

## Briefing Note Template

**Elected Member Briefing –Young People and Climate Change in Shetland**

**Elected Member Briefing Note Ref. No. 2025-03**

### **About this Briefing Note**

Briefing by: Elizabeth Clarke, Climate Change Officer

Date: 04/09/2025

Subject: Young People and Climate Change in Shetland

**Public / ~~Exempt~~ / Confidential**

*if exempt or confidential explain risks and consequences.*

### **Purpose**

This briefing note is to provide a summary of the information that will be presented and discussed at the members seminar on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025 on young people and climate change in Shetland. The session will begin with an overview of the reasons why the seminar, and the projects discussed during it, have been undertaken. The first item of the seminar will be delivered by Climate Change Strategy and Communication Officers and involve viewing a short film followed by a presentation focused on the School Climate Roadshows. After this, members of the Shetland Youth Voice Executive Committee will give a presentation explaining the links between climate change and climate action, and their four priority areas: mental health, transport, public spaces, and jobs. The seminar will finish with information given about the Shetland Climate Festival on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Background**

Climate change topics including pollution and global warming have been referenced by children and young people in Shetland in many ways, for example through dance performances and school interest groups. Members of the Climate Change Strategy team wanted to engage more directly with young people to gain a greater understanding of their knowledge, thoughts and feelings.

The School Climate Roadshow was set up and involved the delivery of workshops to thirteen schools across Shetland. The workshops covered various topics, games and a quiz and also presented the creative competition which pupils were encouraged to take part in. The feedback gathered in the workshop

sessions will be displayed at the Shetland Climate Festival, as well as a book showing the winning creative pieces.

The Climate Change Strategy team also invited the Shetland Youth Voice Committee to discuss climate change and how it may impact their four priority areas. From these discussions came the development of a 'Climate Yarns' video and the creation of their presentation to deliver to elected members which was intended to coincide with the Shetland Climate Festival.

### **Key points**

- Climate change and related topics are referenced by children and young people in Shetland.
- The Schools Climate Roadshow was rolled out for the first time in the last academic year which produced a range of information and art works.
- The Shetland Youth Voice's Four Priority areas and how they could be impacted by climate change and targeted climate action.

### **Overview**

This member seminar will provide an overview of why and how the Climate Change Strategy team has engaged with children and young people over the past year, the process behind and results of the Schools Climate Roadshow, and the links between the Shetland Youth Voice's Four Priority Areas with climate change and climate action.

---

Last modified on: 04/09/2025

### **Contact Details:**

Elizabeth Clarke, Climate Change Officer  
01595 74 4890  
elizabeth.clarke@shetland.gov.uk

**Please return this form to [memberssupport@shetland.gov.uk](mailto:memberssupport@shetland.gov.uk) to be logged and circulated to all Councillors.**

END