



## GROUP 1 – EXPLANATORY NOTE AND JAMBOARDS

### 1. Explanatory note on Group 1's topic

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE FOR GROUP 1**

##### **What topic will we discuss?**

This group is invited to prepare draft recommendations on the following topic, which is part of vision element A and part of vision element K:

**The Scotland we want to see should lead with integrity, honesty, humility and transparency, in a self-sufficient and innovative way that works honestly and transparently for the benefit of Scotland and all its people'.**

Given the breadth of this vision element the Secretariat has suggested that 2 groups work in different aspects of this to ensure that these are fully considered in the time available. Your group is asked to consider recommendations on the first part of this about i.e. to focus on recommendations to give effect to the ambition about **leading with integrity, honesty, humility and transparency, in a self-sufficient and innovative way.**

A different group (Group 2) will consider the second part of the statement and will therefore consider recommendations relating to **including people of Scotland in decision making.**

##### **What is the task and process we will go through?**

Notes 1 and 2 explain how recommendations will be prepared and provide a worked example. You will review the summary of evidence in the explanatory note and the weekend 6 jam boards and identify the 2-3 areas you want to focus on to develop recommendations. You will then prepare the text of draft recommendations and accompanying information to be included in the final report.

Recommendations should be about either:

- Remit Q 2: how we overcome the challenges facing Scotland and the world
- Remit Q 3: what further information citizens need to take informed decisions

And they should also be supported by evidence:

- Given by or discussed with experts
- From the Assembly process and the experience of participation
- From 'lived experience' of members, shared and discussed over the course of the Assembly

##### **Summary of the Assembly evidence on the issue**

The area you are considering is broad ranging. Values and behaviours may be significant things to consider, perhaps including on the part of the Government. The topic also covered self-sufficiency and innovation. You may want to explore what matters



most about these issues to the group. The jam board from weekend 6 included ideas on environmental issues and technology and drugs. Other groups will look innovation from an economy perspective, sustainability, including environment and health and social care. That does not mean you should not cover those issues if that is what you agree to do and there will time to review all of the recommendations for any duplication or overlap in the final session of the weekend.

There are various parts of the Assembly learning journey that could be relevant to your recommendations. These are summarised below:

1. Throughout the Assembly, you learned about where powers lie and how decisions are taken, including what is devolved and reserved, how constitutional change is made and how big decisions are taken like on the Scottish budget.
2. In weekend 2, you learned about different kinds of evidence, including from experts or through the media and things to look out for when assessing it.
3. In weekend 3 you heard about well-being, including the Scottish approach through the National Performance Framework and about values and how these influence decision making.
4. You met with a politicians panel in weekend 3 and heard about what was important to each of them and how politics is conducted, particularly about working across parties in Parliament.
5. In weekends 3 and 4 you learned about a wide range of policy issues around a sustainable country and tax and finances and worked together to identify priorities, difficult choices and potential areas for action. These issues are being explored by other groups as noted above, but of the 28 priority areas of action considered the relevant ones to this group in terms of self-sufficiency, innovation and transparency are listed below and summarised in the annex:

- Investing and harnessing Scotland's renewable energy potential
- Decriminalise some drugs

Throughout the Assembly you have spoken about how the Assembly process has helped you to understand things better, and how this has challenged you to work together to come to agreement with fellow Assembly members. You will want to consider how that way of working could be important in considering potential recommendations in this area.

### **Constitutional implications**

The Scottish Government and Parliament could take action in this area where any proposed arrangements applied to devolved matters. Should any recommendations cover reserved matters you may wish to consider whether the evidence supports any constitutional change. For further detail on reserved and devolved matters, please see Professor Nicola McEwen's factsheet [here](#).

### **Action in hand**

The Scottish Government's Programme for Government 2020-21 states that:



1. the purpose, values and outcomes in the National Performance Framework are at the heart of the programme – this includes acting in an open and transparent way and having communities that are included and empowered.
2. the Citizens' Assembly has a role to play in ensuring informed, independent and adult conversations about the priorities that are important to people
3. A commitment to a 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Government Action Plan to be produced next year to bring what it describes as focus to openness, accountability and citizen participation in Scotland.

**Annex – Relevant priority areas for action/findings (From Weekend 3 and 4)**

Weekend 4

The finding that we agree is important in considering Scotland's finances and tax choices is....	<b>Decriminalise some drugs</b>
Reasons	1. Savings in NHS, prison services (cost of having someone in jail), police services (makes things safer) 2. Could raise revenue tax 3. Tackling crime

Weekend 3

Priority area of action	<b>Investing and harnessing Scotland's renewable energy potential</b>
Positive impact this would make	Reduce reliance on fossil fuels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce carbon emissions</li> <li>• Increase electricity from renewables</li> <li>• Export opportunities and trade relations</li> <li>• Income generation</li> <li>• Proud platform for research into renewable energy</li> <li>• Fulfil all energy needs in future</li> </ul>
Hard choices and trade-offs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost and investments</li> <li>• Loss of EU funding</li> <li>• Disruption to people's lives</li> <li>• Legislation – where the power sits</li> <li>• Impact on landscapes – NIMBY</li> <li>• Disrupts marine eco system by wind turbine</li> </ul>



## 2. Jamboards presenting members' work from Weekend 6 on this topic

(A) The Scotland we want to see should lead with integrity, honesty, humility and transparency, in a self-sufficient and innovative way, and actively include the people of Scotland in decision making (from area of consensus: A country that others will want to follow)



What is at the heart of it? What are you really trying to say to Scotland your vision for the country is?

**To be a leader in a global context**

Understanding how our effect as a country affects other places, our influence on the world

**Be more self sufficient, energy wise, less packaging**

Innovative, self sufficient, home grown things - oil, whisky, that we have but shift elsewhere

Recognition and humility of our own shortcomings - being able to say we messed up and learn from it and do better next time

**Not relying on other countries for things**

**Responsible, ethical and morally conscious as a country**

**Transparency, honesty and integrity**

Recommendations to enable Scotland to lead with integrity, honesty, humility and transparency, in a self-sufficient and innovative way, that works honestly and transparently for the benefit of Scotland and all its people

**We should be more self sufficient and not rely on other countries, for example in respect of energy**

**We should reach carbon zero by 2030, through renewables and nuclear energy**

**Involve people locally to be more eco-friendly, buy local, involve local communities. Evidence: speaker from Greens; financial: fair economy speaker**

**Decriminalise drugs: impact on housing and criminal justice. Save costs and use money elsewhere. Decriminalisation vs legalisation: different needs in system, different costs**

**Other**

**Better devolved powers: Scottish Government taking a leadership role, making bold decisions and taking risks to be at the forefront**

**Green**

**Continue to lead in plastic reduction, promoting Scottish produce. Evidence: Lorna Slater speaker (weekend 4)**