



SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION  
COIMISEAN FEARAINN NA H-ALBA

## **Regional Land Use Partnerships**

### **ADMG Autumn Meeting**

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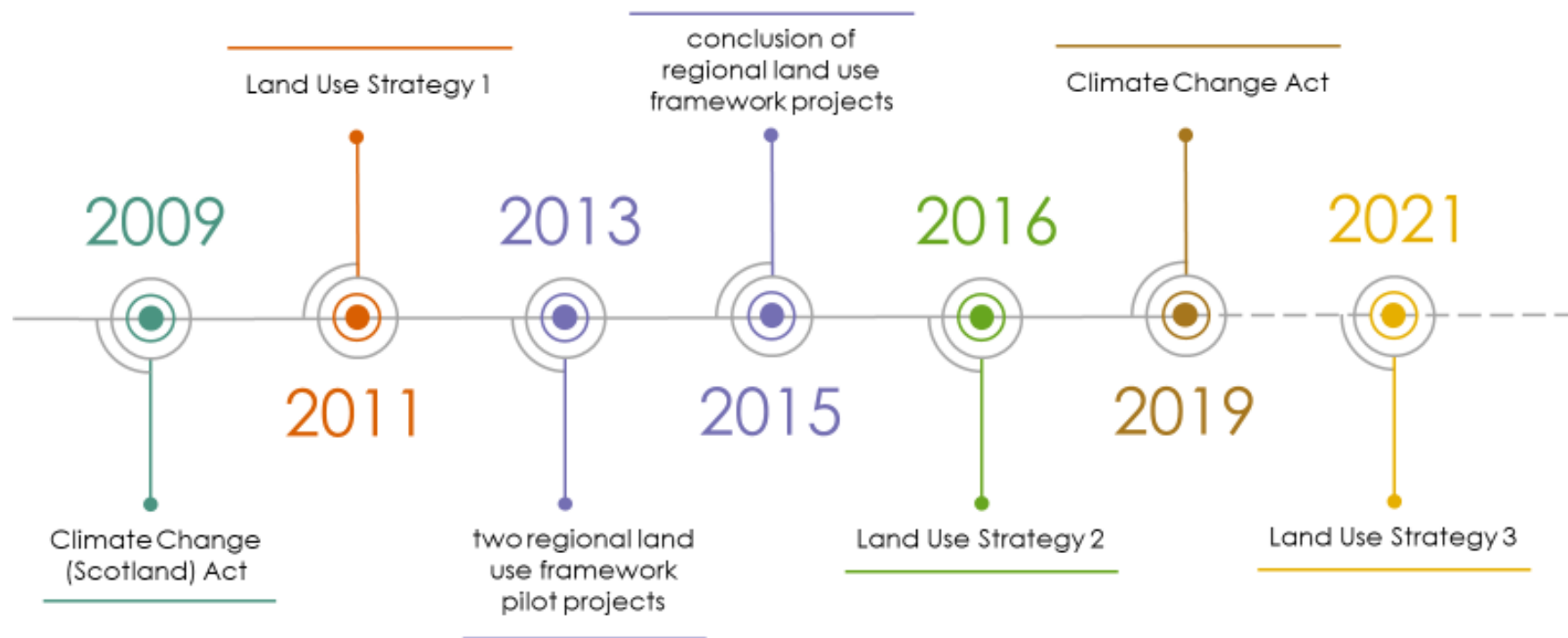
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# Regional Land Use Partnership Ask

- The Scottish Land Commission had been asked by the Scottish Government to **provide advice and make recommendations on the establishment** of Regional Land Use Partnerships (RLUPs)
- Scottish Government's Programme for Government 2019:  
“we will make regional land use plans to maximise the potential of every part of Scotland's land to contribute to the fight against climate change”



# Timeline





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# Current Policy and Practice Environment

- Land Rights and Responsibility Statement;
- Community Empowerment and the ‘place principle’;
- National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial Strategies;
- Economic Strategy;
- Scotland’s Climate Targets;
- Land Use Strategy;
- Funding post Brexit.



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# Direction of Thinking

- The establishment of RLUPs offers a significant new opportunity to deliver a **step change in the way land use decisions are made:**
  - With a clear focus to drive action and delivery on the ground of targeted and prioritised outcomes at a pace and scale to meet climate and environmental targets;
  - A collaborative and innovative approach to land use planning through empowering local and regional decision making across the whole of Scotland producing Land Use Frameworks;
  - Support economic recovery and renewal.



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# Regional Approach

- **Resolving** competing **demands and choices** about land;
- At a regional scale **opportunities, options and priorities** can be identified and implications considered;
- **Integration and synergies** with others can be considered;
- Community empowerment – Local place plans, Landscape Partnerships; Landscape Enterprise Networks;
- Partnerships can **empower** place-based action at a regional level across Scotland.



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# Potential for Regional Land Use Partnerships

- Stimulate **action and delivery** as well as having an advisory role;
- Connect directly to levers of **funding and finance**;
- Integrate with established **regional economic and spatial planning**;
- Are **empowered to make decisions** on priorities and resourcing at regional and local level;
- Are **well connected** to local delivery mechanisms and communities;
- Carry sufficient weight to give traction on the ground to the **Land Use Strategy** and **Land Rights and Responsibilities Statement**.



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# Purpose and Functions of RLUPs

- **Engage** widely on the land use opportunities, choices and priorities and drive a **collaborative approach to land use decision making in the public interest**;
- Develop and drive delivery of a **Regional Land Use Framework**, through best practice engagement;
- **Prioritise and target** delivery of specific **public funding** streams;
- Broker collaboration and delivery with **local delivery partners**.





# Geography

- *Area of tension – physical geographies such as catchments vs administrative geographies;*
- We recommend phased establishment of 12-15 Partnerships based on the geography of **planning authorities**;
- Integration with other plans and the urban / rural land use divide, covering all of Scotland.



# Governance

- Partnership **appointed board** of 10-12 individuals serving fixed terms;
- Board members drawn from **three pools** of expertise:
  - public body / government;
  - individuals with relevant sector expertise;
  - community
- Partnerships underpinned by an **accountable body** that would administer the function;
- **National group** to provide oversight and maintain collective delivery momentum in relation to national targets.



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# Implementation

- Recommend that Scottish Government work with **early adopters** to establish the first partnerships in **2021**, to test approaches and inform wider implementation;
- Recommend timescale for RLUPs with **Regional Land Use Frameworks** in place for all of Scotland **ahead of the next Climate Change Plan** (2023/24).
- **Integrate** with established regional economic and spatial planning particularly Regional Spatial Strategies.



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# Supporting Work

- **Stakeholder Workshops** outlining emerging principles inviting comment from stakeholders to help shape the principles and thinking;
- **Interim Report** which set out thinking and proposals drawing on engagement and analysis to date but also identifying key issues for further consideration and comment;
- **Webinar and Public Survey;**
- **Review of International Experience of Land Use Plans** (Land Use Consulting in association with Collingwood Environmental. To identify and examine international examples of governance arrangements for regional scale land use planning to inform SLC recommendations.
- **Lessons from Collaborative Partnerships** (University of Edinburgh). Map existing initiatives in Scotland and explore their governance models and function, identifying strengths and weaknesses;
- **Research Review (JHI)** research analysis and providing expert opinion on the issues for consideration of the Interim Report.



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# Any Questions?





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