Virtual Scottish Rural Parliament
Pàrlamaid Dhùthchail na h-Alba 2021

Overarching priority:

A Vision and 'Rural & Island First' Policy Framework for Scotland

structural shift towards place based micro-solutions

Specific priorities (UK)

Grid infrastructure	Futureproof infrastructure and introduce legislation to enable communities become local energy suppliers
Digital Infrastructure	Give clarity on policy aims and invest in futureproofed and place-based engineering solutions
Post EU exit funds	Devolve delivery vehicles and base decisions on accurate economic, social and environmental metrics

Contribute to building a

rural movement

Cross border rural & islands summit

Future thematic priorities: biodiversity, culture, healthcare, crime and welfare (UK reserved)

Specific priorities (Scotland)

Co-production with community sector of mainstream policy:

Local Governance	Complete governance review, invest in capacity building and connecting Community Councils
Volunteering	Include governance volunteers in Volunteering Strategy and initiative on conflict management
Community Empowerment	Consolidate participatory budgeting, participation requests and asset transfer processes
Land Reform	Progress land reform, strengthen Crown Estate community interface

'Rural and island first' (RAI first) frameworks within mainstream policy:

Planning	Build RAI first framework into NPF4 and 20 Minute Neighbourhood model
Economy	Build RAI first framework into Economic Transformation Strategy and comm. wealth building
Housing	Develop Rural & Island Housing Strategy
Transport	Build RAI first framework into National Transport Strategy 2 Delivery Plan
Social Care	Design National Care Service that supports RAI micro and community care providers
Climate Change	Build RAI first framework into Net Zero and Circular Economy policy agendas
Digital	Build RAI first framework into Scotland Digital Strategy + implementation of the Logan Review
Mental Wellbeing	Strengthen and consolidate existing RAI first framework within Mental Health Strategy
Good Food Nation	Progress Good Food Nation agenda and address lack of infrastructure for food & drink sector

Platforms and capacity building networks:

Young people	Deliver a Scottish Youth Parliament and a Rural & Island Youth Taskforce
Community led Tourism	Develop support and investment infrastructure for CLT & link CLT network to tourism strategy
Equalities	Develop support and investment infrastructure for rural and island equality projects
Future LEADER	Manage the transition of LEADER to the CLLD network in consultation with communities
SRP curators	Strengthen platform through building on the 2023 Scottish Rural Parliament process

Consolidation of gains from existing 'rural & island first' policies:

Research Strategy	Address significant gaps in rural data, promote community-led research activities
National Islands Plan	Put mechanisms in place to ensure learning from NIP benefits wider rural Scotland