

Choosing our Tomorrows

It is the year 2050.

How has society reacted and adapted to climate change?

Our responses to climate change today will have major consequences for the Scotland of the future. The environment, society, energy supplies, transport and food security will all be profoundly affected.

What if, in an attempt to meet our target of an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, Scotland has embraced nuclear power? Or in an attempt to feed our share of the estimated 9 billion people in the world we have filled every last square metre of available countryside with GM crops? Alternatively, what if we've shunned our high-carbon lifestyles to buy seasonal locally produced food and renewable energy?

We have choices in the ways that we individually and collectively respond to this challenge. This exhibit explores how these choices will result in very different outcomes...



Based on the film resource 'Choosing our Tomorrows' this exciting new interactive exhibit proposes and explores three different visions of Scotland in the future. These depend on our reactions to climate change and the consequences of the different choices that we might make. It is aimed at improving public understanding of the issues surrounding future energy supplies, transport and food security.

In addition to video diaries, the exhibit includes:

- a quiz on the film resource
- 'climate choices' game
- a public survey asking people about their attitudes towards changing their everyday behaviours. This is being used as part of our research programme on behavioural change

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The Scottish
Government

scotland.gov.uk

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This exhibit presents three scenarios of Scotland in 2050 based on our response to climate change.

Business as Usual

We have done nothing to combat climate change

Petrol prices exceed £10 per litre
In Scotland winters are extremely wet with frequent violent storms
Summers are much warmer and very dry
Food shortages are common
Climate change has forced millions to migrate from Southern Europe to Northern Europe
Polar bears are extinct



Living off the Land

We have responded to climate change by investing in new technologies

We have done little to reduce our use of natural resources
Only the wealthy can afford access to the new technologies
Every bit of farmland is used to produce GM food and biofuel
There is little wildlife in the countryside
Food prices are very high
Nuclear power is now Scotland's main source of energy
High waste disposal charges mean people recycle almost everything



No Place Like Home

We have made a serious response to climate change

Most people produce some of their own food and shop locally
Scotland is almost self-sufficient in food and energy
Food imports are mostly a thing of the past
Renewables are now Scotland's main source of energy
Most homes have solar panels and heat exchange pumps
Transport fuel costs are very high
Advances in computer technology allow many people to work from home
Children are taught in virtual classrooms

