulfil the requirement placed on the Scottish Government by the Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2026 to produce and publish a national park policy statement.

Scottish Environment LINK is the forum for Scotland's voluntary environment community, with over 50 member bodies representing a broad spectrum of environmental interests with the common goal of contributing to a more environmentally sustainable society.

For more information contact:

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