

NET
ZEROSUSTAINABLE
PLACESINCLUSIVE
GROWTH

SFT Outcomes 2021/22

Demonstrating progress with impact

PRIMARY OUTCOME

01

**A CLEAR PICTURE OF
SCOTLAND'S FUTURE
INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS**

SECONDARY OUTCOMES

02



Filling the gaps in inclusive growth understanding

There is an acknowledged lack of evidence to understand the role infrastructure plays in supporting inclusive growth priorities.

This was documented by the Fraser of Allander Institute (FAI) on behalf of the Infrastructure Commission for Scotland (ICS) in 2019 and formed part of the ICS's recommendations to Scottish Government in developing an evidence-based decision-making framework for Scotland's future infrastructure investment.

SFT's Infrastructure Strategy Team, who were part of the ICS secretariat, was well placed to begin to address this evidence gap, while supporting the work of Scottish Government in progressing the new decision-making framework.

In early 2022, the Team commissioned EKOS, an economic and social research team together with multi-disciplinary consultancy, Dark Matter Labs, to undertake research to revisit the Fraser of Allander findings, including undertaking an international review of infrastructure and inclusive growth/wellbeing economies. In addition, it developed an evaluation approach which can be used by infrastructure projects and programmes to help evaluate impacts over time.

The research report, [Measuring and Valuing the Inclusive Growth Impact from Infrastructure Investment](#) was published in June 2022.

The Infrastructure Strategy team has started testing the report findings, collaborating with partners delivering key infrastructure projects, to help ensure inclusive growth has a role in investment decisions and that we can better evidence how infrastructure can facilitate inclusive growth outcomes.

While we anticipate interim findings, this next stage implementation phase is anticipated to progress over a number of years, reflecting the long-term role of infrastructure and related impacts. Building on the research, the evaluation approach will begin to address the evidence-gap which is undermining strategic decision-making and ultimately ensure more effective appraisal of investment.

Ann Jacob-Chandler, Head of the Regional Programme Management Office, Stirling & Clacks City Region Deal, said: "This research begins to fill a key gap in designing infrastructure investment, to help address inclusive growth challenges. The Stirling and Clacks Regional Deal partners look forward to investigating how we can implement the findings."



Measuring and Valuing the
Inclusive Growth Impact from
Infrastructure Investment

