



The New Scottish Government

Who they are, what their promises were, and what ICE Scotland thinks their priorities should be.

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Shaping the future

We now know the make-up of the new Scottish Government and the Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers who will be making the policy decisions that will affect our sector and lives. The purpose of this document is to ensure our members know who they are, what they promised and what ICE Scotland considers their priorities should be as we work with them on your behalf.

Who are the people of most significance to our members?

First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery, John Swinney

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy, Kate Forbes

Minister for Just Transition, Employment and Fair Work (who will also work alongside the Net Zero Secretary), Richard Lochhead

Minister for Business, Trade, Tourism and Enterprise, Ivan McKee

Minister for Public Finance, Planning and Community Wealth, Tom Arthur

Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, Shirley-Anne Somerville

Minister for Children and Young People, Clare Haughey

Minister for Higher Education and Further Education, Youth Employment and Training, Jamie Hepburn

Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport, Michael Matheson

Minister for Environment, Biodiversity and Land Reform (who will also work alongside the Rural Affairs Secretary), Mairi McAllan

Minister for Transport, Graeme Dey

Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government, Shona Robison

Minister for Equalities and Older People, Christina McKelvie

Minister for Social Security and Local Government, Ben MacPherson

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands, Mairi Gougeon

A wide-range of portfolios will impact our sector, but a key brief of relevance will be Net Zero, Energy and Transport. Michael Matheson's specific responsibilities will be:

- Cross government co-ordination of Net Zero policy
- Climate crisis and environmental protection
- COP26 delivery
- Biodiversity
- Sustainable development
- Circular Economy, including implementation of the Deposit Return Scheme
- Cross government co-ordination of Infrastructure (policy, investment, and Commission)
- Cross government delivery of 20 minute neighbourhoods
- Renewable energy industries
- Energy and energy consents
- Energy efficiency
- National public energy agency
- Heating and Domestic Energy transformation
- Heat networks
- Fuel Poverty
- Physical and marine environment
- Flood prevention and coastal erosion
- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
- NatureScot
- Zero Waste Scotland
- Water quality and Scottish Water
- Strategic Transport Projects Review

What are some of their promises in relation to infrastructure?

GENERAL	HOUSING	TRANSPORT	SKILLS	ENERGY/NET ZERO
£33bn for National Infrastructure Mission, supporting 45,000 jobs and providing benefits across supply chains	100,000 affordable homes by 2032, with investment of £3.5bn.	Spend 10% of the transport capital budget on walking, cycling and wheeling	Deliver 30,000 Modern Apprenticeships	Set a target to have renewable and low-carbon hydrogen production capacity of at least 5GW by 2030
National Infrastructure Company to manage and develop public assets for public good	Set a national objective to increase the amount of housing within town centres and high streets, both through use of existing stock and new developments	Invest over £500m to improve bus infrastructure and tackle congestion	£300m to support new jobs and reskill people for the jobs of the future	Support the Levenmouth demonstration project to deliver a 100% hydrogen heat network, supplying 300 domestic properties with clean, green hydrogen heating
£1bn Scottish National Investment Bank as part of £2bn ten-year capitalisation plan.	Introduce a new Housing Standard, set in law by 2025. This will cover all homes and include aspects such as repairing and safety standards, minimum space standards, digital connectivity, future proofing of homes, and energy efficiency and heating standards	Bring ScotRail into public ownership from next year, and decarbonise Scotland's rail services by 2035	£100m in Green Jobs Fund to support new opportunities for green job creation	50% of Scotland's overall energy consumption from renewable sources by 2030 and almost complete decarbonisation of energy system by 2050
	Invest £1.6bn over the next parliament to decarbonise the way homes and other buildings are heated	Dual the A9 and A96, upgrade A82, deliver preferred new route for Rest and Be Thankful.	Fund a 'Young Person's Guarantee' of a university, college, apprenticeship or training place or job for every young person who wants one	Ensure any government support for the oil and gas sector will be conditional on the industry contributing to a sustainable, secure and inclusive energy transition

What does ICE Scotland think the Scottish Government priorities should be?

We know good infrastructure can improve our places, productivity, health and wellbeing – poor or inefficient infrastructure can lead to economic and societal disruption, as well as, in extreme cases, risks to health and safety.

That is why infrastructure must be at heart of the Scottish government's strategic decision-making, with a particular emphasis on four areas of action:

- **Resiliency:** auditing Scotland's infrastructure to ensure it is fit for purpose, now and in the future.
- **Procurement:** changing procurement policy so smaller contractors are not disadvantaged and the supply chain is supported, particularly at a local level.
- **Strategy:** developing policies on infrastructure planning, investment and prioritisation must be for the long-term, not short-term political cycles.
- **Professionalism:** utilising the expertise of ICE Scotland members in planning, designing, building, maintaining and managing our infrastructure needs to be recognised in policy development, delivery and procurement.

ICE Scotland will be advancing these themes and engaging with the new Scottish Government through a portfolio of work guided by our Public Voice Committee.

For more information please contact: Scotland@ice.org.uk