

The Royal Society of Edinburgh

Coming Out of Covid-19: Re-imagining Scotland

Easy Read Report Summary

1. What is the Royal Society of Edinburgh?
2. What is a Commission?
3. What did the Commission look into?
4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?
5. What did the Commission suggest should happen?
6. Where can I go to find out more?

1. What is the Royal Society of Edinburgh?

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1. What is the Royal Society of Edinburgh?

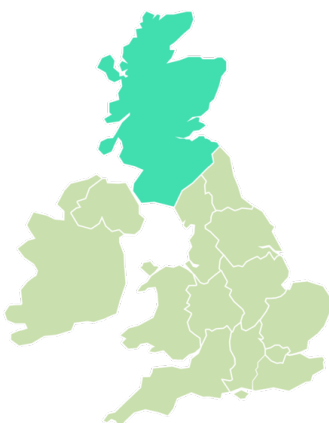


This report was written by the Post-Covid-19 Futures Commission.

The Commission was set up by the Royal Society of Edinburgh.



The Royal Society of Edinburgh started in 1783.



They are a charity in Scotland.

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1. What is the Royal Society of Edinburgh?



They bring together people who have lots of knowledge about different subjects.



They think about important problems in Scotland and the rest of the world.



They produce ideas to make things better.

2. What is a Commission?

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2. What is a Commission?



The Royal Society of Edinburgh set up a Commission called:

The Post-Covid-19 Futures Commission.



A Commission is a group of people who have been chosen to discover information about an issue.

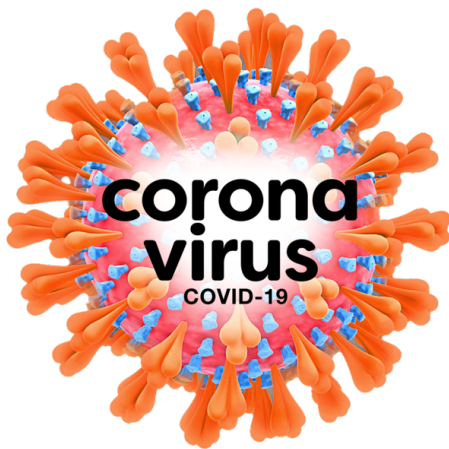


This document tells you about what the Commission said in their report.

2. What did the Commission
look into?

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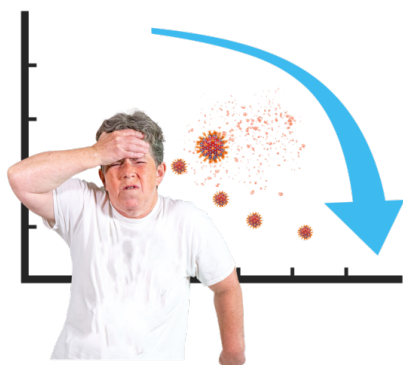
3. What did the Commission look into?



The Commission looked at how Scotland might change because of the Covid-19 pandemic.



The Commission looked at what Scotland was like during the pandemic.



They thought about what Scotland could look like when the pandemic is over.

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3. What did the Commission look into?



The Commission thought about our experience of living through a pandemic.



They thought about the lessons Scotland could learn after the pandemic.



They thought about how we could use this experience to change things to make life better for us all.

4. What did the Commission say we should learn from the pandemic?

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



1. People came together during the lockdown in spring 2020.



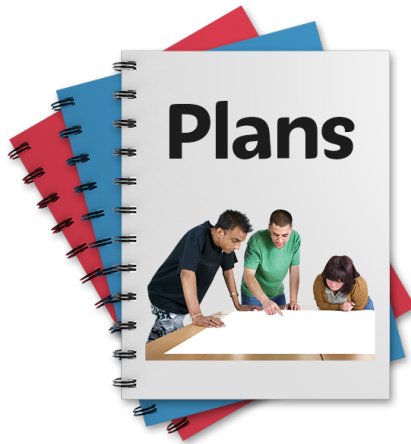
We felt like we were working together to make sure each other were safe.



We need to inspire people to come together the same way and think about how our country should be when the pandemic is over.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



2. Being prepared for things that might happen is important.



Scotland should think about what could happen in the future.

We need to plan for things we know will happen.

We also need to imagine what could happen that we don't know of yet.



We need to keep watching for things around the world that might affect Scotland.

We need to make plans for them as soon as we see that they might happen.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



3. People working together is important.



The Government and businesses and charities need to work together.



This helps to share knowledge.

It makes it easier to plan.

If bad things happen it makes it easier to produce ideas to fix them.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



4. How Government communicates with people is important.



We need to think about what is important to different groups of people.



We need to make sure they know how things that are happening could affect the things that are important to them.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



5. Having people participate in the decision-making process is important.



We need society to be represented in the people who make decisions about our future.

This means decisions are more likely to reflect what society wants.



We need to include as many people as possible.

Easy to understand and trusted information is important.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



6. Learning from what happened before is important.



We need to make sure Scotland learns from things that happen.

We need to make sure everyone is involved in the discussions about what worked and didn't work.



We need to look outside of Scotland to other countries for examples of what works and does not work.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



7. Data and technology are important.



Data is information that is collected and used in decision making.

Data helps us understand the things that are happening and why they happened.



Technology can help us to communicate and to solve problems.

We need to make sure everyone has access to technology.

We need to make sure people are confident to use technology.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



8. Improving our understanding is important.



The pandemic has shown us the things we need to understand better.

This will help us to do better when dealing with problems in the future.



We must understand more about the risks we face.

We must all try to understand.

We must understand more about technology.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



9. Good communication and easy to understand messages are important.



The Government must communicate with people clearly.

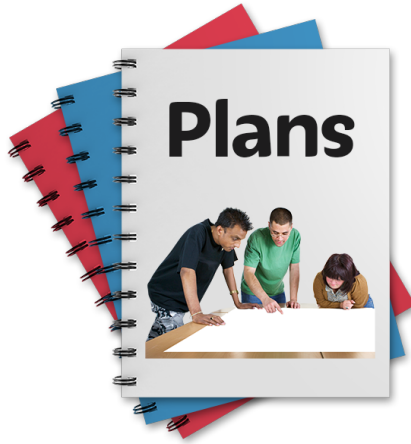
What they tell us needs to be easy to understand.



This will help people to trust the information they get.

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4. What things did the Commission say we could learn from the pandemic?



10. Quickly changing our plans to what is happening around us is important.



During the pandemic the Government changed quickly.

Things that normally take a long time were happening faster.



We should make sure we are able to change our plans quickly in the future even after the pandemic is over.

5. What did the Commission suggest should happen?

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5. What did the Commission suggest should happen?



In their report the Commission included a number of ideas.



These are things that the Commission said Scotland should considering doing.



They are called Recommendations.

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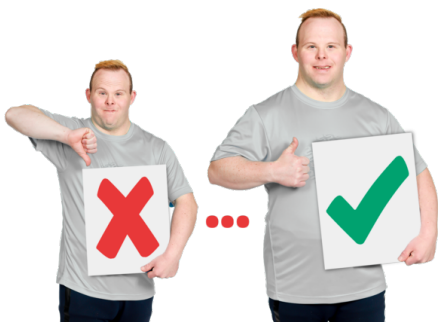
Recommendation 1



We need to listen to what changes people want to see after the pandemic.



Covid-19 has made people think about how they want Scotland to change for the better.



We should make sure that people are listened to.

We should always be looking for ways to make improvements.

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Recommendation 1



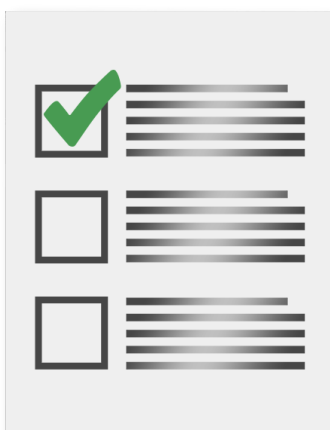
**The Scottish
Government**
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

The Scottish Government should do the things that were suggested by the Christie Commission.



The Scottish Government should support social prescribing.

Social prescribing is when doctors and health workers send patients to community support organisations.



Charities in Scotland should gather examples of good work together and share them.

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Recommendation 2



People need to be more involved in decision making that will affect their lives.



Scotland should have a National Participation Strategy.

This would detail how people could be involved in the decision making that affects them.



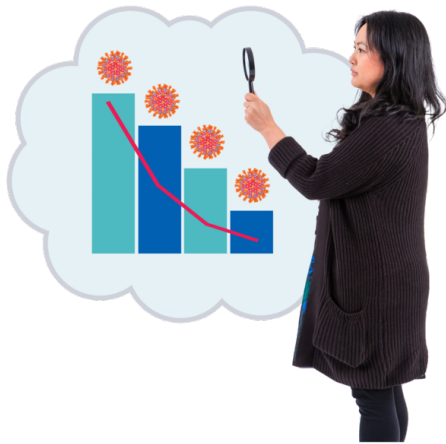
**The Scottish
Government**
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

The Scottish Government should set up a National Participation Centre.

This would work to create ways people can get involved in decision making.

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Recommendation 3



We need to make sure we have good access to data about Scotland.



The more information we have the better decisions we can make.



We should make sure that Government and other organisations have access to information that can help them make good decisions.

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Recommendation 3



**The Scottish
Government**
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

The Scottish Government should begin to look at how information and data could be used and shared to help plan.



Education Scotland should create a Scottish Version of 'Let's Talk Science Canada'.

Lets Talk Science Canada is a charity in Canada.

They work to encourage young people to get interested in science.



*The Royal Society
of Edinburgh*

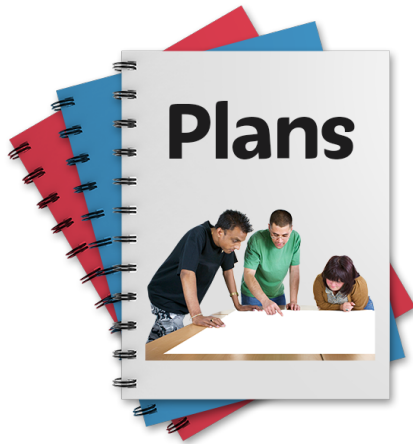
KNOWLEDGE MADE USEFUL

The Royal Society of Edinburgh should hold more discussions about science.

They should involve scientists and politicians and the media.

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Recommendation 4



We need to prepare as much as we can for future challenges.



We need to make sure we have good infrastructure.

Infrastructure is the basic services and systems a country needs.



The Scottish Government should create a Foresighting Centre.

This would look at what might happen in the future.

It would work to make sure Scotland is ready for future challenges.

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Recommendation 4



The Royal Society of Edinburgh should work with the government to create a rapid response service.



This would make sure decision makers had access to good quality information quickly.

This is important if we are in an emergency situation.



The Royal Society of Edinburgh should talk with other groups around the world to share information and what they have learned.

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Recommendation 4



Businesses should work together.

They should share how they changed to continue to work during Covid-19.



Sharing this information would help businesses be more prepared for emergencies.

6. Where can I go to find out more?

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6. Where can I go to find out more?



You can find out more by going to the website below.



If you click this link, it will take you there:

[RSE Covid Commission](https://www.rsecovidcommission.org.uk/info-hub/)

<https://www.rsecovidcommission.org.uk/info-hub/>