

# Offsetting to achieve net zero Workshop

## Notes



### Keith Baker, Glasgow Caledonian University

- 1 tonne of Co2 is equivalent to getting the train from Glasgow to Edinburgh 245 times
- Offsetting: trees, invest in renewable energy, low carbon energy, energy efficient projects
- Developed world dumping the problem onto the developing world
- Co2 is market led, buy carbon credits from the market, risk of lobbying by major emitters.
- Difficult to regulate globally
- Encourages business as usual
- Unrealistic for many
- Teaching students to work in the fossil fuel industry – that needs to change

### Roddy Yarr, University of Strathclyde

- Must reduce emissions, net zero emissions a real challenge. Robust policies required
- Offsetting is emotional. Should not be a licence to operate as normal but an opportunity to achieve something
- Confusing language
- Proposed model for net emissions is a Local Community Fund with FHE and local community
- Solar array and battery storage
- Strathclyde owns 100 acres of land in Loch Lomond, collaborate with Scottish Water and Community Development Trust
- Investment in infrastructure and the community (combined system)

### Discussion

- Risk of double counting. Land use, carbon inventory, accounting rules
- Carbon and ecological discussions need to take place together
- Should be easier for staff to not have to fly
- How we frame it around offsetting
- Sector incentives? Funding? Too siloed.
- Procurement and its portfolio
- Big elephant in the room – International Students
- Institutions as land owners need to work with tenant farmers / land users (land ownership and Grouse moorland an issue in Scotland)
- Regional and National cohesive thinking and guidance, best practice, frameworks
- Ethical dilemmas
- Join the dots, leading other sectors
- Fuel supply chains, procurement frameworks, District Heating Schemes, funding individual projects