



42nd British-Irish Council Summit

Edinburgh, 6 December 2024

Communiqué

The British-Irish Council (BIC) held its 42nd Summit meeting today, hosted by the Scottish Government in Edinburgh.

The Summit meeting had a thematic focus on *Financing a Just Transition*, and was chaired by the Scottish Government First Minister, the Rt Hon John Swinney MSP.

Financing a Just Transition

The Council discussed the various initiatives which the British-Irish Council's Member Administrations are pursuing to ensure that communities are supported in the journey towards decarbonisation and net zero. It also considered efforts to reduce greenhouse gases in various sectors in a manner compatible with a Just Transition.

The Council also discussed the importance of working in collaboration with the private sector to encourage inward investment and increase employment opportunities within the renewable energy industry to stimulate economic growth and prosperity across these islands.

Latest Political Developments

Council members briefed colleagues on significant developments within their administrations. The Council reflected on a number of important domestic topics, including economic growth and other priorities. The Council also discussed international topics of mutual interest.

25th Anniversary of the British-Irish Council

In marking the 25th anniversary of the British-Irish Council as an institution established in December 1999 under the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement (1998), Council members commended its enduring contribution to promoting positive relations across these islands.

Next Summit Meeting

The Council noted that the next BIC Summit will be hosted by the Northern Ireland Executive in June 2025.

**BIC Secretariat
6 December 2024**

BIC - OFFICIAL

Plenary Participants

Government of Guernsey	
Chief Minister	Deputy Lyndon Trott
Government of Ireland	
Taoiseach	Simon Harris TD
Isle of Man Government	
Chief Minister	Alfred Cannan MHK
Government of Jersey	
Chief Minister	Deputy Lyndon Farnham
Minister for External Relations	Deputy Ian Gorst
Northern Ireland Executive	
First Minister	Michelle O'Neill MLA
deputy First Minister	Emma Little-Pengelly MLA
Minister for the Economy	Conor Murphy MLA
Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	Andrew Muir MLA
Scottish Government	
First Minister	Rt Hon John Swinney MSP
Deputy First Minister	Kate Forbes MSP
UK Government	
Prime Minister	Rt Hon Sir Keir Starmer KCB KC MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	Rt Hon Pat McFadden MP
Welsh Government	
Prif Weinidog / First Minister	Rt Hon Eluned Morgan MS
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning	Rebecca Evans MS