

# Group Study Visit in Glasgow, United Kingdom Data-Driven Net Zero and Circular Transition

Scotland's largest city, with a population of 650,000 inhabitants, Glasgow is setting out an ambitious pathway to become a Net Zero Carbon city by 2030, positioning climate action as a driver of inclusive growth, public health, and long-term resilience. Building on its industrial heritage and reputation for innovation, Glasgow is adopting a science and data-driven approach to climate decision-making, embedding net-zero priorities into local governance while actively engaging communities, academia, and industry in the transition.

## Key Climate Actions to discover

**Net Zero Routemap development:** Glasgow is developing and implementing a Net Zero Routemap that uses data and analysis to prioritise actions with emissions reduction and building a model for Climate Investment to finance this. We are using the ClimateView tool to help us bring together key organisations and groups who deliver climate action across the city, and linking into a National approach around data consistency and recording.

**Circular Economy Routemap:** Glasgow is advancing a Circular Economy Routemap with a 2030 horizon, focusing on circular principles across the whole city. It celebrates the great examples and progress whilst highlighting the need to push forward and stimulate further action. It builds on existing activities and initiatives and drives progress towards an equitable circular city. The Action Plan, included in the Route Map, is a plan for not only the council, but also highlights how businesses, communities, people and the entire city will work together to help Glasgow become circular. It supports the city to tackle challenges in a way that is fair to all Glaswegians.

**Climate Governance in a local authority setting:** The city is strengthening climate governance by embedding net-zero priorities into leadership structures, policy frameworks, and decision-making. Through cross-departmental working, Glasgow is exploring how local authorities can coordinate climate action effectively. The city's Climate Plan has recently been revised, and strong governance structures and established partnerships have enabled broad and effective engagement.

## Learn from these enabling factors

- **Technological Innovation and infrastructure** - Deploying low-carbon energy systems, circular manufacturing practices, and data tools to cut emissions while modernising the city's physical and economic infrastructure.
- **Governance and Policy** - Using net zero routemaps, prioritisation frameworks, and cross-sector governance to align strategy at city level.
- **Democracy and Participation** - Engaging citizens and relevant stakeholders in shaping and delivering climate action, supported by peer learning, site visits, and collaborative actions.

## Learn about the collaboration with local stakeholders

- **Sustainable Glasgow** – Cross-sector city partnership coordinating sustainability and climate initiatives.
- **National Manufacturing Institute Scotland** – Innovation centre supporting low-carbon and sustainable manufacturing solutions.
- **Zero Waste Scotland** – National organisation promoting circular economy and resource efficiency.
- **Glasgow Chamber of Commerce** – Business network engaging the private sector in sustainable economic transition.
- **Community Renewable Energy Framework communities** – Local groups developing and managing community-led renewable energy projects.
- **City Changemakers participants** – Residents and local actors involved in civic innovation and grassroots climate action initiatives.