

CLEAN GROWTH AXIS
Perth and Kinross

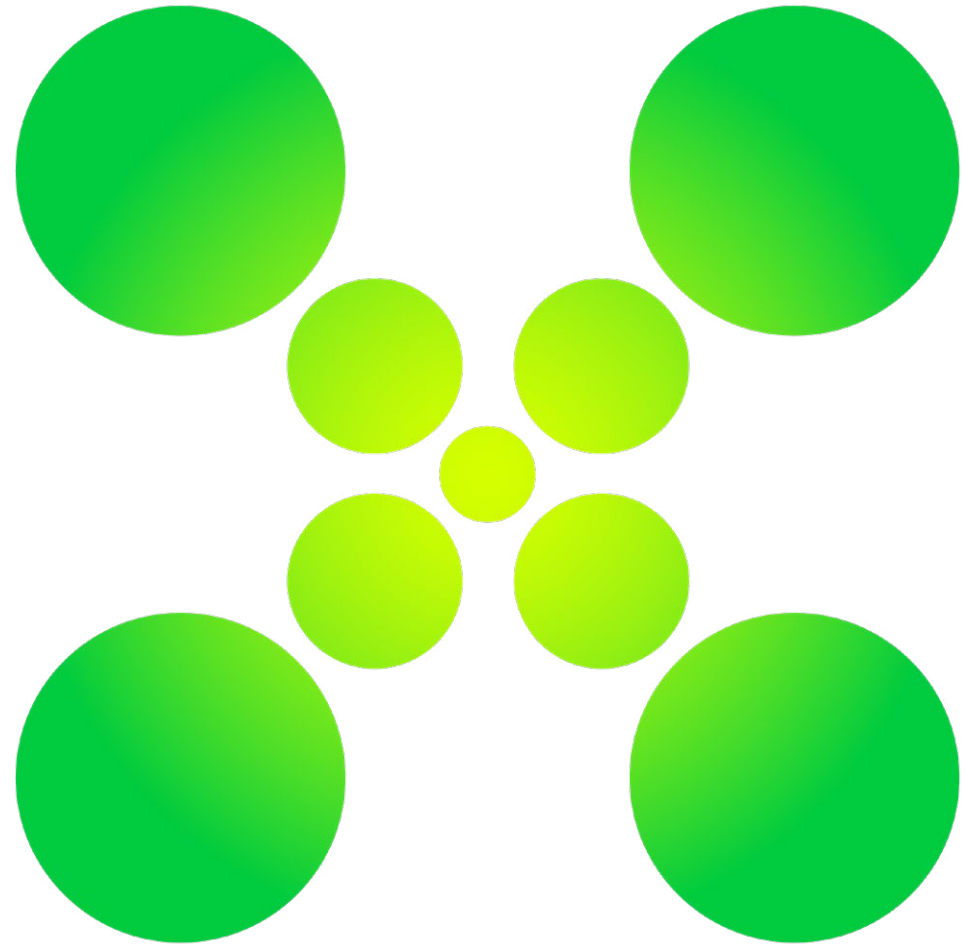
Project Partner and Investor Overview

What is the Clean Growth Axis?

The Clean Growth Axis is a project development platform created to accelerate the transition to a more sustainable, low carbon and resilient circular economy for Perth and Kinross, and the Tay Cities Region in Scotland.

Focused on providing a single point of contact for development opportunities and funding solutions within the clean growth sector, the Axis will connect entrepreneurs, partners, delivery support and investors through its easy-to-access platform.

Purpose driven, the aim is to establish a Circular Economy delivery mechanism which facilitates and accelerates business development and regenerative economic growth, with a focus on priority sectors including the bioeconomy, materials recycling, micro renewable energy grids, controlled environment agriculture and remanufacturing.





Why Do We Need the Clean Growth Axis?

Climate change and other environmental issues are affecting every part of the globe. We live in a world challenged by resource depletion, the geopolitics of resource competition, increasing food insecurity and uncertain economic conditions.

Transitioning to resilient regional economies that drive regenerative growth, offers a solution to economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. This is recognised in the rapid growth of low carbon, clean technology and circular economy investment globally.

The Clean Growth Axis Perth and Kinross aims to accelerate this transition at a regional level in Perth and Kinross and the Tay Cities Region.

Climate issues are both global and local.

Left: Forest fires in Craigend, Perthshire.
Credit: Louise Omerod

Top left: Flooding of the River Tay, Perthshire. Credit: NatureScot

Clean Growth Summary

The UK Net Zero sector is growing rapidly and currently generates £83.1 billion in Gross Value Added (GVA), with £28.8 billion directly from net zero businesses and £54.3 billion from supply chain activities. The sector's multiplier effect is high with every £1 of value generated creating an additional £1.89 in the wider economy.

The sector employs over 950,000 full-time jobs, with each full-time role creating £105,500 in economic value – 38% above the UK average. Scotland is the highest growth area per capita, with the North East Scotland (which includes parts of Tayside) as a key net zero hotspot contributing 5.1% to the overall UK's net zero economy.

Sources

The Future is Green: The economic opportunities brought by the UK's net zero Economy. February 2025: CBI - Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit

UK SECTOR OVERVIEW



£83.1 billion

Gross Value Added



10.1%

Year-on-year GVA Growth



951,400

Jobs, full time equivalent



10.2%

Year-on-year FTE Jobs Growth



£23 billion

Investment funding & FDI (2024)



£105k

Productivity
(economic value/FTE job)

How will it Accelerate the Transition?

Delivered and resourced by Perth & Kinross Council, the Clean Growth Axis will provide a one-stop resource for entrepreneurs, and investors.

The Axis will become instrumental in attracting projects to the area by profiling the opportunities and benefits that Perth and Kinross offers for low carbon, clean technology and circular economy project development.

By providing a project landing strip that integrates and coordinates the roles of key support parties (see slide 6) across the public and private sectors the clean Growth Axis will accelerate the delivery of successful projects.

Over time this practiced integration of support will develop into a strong economic regenerative capability.

The Clean Growth Axis also works closely with the Resource Management Association Scotland, and draws expertise from companies such as Binn Group, enabling a high level of circular economy specialism to be called on to support prospective projects.



Founding Partners

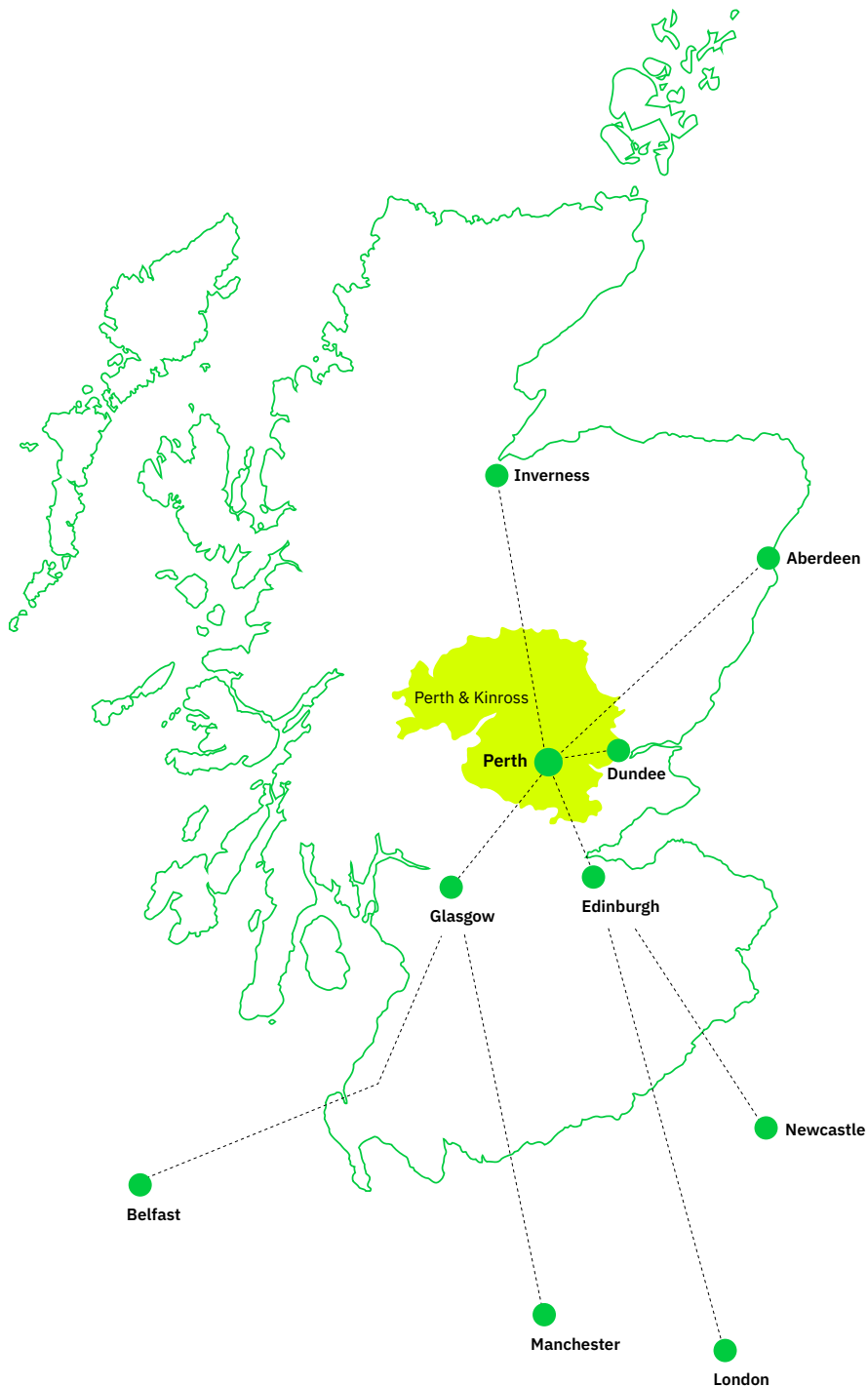
Perth and Kinross Council recognises the importance of partnership working to accelerate and improve project delivery. The following organisations are welcomed as founding partners and signatories of a Memorandum of Agreement that will facilitate the success of The Clean Growth Axis Perth and Kinross.

- The Resource Management Association Scotland
- The James Hutton Institute
- Zero Waste Scotland
- Scottish Enterprise
- The Tay Cities Clean Growth Group



Scottish Enterprise





Why Perth & Kinross?

The ideal location for clean technology inward investment.

With its prime location in the centre of Scotland, Perth and Kinross boasts exceptional connections to all major UK road networks, is a central hub for national rail and is within an hour's drive of Glasgow and Edinburgh airports. This affords business benefits which include faster, more cost-effective distribution and logistics, and stress-free commute times for personnel.

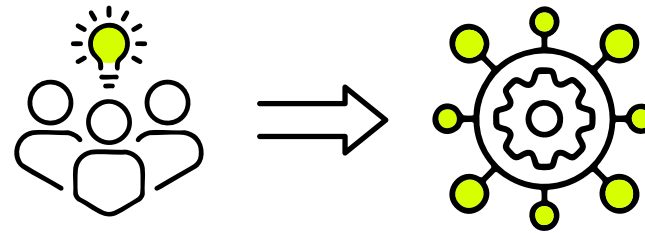
The area is a key driver in the Tay Cities Clean Growth Initiative and the Tayside Circular Economy Strategy and as a result, has a strong economic focus on clean growth and an organised approach to education, training and skills with our proposed Clean Technology and Biodiversity Education (CTABE) Centre.

With multiple routes for research and development through established partnerships with award-winning research and academic institutions including, St Andrews, Dundee, and Abertay Universities, Perth College UHI and the James Hutton Institute we have a strong science and research base to support innovation, education and training.

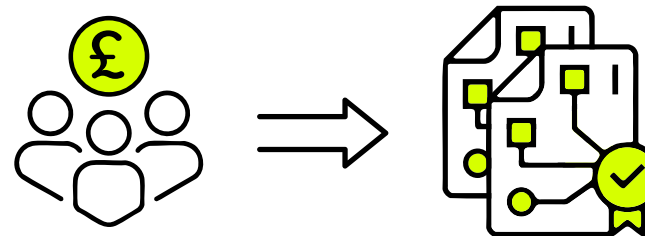
Who Will it Serve?

The core aim of the Clean Growth Axis – Perth and Kinross is to grow and increase the value of the local and regional economy, create employment and support skills development whilst addressing the challenges of climate change, resource depletion and other priority environmental issues.

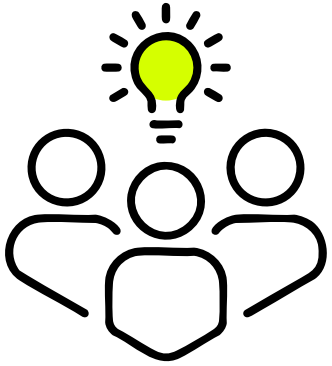
We aim to demonstrate new models and systems for regional low carbon economic transitioning everywhere.



Entrepreneurs and Developers will be supported by an integrated framework of support including planning, permitting, site identification, logistics, market analytics, low-cost renewable energy and economic development support.



Investors and Green Funding Streams will find a well marketed pipeline of investable clean technology developments with an organised development process to facilitate project delivery.



Entrepreneurs and Developers

From renewable energy and energy storage to circular economy, transport, and nature-based solutions, the platform supports a broad spectrum of clean tech and low carbon projects across development stages and funding needs.

- **Renewable Energy and Micro-Grids**
Solar, Wind, Hydro, Geothermal, Bioenergy, Community & Industrial Microgrids, Smart Grids, Energy Integration
- **Energy Storage and Flexibility**
Battery Storage, Pumped Hydro, Thermal Storage, Grid Solutions
- **Sustainable Transport**
EVs, Charging Infrastructure, Fleet Electrification, Sustainable Fuels
- **Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency**
Waste-to-Value, Recycling, Material Recovery, Industrial Symbiosis
- **Nature-Based Solutions**
Reforestation, Biodiversity Restoration, Blue Carbon, Ecosystem Services
- **Carbon Management**
Carbon Markets, MRV Solutions, Carbon Removal
- **Digital Solutions and Climate Innovation**
AI for Sustainability, Clean Tech Innovation, Advanced Materials
Comprehensive coverage of the clean growth ecosystem



Investors and Green Funding Streams

The platform brings together a diverse network of capital providers, including institutional investors, climate funds, corporates, government programmes, philanthropic organisations, and carbon market participants.

- **Development Finance Institutions (Dfis)**
Commercial & concessional finance
- **Green Funds & Climate Funds**
Thematic climate & environmental funds
- **Impact Investors**
Impact-first private investment funds
- **Corporate Investors**
Strategic investment & innovation funds
- **Venture Capital & Greentech Vcs**
Clean tech VCs across stages
- **Philanthropic & Grants**
Foundations & grant-making organisations
- **Government Programmes & Incentives**
Grants, subsidies, blended finance programmes

Detailed funder profiles with focus areas, funding range, application process and more

The Key Stages in the Clean Growth Axis Process

Step 1

Project Initiation:

Potential candidate developments are invited to complete a short project information report that describes the business, its purpose and support needs. This is a common starting point for all projects

→ Step 2

Introductory Project Support Meeting:

The business is then introduced to all of the support parties at the same time to discuss the development or project proposal in more detail. This enables a more holistic overview of the characteristics and needs of the business and the support needed.

→ Step 3

Detailed 1:1 Support Meetings:

After the introductory all-parties meeting in Step 2 the business then undertakes 1:1 meetings with the relevant bodies that can support their business development proposal. Each of these bodies feeds back the details of the support to be offered and the relevant timelines to the Perth and Kinross Council CGA Team.

→ Step 4

Project Delivery Support Plan:

The PKC CGA team combines each of these reports into a project support plan. This forms the ongoing basis for coordinating support for the candidate business through the various project delivery stages.

Project Examples

We support projects across multiple sectors, technologies and stages of development. The list below highlights areas of particular interest, although we regularly assess opportunities that sit outside these categories where there is strong commercial, environmental or social impact potential.

Circular Materials & Recycling Innovation

- Recycling: Mattress, textile, battery
- Advanced plastics & feed stock recycling systems
- Construction material waste streams
- WEEE Urban Mining & Copper Recycling

Remanufacturing & Product Development

- Product development utilising recycled materials
- Geopolymer development
- Graphene from carbon products

Renewable Energy & Low-Carbon Systems

- Second generation bio-fuels
- Smart microgrids
- Low carbon transport systems & Edge Data Centres

Bio-based Systems

- Vertical horticulture systems for food, herbs, trees, algae, nutraceuticals, hemp.
- Insect protein farming
- Soil nutrient product development
- Water resilience

Data & Automation

- Waste and robotics - Advanced material sensors
- Chain of custody system including blockchain

R&D Innovation, Skills Development

- Technology proving and testing
- Cleantech foresight and investment workshops

Land and Industrial Units

Ensuring development opportunities and industrial unit space align with the priorities of your Clean Growth project is a priority consideration. Perth and Kinross currently has two key development sites: Binn Eco Park (below) and The James Hutton Institute (right), as well as several existing industrial parks including Castlecroft and Northfield Business Park.

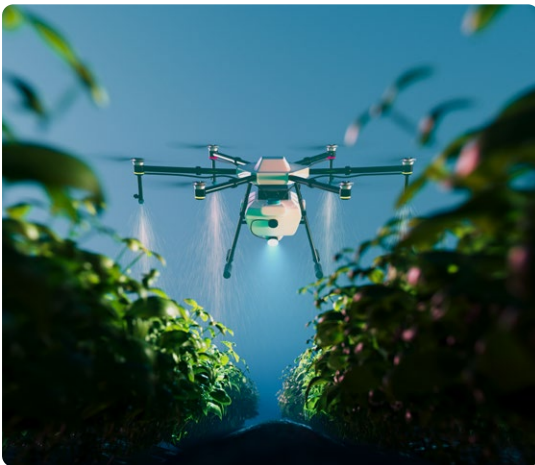
In addition to the sites outlined, the local authority is currently reviewing the Local Development Plan 3 (LPD3), which is expected to open up opportunities at Scone Estate and Perth Eco Innovation Park (below right)



See the [Invest in Perth website](#) for more information.

How to Get Involved

We need a new integration of project developers, clean tech funders, public agencies and private sector support bodies to accelerate the transition to new low carbon regenerative economies.



Contact us to be part of the facilitated, accelerated change we need:

E: cleangrowthaxis@pkc.gov.uk