

# Towards a Circular Economy: Scotland's Bioresource Flows

## Annex A: Methodology

This report is the outcome of work undertaken by the Scottish Science Advisory Council (SSAC) – Scotland's highest level independent science advisory body – to research and gather insights into technical and governance issues around economic circularity in Scotland's bioresources sector. A short life Working Group (WG) which included members of SSAC was established, which agreed the scope with the Circular Economy Unit of the Scottish Government's (SG) Directorate Environment and Forestry Directorate. The WG consulted regularly with representatives of Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS) and the Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre (IBiolC). Recommendations were developed independently by members of the SSAC from the evidence presented in the annexes.

The work comprised of two phases:

1. An exploration and quality assessment of the data that is currently available on bioresources, how this is currently being used to measure quantities and flows, and identification of critical uncertainties or gaps. A summary of the findings of this first phase can be found in "Digital Challenge to Circular Bioresources in Scotland" (page 5 of the main report), and is supported by a 'traffic light' assessment of data sources and quality in Annex E.
2. The second phase involved testing of the findings of Phase 1 against the views of key stakeholders in the bioresources sector using a questionnaire and virtual roundtable discussion (see Annexes B and C for details of the invitation, questionnaire, roundtable programme, and participants). Both a summary of the responses and the original (anonymised) responses can be found Annex D.