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**05/07/2024**

**Prosper Responds – UK General Election**

Scotland must be ‘at the table’ as the business of government begins, Prosper, a leading Scottish economic network with over 500 members from all sectors, has said.

The new Government has been given the opportunity to make major changes to grow the economy, but it is essential that it follows through on its pledge to ensure that the voices of Scotland’s industries and sectors are heard as it implements these plans.

Prosper’s General Election manifesto, *Growing for Good*, called for a programme for government that would meet six key tests across the UK and Scottish economies:

- Increase investment (including a stable economic strategy)
- Drive up productivity
- Support a skilled workforce and a growing working age population
- Contain specific measures to nurture business purpose
- Include a credible plan to transition to a net-zero economy
- Include measures to build place-based growth

Commenting on the result, Sara Thiam, Chief Executive Officer, Prosper, said:

“Our simple question for all parties at this election was will your policy programme support a prosperous future?’ The new Prime Minister has said that sustained economic growth would be the first mission for the Government and it has been given a strong mandate to deliver positive economic changes.

“Prosper set six key tests to grow Scotland’s economy and Labour’s plan include many policies that our members support, such as a new Industrial Strategy to increase investment and innovation, skills reforms, and improvements in EU trade. But there are areas, including the energy transition, where we have concerns about its approach.

“Scotland must be ‘at the table’ as the business of government begins and policies are implemented. Government can best unlock opportunities and tackle the tests for our

economy by working with private, public and third sector partners. Prosper and our members are ready to work with the UK and Scottish Governments to build a strong economy, based on our long-term values of purpose, innovation and collaboration.”