Sortition Foundation
Scotland's Climate Assembly Recruitment Report
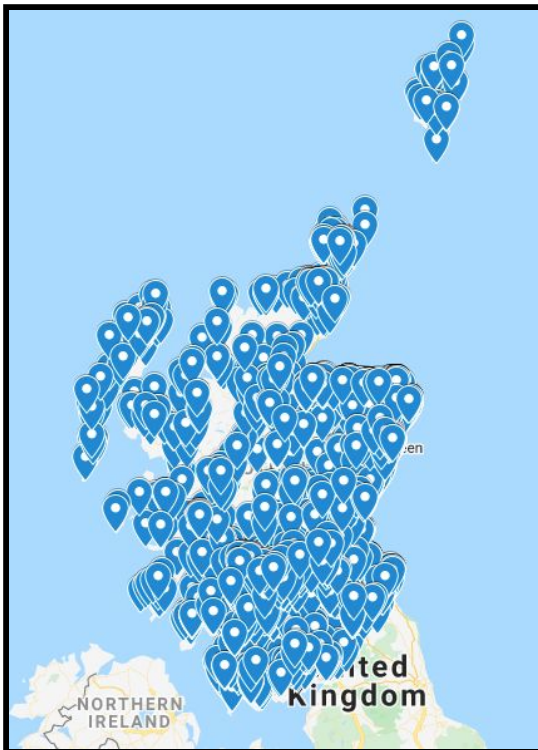
SORTITION

FOUNDATION

Scotland's Climate Assembly Recruitment Report

BRIEF OUTLINE OF RECRUITMENT PROCESS

The Sortition Foundation successfully performed a 2-step sortition (random selection) civic lottery process as commissioned.

In summary:

1. We developed, with the Scotland Climate Assembly team, the invitation content and material which consisted of a specially designed envelope, hard (400gsm) invitation card and 1-page signed letter and 3-page FAQ.
2. This was sent to 20,000 households randomly selected from all the addresses in Scotland listed in Royal Mail's Postal Address File database, such that:
   a. 80% of the households were randomly selected from all over Scotland;
   b. 20% of households were randomly selected from those households in postcodes with an Index of Multiple Deprivation decile in the range 1-3. This helps correct the typical skewing of initial registrations for these events towards higher socio-economic groups.
   c. Everyone aged 16 and over in a household could register, however, only one person from any household could be selected.
3. People could register online or by Freephone. By the closing date of registrations (Monday 28 September) **we had received 878 registrations** (4.4%). *Note: our average response rate over 27 such events is 3.7%.*
4. We selected 105 assembly members to match agreed targets (see below for more information on breakdown and targets), however:
   a. 7 of these people declined to (or could no longer) take part and were immediately replaced during the confirmation phase.
   b. A further 5 people withdrew in the weeks leading up to the first meeting and were replaced from the pool of registrants to ensure as close a demographic match as possible.
   c. Four people dropped out immediately before the first meeting and 2 over the course of the first weekend.
   d. 7 additional members were identified ahead of the second weekend to ensure the composition of the assembly matched agreed targets.
5. The first list of 105 confirmed participants, and the pool of registrants (to be used if people pulled out) was handed over to Involve on Friday 2 October; this report incorporates the above changes and was finalised on 8 December.

Above: Postcode map of 20,000 invitation addresses

Left: The invitation card
Below: postcode map of the 105 originally selected participants

DEMOGRAPHIC TARGETS & DATA SOURCES

The target percentages below were taken from the following data sources:
- **Mid-2019 Population Estimates Scotland** (PES-19)
- **Scottish Surveys Core Questions 2018** (SSCQ-18)
- **Scottish Household Survey 2019** (SHS-19)

It was decided to over-select 5 people above the 100-person target as typically a few people will pull-out too late to be replaced before the first meeting and/or simply not turn up. The aim was to distribute these 5 extra participants into the groups either:
- typically excluded from these processes;
- from experience most likely not to turn up and/or
- from the smaller categories.

Our open-source algorithm which performs the "fairest selection possible" (academic peer-reviewed paper forthcoming) can allow some flexibility by setting minimum and maximum targets, as given in the target column below. The 5 extra participants were selected as below using this nomenclature:
- +X means add 'X' to both the minimum and maximum numbers in this category;
- +X-Y means add 'X' to the minimum and 'Y' to the maximum.
- [+X] means add 'X' to the maximum only. This is a way of letting the final selected person "float" over multiple categories.
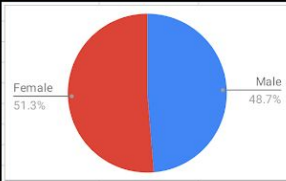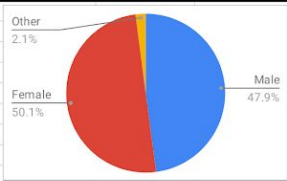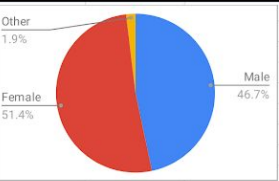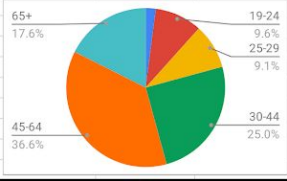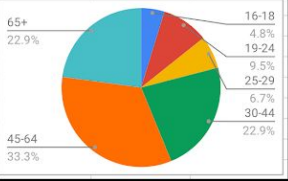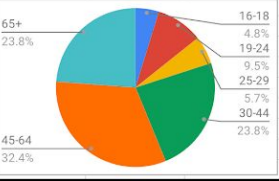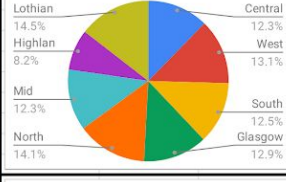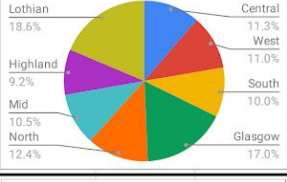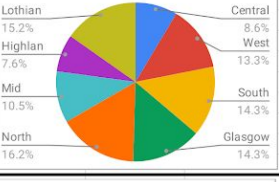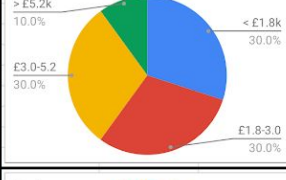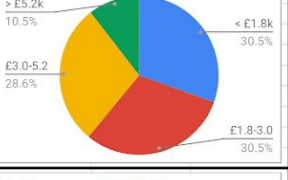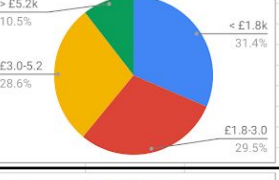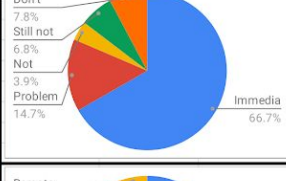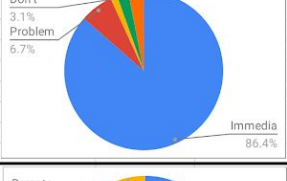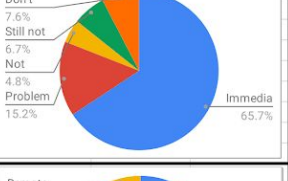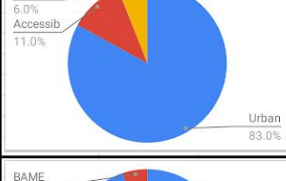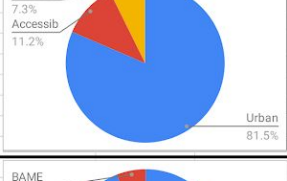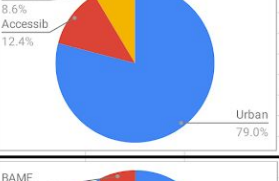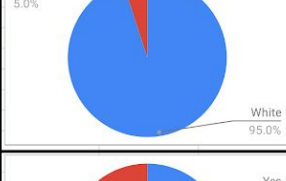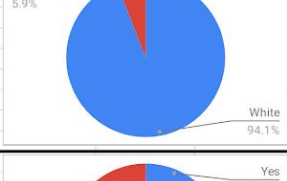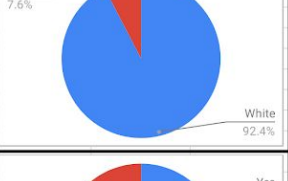
Criteria	Target (%)	Target (#)
Geography (PES-19, Table 2, mapping council areas to constituencies; see **this** for postcode mapping)		
Central Scotland	12.3%	12-13 [+1]
West Scotland	13.1%	13-14 [+1]
South Scotland	12.5%	12-13 [+1]
Glasgow	12.9%	12-13 [+1]
North East Scotland	14.1%	14-15 +2
Mid Scotland and Fife	12.3%	12-13 [+1]
Highlands and Islands	8.2%	8-9 +2
Lothian	14.5%	14-15 [+1]

Age (source: PES-19, Table 1)		
16-18	3.8%	3-4 +2
19-24	9.4%	9-10 +1
25-29	4.4%	4-5 +2
30-44	23.9%	23-24
45-64	34.5%	34-35
65+	24.0%	24
Gender (source: PES-19, Table 1)		
Male	48.7%	48-49 +1-2
Female	51.3%	51-52 +1-2
Non-binary (option to answer but no official statistics) **Note:** *2.1% of registrants identified as "non-binary".*	N/A	0 +2
Socio-economic: Unadjusted household net income. **Source** Question: What was your **total take-home income for everyone in your household for the month of January 2020** (before the COVID-19 pandemic)? Note: please count all earnings, tax credits etc, but deduct taxes, health insurance etc, **for everyone in your household**.		
Less than £1800 (*deciles 1-3*)	30%	30 +2
Between £1800 and £3000 (*deciles 4-6*)	30%	30 +2
Between £3000 and £5200 (*deciles 7-9*)	30%	30
More than £5200 (*decile 10*)	10%	10 +1
Urban/Rural (Source: SSCQ-18, Table S2; **Definitions here**)		
Urban	83%	83
Accessible Rural	11%	11 +2
Remote Rural	6%	6 +3
Ethnicity (Source: SSCQ-18, Table 4.2)		
White (asked sub-categories on registration form e.g. Scottish, Other)	95.4%	95-96 +1-2
BAME (this included options on registration form: Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British; Caribbean or Black or	4.5%	4-5 +3-4

Black British; Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups; Other Ethnic Group)		
Disability (Source: SSCQ-18, Table 1.2) Question: Do you consider yourself to have a limiting long-term physical or mental health condition?		
Yes	24.6%	24-25 +2
No	75.4%	75-76 +3
Climate change attitude (Source: SHS-19, Chapter 10 - Environment, 2018) **Question**: Which of these statements, if any, comes closest to your own view about climate change? *Note: 2% "no answer" has been removed as a possible response, so percentages have been recalculated as the data total was 98%.*		
Climate change is an immediate and urgent problem	69.4%	69-70
Climate change is more of a problem for the future	14.3%	14-15 +1
Climate change is not really a problem	3.1%	3-4 +1-2
I'm still not convinced that climate change is happening	6.1%	6-7 +1-2
Don't know	7.1%	7-8 +1-2

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APPENDIX I: RECRUITMENT STATISTICS IN CHARTS

Note: The final "confirmed" column differs slightly to the third "selected (original)" column as there were a small number of changes in membership between the time of original selection and the second weekend. The numbers and charts below show these final numbers as well.

	TARGET	RESPONDENTS	SELECTED (ORIGINAL)	SELECTED (FINAL CONFIRMED)
GENDER	Male 48.7%, Female 51.3%	Other 2.1%, Male 47.9%, Female 50.1%	Other 1.9%, Male 48.6%, Female 49.5%	Other 1.9%, Male 46.7%, Female 51.4%
AGE	16-18 3.8%, 19-24 9.4%, 25-29 4.4%, 30-44 23.9%, 45-64 34.5%, 65+ 24.0%	19-24 9.6%, 25-29 9.1%, 30-44 25.0%, 45-64 36.6%, 65+ 17.6%	16-18 4.8%, 19-24 9.5%, 25-29 6.7%, 30-44 22.9%, 45-64 33.3%, 65+ 22.9%	16-18 4.8%, 19-24 9.5%, 25-29 5.7%, 30-44 23.8%, 45-64 32.4%, 65+ 23.8%
GEOGRAPHY	Central 12.3%, West 13.1%, South 12.5%, Glasgow 12.9%, North 14.1%, Mid 12.3%, Highlan 8.2%, Lothian 14.5%	Central 11.3%, West 11.0%, South 10.0%, Glasgow 17.0%, North 12.4%, Mid 10.5%, Highland 9.2%, Lothian 18.6%	Central 11.4%, West 12.4%, South 11.4%, Glasgow 13.3%, North 15.2%, Mid 11.4%, Highlan 9.5%, Lothian 15.2%	Central 8.6%, West 13.3%, South 14.3%, Glasgow 14.3%, North 16.2%, Mid 10.5%, Highlan 7.6%, Lothian 15.2%
INCOME LEVEL	< £1.8k 30.0%, £1.8-3.0 30.0%, £3.0-5.2 30.0%, > £5.2k 10.0%	< £1.8k 35.5%, £1.8-3.0 30.9%, £3.0-5.2 25.0%, > £5.2k 8.7%	< £1.8k 30.5%, £1.8-3.0 30.5%, £3.0-5.2 28.6%, > £5.2k 10.5%	< £1.8k 31.4%, £1.8-3.0 29.5%, £3.0-5.2 28.6%, > £5.2k 10.5%
CLIMATE CONCERN LEVEL	Don't 7.8%, Still not 6.8%, Not 3.9%, Problem 14.7%, Immedia 66.7%	Don't 3.1%, Problem 6.7%, Immedia 86.4%	Don't 7.6%, Still not 6.7%, Not 4.8%, Problem 15.2%, Immedia 65.7%	Don't 7.6%, Still not 6.7%, Not 3.8%, Problem 14.3%, Immedia 67.6%
URBAN - RURAL	Remote 6.0%, Accessib 11.0%, Urban 83.0%	Remote 7.3%, Accessib 11.2%, Urban 81.5%	Remote 8.6%, Accessib 12.4%, Urban 79.0%	Remote 8.6%, Accessib 12.4%, Urban 79.0%
ETHNICITY	BAME 5.0%, White 95.0%	BAME 5.9%, White 94.1%	BAME 7.6%, White 92.4%	BAME 7.6%, White 92.4%
DISABILITY	Yes 25.0%, No 75.0%	Yes 12.3%, No 87.7%	Yes 25.7%, No 74.3%	Yes 24.8%, No 75.2%

APPENDIX II: RECRUITMENT STATISTICS IN NUMBERS

Gender	Target %	Target #	All respondents %	All respondents #	Selected Orig %	Orig #	Conf. %	Conf. #
Male	48.7	49.7	47.9	421	48.6	51	46.7	49
Female	51.3	52.3	50	439	49.5	52	51.4	54
Other	0	2	2.1	18	1.9	2	1.9	2
TOTALS	100	104	100	878	100	105	100	105

Age	Target %	#	All respondents %	#	Selected Orig %	Orig #	Conf. %	Conf. #
0-15	0	0	0.2	2	0	0	0	0
16-18	3.8	5.8	2.4	21	4.8	5	4.8	5
19-24	9.4	10.4	9.6	84	9.5	10	9.5	10
25-29	4.4	6.4	8.7	76	6.7	7	5.7	6
30-44	23.9	23.9	25.3	222	22.9	24	23.8	25
45-64	34.5	34.5	36.4	320	33.3	35	32.4	34
65+	24	24	17.4	153	22.9	24	23.8	25
	100	105	100	878	100.1	105	100	105

Geography	Target %	#	All respondents %	#	Selected Orig %	Orig #	Conf. %	Conf. #
Central Scotland	12.3	12.3	11.3	99	11.4	12	8.6	9
West Scotland	13.1	13.1	10.9	96	12.4	13	13.3	14
South Scotland	12.5	12.5	9.9	87	11.4	12	14.3	15
Glasgow	12.9	12.9	17	149	13.3	14	14.3	15
North East Scotla	14.1	16.1	12.4	109	15.2	16	16.2	17
Mid Scotland and	12.3	12.3	10.5	92	11.4	12	10.5	11
Highlands and Isla	8.2	10.2	9.1	80	9.5	10	7.6	8
Lothian	14.5	14.5	18.6	163	15.2	16	15.2	16
LOOKUP FAILED			0.3	3				
	99.9	103.9	100	878	99.8	105	100	105

Income	Target %	#	All respondents %	#	Selected Orig %	Orig #	Conf. %	Conf. #
Less than £1800	30	32	35.5	312	30.5	32	31.4	33
Between £1800 and £	30	32	30.9	271	30.5	32	29.5	31
Between £3000 and £	30	30	24.9	219	28.6	30	28.6	30
More than £5200	10	11	8.7	76	10.5	11	10.5	11
	100	105	100	878	100.1	105	100	105

Climate views	Target %	#	All respondents %	#	Selected Orig %	Orig #	Conf. %	Conf. #
Immediate and ur	69	69.0	86.4	759	65.7	69	67.6	71
Problem for the f	14.3	15.3	6.7	59	15.2	16	14.3	15
Not really a probl	3.1	4.1	1.4	12	4.8	5	3.8	4
Still not convince	6.1	7.1	2.4	21	6.7	7	6.7	7
Don't know	7.1	8.1	3.1	27	7.6	8	7.6	8
	99.6	103.6	100	878	100	105	100	105

Rural/Urban	Target %	#	All respondents %	#	Selected Orig %	Orig #	Conf. %	Conf. #
Urban	83	83	81.2	713	79	83	79	83
Accessible Rural	11	13	11.2	98	12.4	13	12.4	13
Remote Rural	6	9	7.3	64	8.6	9	8.6	9
UR FAILED			0.3	3				
	100	105	100	878	100	105	100	105

Ethnicity	Target %	#	All respondents %	#	Selected Orig %	Orig #	Conf. %	Conf. #
White	95	96.0	94.1	826	92.4	97	92.4	97
BAME	5	8.0	5.9	52	7.6	8	7.6	8
	100	104.0	100	878	100	105	100	105

Disability	Target %	#	All respondents %	#	Selected Orig %	Orig #	Conf. %	Conf. #
Yes	25	27	12.3	108	25.7	27	24.8	26
No	75	78	87.7	770	74.3	78	75.2	79
	100	105	100	878	100	105	100	105

Notes:
- 2 people registered with year of birth = 2020 and they did not reply with the correct year before close of registrations.
- 3 people registered with incorrect postcode details so both the "geographic" and "urban-rural" database lookup failed.
- 25 people were excluded from potential selection as they registered from addresses that were not on our delivery list - we attempted to contact most of these people to find out what happened.
- In the tables above some target totals do not equal 105. This is because some targets were allowed to "float" over multiple categories.