

Agenda – Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee

Meeting Venue:

Hybrid: Committee room 4 Tŷ Hywel
and video Conference via Zoom

Meeting date: 1 March 2023

Meeting time: 09.30

For further information contact:

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Private pre-meeting (09.15–09.30)

Public meeting (09.30–12.00)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions, and declarations of interest

(09.30)

2 Carbon Budget 1 and Net Zero Wales – scrutiny of the Minister for Climate Change

(09.30–10.50)

(Pages 1 – 42)

Julie James MS, Minister for Climate Change

Jon Oates, Deputy Director for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency – Welsh Government

John Howells, Director Climate Change, Energy and Planning – Welsh Government

Lucy Corfield, Head of Decarbonisation – Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Research brief – Carbon Budget 1 and Net Zero Wales progress

Paper – Welsh Government: progress towards delivery of climate change commitments



Break (10.50–11.00)

3 The Welsh Government roads review and funding for Wales' bus networks – scrutiny of the Deputy Minister for Climate Change

(11.00–12.00)

(Pages 43 – 50)

Lee Waters MS, Deputy Minister for Climate Change

Peter McDonald, Director Economic Infrastructure – Welsh Government

Ruth Conway, Deputy Director Public and Integrated Transport – Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Research brief – Scrutiny of implementation of the Roads Review Report

4 Papers to note

(12.00)

4.1 Legislative Consent Memoranda for the UK Infrastructure Bank Bill

(Pages 51 – 52)

Attached Documents:

Response from the Minister for Finance and Local Government to the Committee's report on the Legislative Consent Memoranda for the UK Infrastructure Bank Bill

4.2 The Packaging Waste (Data Collection and Reporting) (Wales) Regulations 2023

(Page 53)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Minister for Climate Change to the Chair in relation to the Packaging Waste (Data Collection and Reporting) (Wales) Regulations 2023

4.3 Inter-Ministerial Group for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

(Pages 54 – 55)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales & Trefnydd to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee regarding a meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Group for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

4.4 Scrutiny of the financial implications of Bills

(Pages 56 – 57)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd to the Chair of the Finance Committee in relation to scrutiny of the financial implications of Bills

- 5 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) and (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of today's meeting**
(12.00)

Private meeting (12.00–12.30)

- 6 Carbon Budget 1 and Net Zero Wales – consideration of evidence heard under item 2**
- 7 The Welsh Government roads review and funding for Wales' bus networks – consideration of evidence heard under item 3**
- 8 Consideration of the Committee's draft report on electric vehicle charging**

Document is Restricted

Scrutiny of progress towards delivery of climate change commitments

Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee –2023

1.0 Introduction

This paper provides information to the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee on the Final Statement for the First Carbon Budget and 2020 Interim Target presented to Senedd Cymru, also known as the first Statement of Progress. The paper also provides an update on progress towards the delivery of Net Zero Wales Carbon 2 (2021-25) (Net Zero Wales). Both the Statement and the Plan is a Wales wide plan and assessment rather than just my portfolio.

2.0 Statement of Progress

In December we published our final statement for the first carbon budgetary period covering 2016 to 2020 as required under section 41 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the first interim target, 2020, as required under section 43 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The statement also described Welsh Government's:

- accounting approach to the Net Welsh Emissions Account
- delivery against Carbon Budget 1 and our 2020 Interim target
- progress across sectors and
- and assessment of Wales' consumption emissions

Net Welsh Emissions Account

The statement sets out the steps taken to calculate the Net Welsh Emissions Account for the first carbon budget (CB1) and interim target. The Net Welsh Emissions Account is used to assess whether the first carbon budget has been met.

In-line with the provisions of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Welsh Ministers have agreed zero Carbon Units will be credited to the Net Welsh Emissions Account. This means that international offsets will not be used for compliance with the Welsh targets and budget covered by this statement. As a result, the Net Welsh Emissions Account is unchanged from the previously stated data for Net Welsh Emissions. Welsh Ministers have also taken the decision not to borrow any budget from CB2 to supplement CB1 and have agreed not to carry forward any overperformance from CB1 into CB2, and so no further adjustments have been made.

Delivery against our targets and budgets

It shows that Welsh Government has met both the first carbon budget and interim target. The interim target for 2020 was set at a 27% reduction (which equates to emissions totalling 40,374 ktCO_{2e} in 2020). The final Net Welsh Emissions Account (NWEA) for the interim target year of 2020 saw a 39.2% reduction (emissions totalled 33,612 ktCO_{2e}). Therefore, the 2020 Interim Target has not only been met,

but surpassed its original target by 6,762 ktCO_{2e}. The first carbon budget (CB1) was set at an average reduction of 23% (which equates to a total budget of 212,933 ktCO_{2e}). The final Net Welsh Emissions Account for CB1 saw a 27.8% reduction (a total budget utilisation of 199,718 ktCO_{2e}). Therefore, CB1 has also been met and also surpassed its original target by 13,216 ktCO_{2e}.

Monitoring and Report

The statement also relates emissions reductions back to the commitments made in Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales (also known as the first Low Carbon Delivery Plan (LCDP1)). Whilst the Greenhouse Gas Inventory provides data on emissions levels, it does not provide detailed information on the reasons for rises or falls in emissions. Consequently, the Welsh Government put in place a performance monitoring framework. The framework provides an insight into how the policies set out in the plan have contributed to meeting the targets and budgets and consists of a suite of performance indicators, which seek to track progress from the national level down to the policy level. It should be noted that Welsh Government is building its evidence base and aims to improve the system over time. This will be an ongoing task for the duration of the net zero journey, which will always be associated with a degree of uncertainty. Whilst the framework provides coverage of all emissions sectors, it should be noted that there are some policies for which a quantitative indicator is not suitable, or data cannot be obtained to quantitatively track progress. In these cases, qualitative information is used to provide an assessment of progress.

The indicator frameworks is arranged in three Tiers. In summary:

- Tier 1 – describes emission level changes at the sectoral level;
- Tier 2 – describes the reasons emissions have changed; and
- Tier 3 – describes the extent to which Welsh Government policies have affected the change.

Tier 1 indicators (which link to the emissions inventory) show that, **5 sectors (power, transport, industry, waste and F-gases) have seen strong declining emissions over the period (rated green)**, 2 sectors (buildings, agriculture) have seen more limited change in emissions over the period (rated amber), and the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector has seen a substantial decrease in the size of the sink it provides over the period (rated red). Over the period these emission reductions have been driven by changing patterns in Wales' consumption and production activities (tracked by 57 Tier 2 indicators).

Of the Tier 2 activities **28 are rated green**, including major **increases in the proportion of electricity generation from renewables, major decreases in the proportion of waste sent to landfill, and strong decrease in transport energy use and industrial energy use, albeit transport changes were heavily influenced by the Covid pandemic in 2020**. The sectors seeing the **highest proportions of green-rated Tier 2 indicators were power (89%), waste (75%) and Public Sector (75%)**. Of the remaining activity indicators 7 are rated red, 11 are

rated amber, and 11 could not be rated. The sectors seeing the **lowest proportions of green-rated Tier 2 indicators were LULUCF (0%), Buildings (0%) and Agriculture (17%).**

The Tier 3 indicators assess the extent to which Welsh Government policies have been carried out and influenced emission reduction. Of the 57 Tier 3 indicators, **14 are rated green (i.e. desired direction of travel achieved) primarily within the Power (6 green), Buildings (3 green), Waste (2 green) and Industry (2 green) sectors.** There are also 2 Tier 3 indicators **rated red occurring within the Waste and Power sectors, where the desired direction of travel has not been achieved.**

The MRV system introduced in CB1 will continue to be developed to enable us to assess progress in CB2. For example, **there are 40 Tier 3 indicators not rated, either because data was not available, or because the desired direction of travel was not clear.**

Consumption emissions

The Final Statement included an estimate of Wales's consumption emissions footprint, which allows us to consider the emissions produced by our consumption of goods and services produced both within the UK and abroad. The assessment shows estimated consumption emissions fluctuated slightly with a small increase (of approximately 2%) over the budget period that data is available (the years 2016 to 2019). We will publish an update to annex A this year once the 2020 data is received from the University of Leeds. **Overall, since 2001 (the first available year of data), consumption emission estimates have shown a general downward trend dropping approximately 27% from 49 to 36 Mt CO_{2e}.** The methodology used to calculate the footprint is considered the best currently available, however it does have some limitations. Any model has a level of inherent uncertainty, which can be attributed to variability within model parameters and assumptions made. Greenhouse gas emissions from products originating from other countries are more difficult to estimate than emissions estimated on a territorial basis.

3.0 **Net Zero Wales**

At the end of 2021 we published Net Zero Wales, our emissions reduction plan focused on how we will achieve our second carbon budget (2021-2025). The plan also looks beyond CB2 to start building the foundations for Carbon Budget 3 and beyond. The Plan contains 123 policies and proposals

Following wider best practice, in Wales we have a five-year carbon budget system, recognising the year to year emissions variability. This means we will not publish our final legislative Statement of Progress for Net Zero Wales until 2027 (recognising the 2-year time lag in emissions data).

However to support delivery and help drive action, we have established internal governance to develop and deliver Net Zero Wales consisting of a:

- Cross-Government Cabinet supported by a dedicated Climate Change ministry, bringing together the big policy areas to help Wales reach its legally binding target of reaching net zero by 2050;
- A Portfolio Board chaired by the Climate Change SRO with lead officials for each emission sector and cross-cutting policy area;

We will also be tracking general progress towards our targets and budgets on an annual basis as part of our wider Well-being suite of indicators as we have a WFG indicator on greenhouse gas emissions.

Resources have rightly focussed on delivering our legislative requirements to lay the first Statement of Progress in December last year (3 months ago) after receiving the final data in June 2021, which allowed us to complete the indicator framework. This framework is a significant piece of work and a big step up from our previous reporting and shows how we are being transparent and open. Through setting a more robust framework, we are providing an example of higher standards which we hope will be followed by others.

We are currently working on the development of the next full set of indicators, taking into account our learning from the development of our first suite and trying to improve our data and reduce limitations. We will also continue to strengthen our understanding of the impact of climate policy through our internal integrated impact assessment processes. As already highlighted in Net Zero Wales, we will not have emissions data for the first year of Carbon Budget 2 (2021) until June this year as we do not receive the Greenhouse Gas Inventory emissions data until 18 months after the close of year. This data is a core part of our monitoring framework for Carbon Budget 2 and will permit the development of our next set of indicators.

We also continue to monitor delivery of Net Zero Wales qualitatively through the Climate Change Portfolio Board. To aid the scrutiny of the Committee a summary is provided below in the Annex, setting out progress against each of the policies and proposals described in Net Zero Wales.

Annex

Policies

	Policy	Status
1	Just transition	Call for evidence on a just transition was published in December 2022 and is currently open.
2	Nature Emergency	The Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) is being delivered through initiatives such as the 3 year Nature Networks Programme, Natur am byth and LIFE projects. NRAP to be refreshed once global biodiversity framework and targets agreed at COP 15. Nature Networks Programme :
3	The Clean Air Plan,	Our Clean Air Wales Plan is being delivered and the Clean Air Bill is planned to be introduced into the Senedd in March 2023
4	Building climate resilience	The Adaptation Progress Report was published December 2022, and reports progress against our current 5-year national climate change adaptation plan, Prosperity for All: A Climate Conscious Wales .
5	A Circular Economy	Our Circular Economy Strategy is being implemented
6	Planning Policy	Revisions to Planning Policy Wales are made relatively frequently, relevant to promoting net zero and maintaining up to date planning policy will contribute to and help deliver the Government's wider Net Zero aspirations.
7	Regional Economic Frameworks	Regional Economic Frameworks are enabled by the Economic Action Plan, further info: https://www.gov.wales/regional-economic-frameworks
8	Updated Budget Improvement Plan	Through the delivery of the multiyear Budget published in March 2022, we delivered the 10 year Wales Infrastructure and Investment Strategy and undertook carbon impact assessments of capital plans. Also actions taken to fund elements of Net Zero Wales. Building on this substantive work we published an updated Budget Improvement Plan alongside the 2023-24 Draft Budget outlining progress and next steps. https://www.gov.wales/welsh-government-budgets#id_2022to2023
9	New Infrastructure Investment Strategy	Through the delivery of the multiyear Budget published in March 2022, WG delivered the 10 year Wales Infrastructure and Investment Strategy and undertaken carbon impact assessments of capital plans. Also actions taken to fund elements of Net Zero Wales. Building on this substantive work we published an updated Budget Improvement Plan alongside the 2023-24 Draft Budget outlining progress and next steps. https://www.gov.wales/welsh-government-budgets#id_2022to2023 : https://www.gov.wales/81bn-support-green-infrastructure
10	Carbon Pricing	A cross UK Consultation has been developed, delivered and concluded on time. The substantive Government Response is expected to be published in March 2023 and include confirmation of the approach to placing the scheme on a net zero consistent pathway. Extensive analysis has been carried out to identify the likely Welsh

		impact within the UK scheme. https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/developing-the-uk-emissions-trading-scheme-uk-ets
11	Skills Action Plan	Publication of Net Zero Skills Action Plan planned for February 2023
12	Innovation for a net zero economy	We are currently developing a new Innovation Strategy which will be launched for consultation in September 2022. New support mechanisms will be a key feature of this, and the resulting action plan.
13	Digital Strategy	The Centre for Digital Public Services (CDPS) supports delivery of the Digital Strategy for Wales. CDPS undertook a 12-week Tech Net Zero discovery research project , looking at how digital technology in the public sector could help Wales to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2050. Through direct interviews and surveys, the discovery team gathered evidence from people working in the public sector across Wales and 6 recommendations for how the use of digital technology in the public sector could help Wales reach its climate goals. The CDPS has shared the findings from the discovery exercise with stakeholders and is discussing with them the best way to take this work forward.
14	International action	Wales maintains an international presence through key networks such as being on the Under2Coalition Steering group and through the attendance of key international events such as COP27 and COP15. Wales also inputs to the Climate Groups Future Fund.
15	Publish Stakeholder Engagement Plan	We published our Stakeholder Engagement plan for Net Zero in June 2022
16	Consult on Public Engagement Strategy	We published our Draft Strategy for Engaging the General Public in action on climate change. The Consultation closed December 2022.
17	Reducing Emissions from the Combustion of Fuels for Electricity Generation	Policy position set out in Oral Statement in October 2022. Policy Position Statement and Government response to the Call for Evidence on Decarbonisation Readiness are being prepared for publication.
18	Licensing and Planning frameworks to restrict fossil fuel extraction	The Coal and Petroleum policies are both published and appropriate licensing systems are in place to deliver policy outcomes. Petroleum policy has already informed numerous licensing decisions. Coal policy will be applied during 2023/24 should anticipated licensing and planning applications progress through their respective regimes.
19	Reducing emission growth from new Energy from Waste plants in Wales	Moratorium on large scale (>10MW) in place as of March 2021.

20	De-risking and Integrating Investment in Wales through Energy Planning	The Energy System Catapult (ESC) appointed as a Technical Advisor to oversee the Local Area Energy Planning (LAEP) programme and to deliver the technical support to the Mid Wales region. A Local Authority Forum established to share learnings and improve understanding. National Advisory Group established for the programme. Regional resource teams approved. suppliers appointed to provide technical support to North Wales, Southwest Wales and Cardiff Capital Region.
21	Planning the delivery of the electricity and gas grid we need for Wales	The Future Energy Grids for Wales project (FEW) is nearing its final stage, with modelling complete. The Energy Systems Catapult is now refining the series of insights into the future energy system to be produced by April 2023. Welsh Government is participating in the work designing the reinforcements to the electricity transmission system to ensure Welsh priorities are considered at an early stage.
22	Increasing renewable energy developments on land through our planning regime	Future Wales is in force and contains relevant policies relating to renewable energy projects.
23	Consenting storage projects	Legislation in force to enable decisions to be made by Local Authorities on energy storage projects.
24	Marine evidence, planning and licencing	The Offshore Renewable Energy Programme (OREP) has been made permanent by Natural Resources Wales. End-to-end review of Marine Licensing is underway
25	Innovation in new renewable energy technology	The innovation in renewables includes projects being progressed on Hydrogen, Marine and within parts of community and public renewable deployment. Funding remains a key challenge given innovation have been traditionally funded through EU funding sources.
26	Locally Owned Energy Developments	Regional Energy Strategies are agreed in all 4 regions of Wales, with ambition for locally owned renewables. Local Energy Plans are in development in every local authority in Wales, to provide evidence for the scale of local action needed. The Welsh Government Energy Service is supporting community and public sector development, plus support for communities to explore taking a share in commercially owned projects. https://www.gov.wales/energy-service-public-sector-and-community-groups . Welsh Government has announced that a Welsh Government Renewable Energy Developer will be launched by April 2024, developing a pipeline of projects on the Welsh Government public estate.

27	Maximising Welsh benefit from Commercially Operated infrastructure projects in Wales	The Marine Energy Programme (MEP) is progressing work to secure supply chain benefits from floating (FLOW) and fixed offshore wind projects, by working in collaboration with ports and developers. Whilst likely to require considerable investment in ports, UKG/BEIS have made funds available for FLOW and other sources of funding are also being explored. The aim is to provide end-end solutions across the supply chain. In addition, MEP is exploring a possible revenue support mechanism for tidal stream and wave developers to accelerate the deployment and commercialisation of the technologies in Welsh waters. A condition of award will be demonstration of socio-economic benefits to Wales. This will also capitalise on the WEFO funding already committed to the Morlais demonstration zone. It is proposed that the Tidal Lagoon Challenge (TLC) will take a Welsh Government led approach to the development of Tidal Lagoon in Welsh Waters, with the specification of requirements during the procurement process to secure maximum benefit to Wales. Guidance on shared ownership projects will help establish the feasibility of Welsh organisations taking an ownership stake in large onshore developments: the WGES will support communities to understand the risks and benefits this presents. Supply chain opportunities remain significant, yet will need to ensure that 'local content' is demonstrably the economically best option, for example because of lower carbon intensity and lower overall costs because of proximity to deployment sites.
28	Scope out the challenges and opportunities around low-carbon heat	The Strategy development is on track. A literature review has concluded and stakeholder engagement is underway. We are aiming to consult on a draft in spring 2023 and publish final version before the end of 2023, in line with our commitment in Net Zero Wales.
29	Increase the use of Waste Heat and low carbon heat sources	We are in the process of acquiring data from BEIS.
30	Enable people to work at or near to home	Monitoring of the local workspaces to test the appetite and feasibility of local remote working hubs is ongoing. The Remote Working Strategy was published along with suite of supporting documents.
31	Increase trip mode share of Active Travel	Active travel maps have been approved for all but one local authority in Wales. Active Travel School Plan pilot work and recruitment of pilot schools has begun. Work conducted by Sustrans on WG behalf to pilot new active travel school plan resources is progressing well. PHW have begun tender process for development of a social marketing campaign to encourage active travel to school. Work has begun in collaboration between PHW, Swansea University and WG to develop a systematic way of assessing active travel potential for each school. Safe Routes in Communities application window for FY23/24 has opened and a funding offer made for any local authority committed to undertaking school streets development work
32	Increase trip mode share of public transport	A strategic evaluation of how the outcomes of the interventions contained within the NTDP compared to the path set out in the strategy and Net Zero Wales has now been undertaken. Our TfW Metro teams continue to develop an ambitious potential pipeline of projects in readiness to take forward as and when funding permits.

33	Reduce emissions from freight and logistics	The Wales Freight a Logistics Plan is under development.
34	Land use planning	National planning policy development in progress and revisions to PPW are made relatively frequently. The changes to PPW are relevant to promoting net zero and maintaining up to date planning policy will contribute to and help deliver the Government's wider NZ aspirations. Planning Policy is prepared for other stakeholders including local planning authorities and developers.
35	Accelerate the uptake of zero emission cars and vans	Zero Emission Vehicle uptake rates are slightly exceeding CCC Balanced pathway. Liaising with DfT on new Zero Emission Vehicle mandate legislation.
36	Plan for and invest in EV charging infrastructure	We have published our Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy and Action Plan published in October 2021. Investments ongoing, leveraging additional funds from OZEV, emission reductions are difficult to directly attribute to this policy.
37	Zero emission bus fleet	The strategic Outline Business Case for bus fleet decarbonisation is now in final draft. Alongside this business case is a fleet and infrastructure transition plan now complete. The first procurement of EV buses for the Traws Cymru fleet has had to be delayed and will now start in the New Year, this will necessitate a reprofiling of budgets. An MA is now required before the end of February to enable a smooth transition in the delivery phase of the work.
38	All taxis and private hire vehicles to be zero emission by 2028	The taxis green fleet project is ongoing and feedback is being gathered to help identify barriers to transition and ways to help alleviate them. A Taxi Bill is provisionally scheduled for later in this Senedd term with a white paper due to be published imminently.
39	Decarbonise the rail network	Officials are represented on the Traction Decarbonisation Strategic Implementation Board and continue to press the case for earlier electrification in Wales. SW Metro electrification works in progress.
40	Zero emission HGVs	Engagement ongoing to inform policy development, with CALSTART and Netherlands on Global MOU, with industry on the supporting infrastructure and some private sector interest in DfT zero emission technology trials.
41	Reduce emissions from aviation	Aviation policy is not devolved. DfT analysis anticipates aviation greenhouse gas emissions remaining broadly flat if current trends in technology and demand continue.
42	Reduce emissions from shipping	Early engagement with DfT on 'Course to Zero' consultation. Discussion ongoing in relation to extending the scope of the UK Emissions Trading Scheme to cover shipping.
43	The Optimised Retrofit Programme(ORP)	The ORP is now in its third phase of delivery. This year we have refreshed the programme and moved to a funding formula to enable all social housing landlords to access support. The programme is still mainly targeting social housing but initial steps to support other tenures are being made. (https://www.gov.wales/optimised-retrofit-programme)

44	Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) –	As of 31st March 2022, 100% of all social housing dwellings were current WHQS compliant including acceptable fails. Consultation on new WHQS 2023 has been undertaken and results analysed (https://www.gov.wales/welsh-housing-quality-standard-2023). Proposal to be refined and agreed shortly.
45	Part L Building Regulations	2022 review of Parts L, F and O complete. Residential provisions cif November 2022, non domestic cif March 2023. Part L 2025 review programme commenced development.
46	Social Homes will lead by example being built to standards in excess of Part L	A new housing quality standard the “ Welsh Development Quality Requirements 2021 – Creating Beautiful Homes & Places” (WDQR 2021) was launched July 2021 setting new quality requirements for social housing centred on flexibility, space and sustainability. WDQR2021 sets new quality requirements for social housing centred on flexibility, space and sustainability. It ensures social housing will lead the way in reducing carbon emissions, with private developers expected to build to the same low carbon requirements by 2025. Through WDQR 2021 the social landlord sector is now leading the way in terms of requiring new build homes funded with public money to be high quality, beautiful and low carbon. These standards are designed to maximise community, economic and wellbeing outcomes, and support equalities and social justice.
47	Developing Innovative construction techniques	The Innovative Housing Programme continues to provide feedback and learning on the innovative construction techniques that were supported with funding. The 2nd report into construction lessons learnt will be published in later 2023 and will feed into the design quality requirements for new social housing. WDQR 2021 will be reviewed in 2023, with a new standard finalise in 2023-24. Funding for a second phase of the Home Grown Homes programme has been agreed and Housing colleagues have been involved in shaping the Timber Industrial Strategy to ensure more timber is used in construction of social housing.
48	Incentivising energy efficiency of homes through our Help to Buy Wales (HtBW)	The Minister for Climate Change announced in December her intention to extend the existing Help to Buy scheme in Wales from 1 April 2023 until 31 March 2025. From the 1 April all homes sold through the scheme, will need to meet a minimum of EPC B and the purchase price cap will rise from £250K to £300K. The new criteria of EPC B and rise in price cap will apply to properties purchased from 1 April onwards. This extension has been developed with the support of UK Finance, the Home Builders Federation, the Federation of Master Builders and the Development Bank of Wales.
49	Piloting Smart Flexible and Digitalised Systems to	Through the ORP we are investing in a range of intelligent energy systems and sensors and have set standards for environmental and energy monitoring to be delivered on projects as part of the programme.
50	Develop behaviour change interventions alongside our wider programmes	Our work through ORP and IHP is informing social landlords across Wales, which combination of solutions perform best from an energy perspective and which work best for the tenants and then sharing that learning across the sector and to other Government departments. Tenant feedback will start to provide us insight into which solutions tenants experience the best outcomes, which require the most behaviour changes for the tenants and which tenants felt lead to little or no behaviour change.

51	Drive Decarbonisation through the Manufacturing Sector	Decarbonisation is a major part of the Welsh Government's Manufacturing Action Plan. We have completed a survey of manufacturing companies, the results of which are being factored into a refresh of the plan to be launched in May. We have commenced supply chain mapping in a number of priority areas to identify opportunities for more local sourcing.
52	Increased resource efficiency in business and industry through regulation and funding	The Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) - Consultation summary and final scheme design has been published. The Scheme will increase the recycling of packaging, encourage re-use and the reduction of unnecessary packaging. We are undertaking Business recycling reforms through developing regulations, which will further increase the recycling of food, paper, card, cartons and textiles, with the final consultation on the Code of Practice and enforcement and sanctions having been published, with a deadline for responses of 15 February 2023. Work is also being implemented to mainstream support to Businesses across Wales to improve their resource efficiency through Business Wales.
53	Implement a new regime for pollution control Best Available Techniques (BAT) for industry	The Four UK Nations have agreed a process for developing UK BAT Conclusions. Additionally, the first two tranches (9 industrial sectors) have been agreed and confirmed by way of our Summary of Responses and Government response to our joint 2021 consultation. The first of these sectors will likely be completed and come into force in January 2024 and is expected to include standard conclusions in relation to Circular Economy, Climate Change Adaption and Climate Change Mitigation.
54	Business Wales	The Business Wales service offers a wide range of advice and support on green policies and practices across Wales. Dedicated Resource Efficiency Advisors are available to support businesses working towards creating a resource efficient and resilient business, who can provide a range of advice such as using fewer raw materials to help reduce the risk of material scarcity, driving innovation and resilience, and helping businesses reach new markets.
55	Climate Change Levy (CCL) and Climate Change Agreements – UK Government	This is a UK Government (UKG) policy. In Net Zero Wales we called on UK Government to ensure that "businesses and industries based in Wales continue to be eligible for any future CCA scheme beyond March 2025". Between Dec '21 and March '22, UKG consulted on the future of Climate Change Agreement looking at scheme length; eligibility; increasing uptake of energy efficiency technologies; and transparency of action. We await for their response and update.
56	Improvements to the Energy Saving Opportunity Scheme (ESOS)	This has been taken forward by the UK Government. The deadline for qualifying companies to complete ESOS phase three is 5th December 2023.
57	Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR)	The UK government's Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) is in implementation mode.

58	Development Bank of Wales (DBW)	DBW is remitted to have Decarbonisation as a policy priority as the bank supports businesses transition towards net zero. During 2022/23, the bank will develop business finance decarbonisation schemes to support this priority.
59	Economy Futures Fund (EFF)	The Welsh Government's Economy Futures Fund brings together existing finance schemes into a consistent approach, simplifying the process for businesses and allowing Welsh Government to be flexible in how it uses the resources it has to meet business need, and deliver against the points highlighted in the Economic Contract and the Calls to Action.
60	UK Government Funding Streams for Industrial Decarbonisation	Officials are working with UKG to address Welsh requirements and to promote funding opportunities to businesses and stakeholders.
61	Regulations to reduce agricultural pollution	The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021 (CoAP Regulations) CIF April 2021. Transitional periods apply with additional requirements from Jan 2023, April 2023 and full implementation by Aug 2024. A consultation is currently underway (ends 17 February) on a proposed licencing scheme to support transition to the 170kg/N/ha limit from livestock manures until 2025. The CoAP Regulations will be enforced by NRW and through cross compliance, providing information which may provide data which can be used for more accurate modelling of emission reductions.
62	Glastir	Glastir Advanced, Commons and Organic contracts are being renewed or annually extended, as appropriate, until 2023.
63	Farm Business Grant (FBG)	Due to a high level of demand for certain items available in FBG, in addition to supply issues (due to a combination of Covid-19 and Brexit), some contract holders may struggle to complete the purchase of all items in their contracts, which is, currently, necessary to enable payment for the other items which are purchased. For FBG-YC, due to high levels of demand for materials and labour to complete projects, not to mention delays in obtaining Planning Permission and SuDS approvals, some contract holders may struggle to complete the projects in their contracts in time to claim. No further rounds of FBG or FBG-YC will take place and have been replaced by the Small Grants - Efficiency and Small Grants - Efficiency schemes, respectively.
64	Sustainable Production Grant (SPG) (replaced by the Nutrient Management Investment Scheme (NMIS))	Applications received through the latest application window of NMIS are being appraised. Market volatility and high input costs (including the rising costs of materials and contractors and their availability) may impact the number of applications that progress.

65	Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework (WAHWF)	<p>The Wales AH&W Framework promotes several initiatives to improve health and productivity of animal production systems. This, if overall production is not increased, would reduce the carbon footprint of the sector (through fewer animals producing the same).</p> <p>Among the most important are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal Health Planning – the HerdAdvance and Stoc+ RDP projects – when data on impact on productivity of preventive veterinary interventions is available, this should be converted to greenhouse gas emission consequences. - BVD eradication – several studies show that in the absence of BVD, overall cattle productivity significantly increases. We would expect a GHG reduction benefit though would be difficult to isolate and measure that. - Sheep Scab eradication - our recently announced 3 year contract with Coleg Sir Gar will work to eradicate sheep scab in Wales beginning in 2023
66	Red Meat Development Programme	RDP funding for this project comes to an end in June 2023. Genetic development and estimated breeding values (EBV's) of the Welsh sheep sector has been identified as a priority following the success of the programme, resulting in a new 2 year contract being successfully procured as part of the wider Farming Connect programme, which commences 1 April 2023.
67	Dairy Improvement Programme (DIP)	The DIP, funded by the Welsh Government through the Rural Development Programme, is a £6.5m, five year programme (2014-2020) delivered AHDB with funding available until June 2023. There are several additional work packages: (i) addressing gaps in evidence and providing more insights on how to accelerate the uptake of the latest innovations and practices towards net zero; (ii) providing baseline data for Welsh dairy farms via carbon audits and action plans; and, (iii) modelling of a net zero dairy farm.
68	Farming Connect (FC)	A themed, campaign approach to delivery has allowed Farming Connect to better target interventions supporting the decarb agenda. A survey of 650 FC beneficiaries (undertaken as part of an independent evaluation of Farming Connect) demonstrated that 18% of respondents had performed carbon foot printing on their business; these respondents realised the importance of carbon footprint information and were keen to understand their environmental footprint further. The next Farming Connect contains subsidised advice specifically looking at the carbon performance of a farm, including carbon audits, emissions and sequestration levels and what can be done within the farm business to make improvements.
69	Agriculture Bill	The Agriculture Bill will provide Welsh Government with the powers to introduce a new system of farm support. The Bill has been introduced to the Senedd and is currently moving through scrutiny. An outline of the proposed Sustainable Farming Scheme was published in July 2022 and a further process of co-design is currently concluding. Further info under: https://www.gov.wales/sustainable-farming-scheme-guide
70	Create a National Forest for Wales	<p>We are making progress in a number of areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy development of a delivery model (Post 2025) • A 3 year delivery plan has been produced, • interactive digital mapping activity has begun and a long term strategy is under development. • Cross policy work underway with Agri, Decarbonisation, Health , Tourism , NRW and strategic partners.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Forest Status process is in development. • 3 commemorative woodlands announced. • Timber Industrial strategy behind schedule • Grant scheme to deliver 100 Tiny Forests in development to launch April 2023. • Long term delivery model task and finish group progressing.
71	Woodland Creation Scheme	Woodland management scheme open for applications. The new woodland creation scheme has been launched alongside a hedges and edges and small grants scheme and woodland investment grant. SFS and integrated management scheme will encompass some elements (on farm) of woodland creation. The Woodland Investment Grant (TWIG) grant launched June 22. https://www.gov.wales/woodland-creation-planning-scheme-using-rpw-online-apply
72	Implementing a Peatland Restoration Programme	New Peatlands of Wales map provides emission estimates and work is ongoing to linking this to ongoing restoration. 650ha of restoration delivered 2020/21. 1,000ha of restoration delivered 2021/22.
73	Reduce waste sent to landfill	<p>Halve the amount of avoidable food waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So far, this financial year FareShare Cymru have prevented 636.7 tonnes of food becoming waste by redistributing the surplus edible food to those in need. They have redistributed 4,664 tonnes since 2011 to over 221 organisations across Wales. • Nine Welsh businesses are signed up to the UK Food Waste Reduction Roadmap under Courtauld 2030 (C2030), which helps food businesses to reduce food waste across the supply chain. • We are also supporting the Love Food Hate Waste / Hoffi Bwyd Casau Gwastraff campaign, which educates and supports citizens to reduce food waste at home using behavioural science, Welsh-specific campaigns are being created to target those that need extra support and education to reduce food waste <p>Reduce the landfilling of biodegradable waste in Wales to zero by 2025 – with the Business, Public & Third Sector Recycling Regulations being brought forward to further reduce the landfilling of food, paper, card, cartons and textile (biodegradable waste) – see Policy 74.</p> <p>The Extender Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme for packaging will increase the recycling of packaging, encourage re-use and reduce unnecessary packaging. The reforms will shift the costs of managing household packaging waste from the public to the private sector and create the incentive to improve resources efficiency and the recyclability of packaging. The Scheme is in the implementation phase with the target date of the first payments being collected from producers in 2024/25.</p>

74	Further increase recycling	<p>Waste compositional analysis and modelling work to develop the evidence to set future municipal recycling targets beyond 70% in 24/25 is on track.</p> <p>In parallel, the Business, Public & Third Sector Recycling Regulations are being developed which will further increase the recycling of food, paper, card, cartons and textiles, thereby also diverting the material away from landfill. Consultations on the draft Code of Practice and proposed enforcement regime for the Regulations run from 23 November 2022 to 15 February 2023.</p> <p>The final design of a deposit return scheme for drink containers was published in January 2023. In Wales, the Scheme will cover glass and PET plastic bottles, steel and aluminium cans, ranging from 50ml to 3lt in size. The scheme will further increase the recycling rates of these materials, including by reducing the numbers of drink containers littered following on from the success of such schemes in other countries. The aim is for the scheme to go live in October 2025, with the aim of achieving a statutory return rate target of 90% after three years of operation.</p> <p>Work has also been commenced on pilots to collect flexible plastics, such as bags, packets and wrapping to look at how they could be included in household and business waste collection services.</p>
75	Be Mighty Campaign	<p>Audience segmentation modelling has been undertaken to inform the behaviour change campaigns, with the next phase of Be Mighty being launched in February. This next campaign will focus on encouraging more people to address their food waste and highlighting how it can be recycled and turned into energy to power homes, appliances etc. It will also be providing ideas and hacks on how to overcome the 'yuck' factor of recycling food waste, which we know from the research is a barrier for lots of people.</p>
76	All public sector organisations should use the Routemap and Reporting Guide	<p>All Local Authorities and most Public Bodies in Wales reported on their carbon emissions for the first time this year in line with the Reporting Guide.</p> <p>The NHS Decarbonisation Strategic Delivery plan was published in 2021. In April 2022 all NHS Organisations submitted Decarbonisation Action Plans as part of the Interim Medium Term Plans (IMTP) process, a requirement to report emissions through the Public Sector Reporting Guide is included in the IMTP Performance Framework (along with qualitative reporting in progress). The Greener Primary Care Framework was launched in June 2022 and a Net Zero plan/route map for Social Care was launched at the beginning of July 2022.</p> <p>The LA Climate Strategy Panel has adopted the route map as a strategic framework, and through WLGA support programme encouraging LA's to do same.</p>
77	The Welsh Government's plan to achieve net zero as an organisation	<p>Welsh Government has published its plan to achieve Net Zero https://www.gov.wales/welsh-government-net-zero-strategic-plan</p>

78	The Welsh Government to include Net Zero Wales commitments in our remit letters and sponsor arrangements with public bodies in Wales	The Welsh Government remit letter template has been updated to include reference to net zero. We are working towards updating the remit letter used for non WG owned/sponsored Public Bodies on an individual (ad hoc) basis eg the Development Bank for Wales and the High Education Funding Council for Wales. For NHS Wales direction on the commitment to Net Zero and requirement to produce and report against Decarbonisation Action Plans was issued via the IMTP process. In April 2022 all NHS Organisations submitted Decarbonisation Action Plans to the HSC Climate Emergency Programme.
79	Make Carbon Reduction Plans a mandatory part of tenders for appropriate public procurement contracts and prioritise products which are fully recyclable, multi-use or able to be re-purposed as part of a more circular approach to waste.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carbon Reduction Plans are only a supplier qualification criterion, as such they confirm the suitability of suppliers to tender but provide no metrics to assess reductions in scope 3 emissions arising from public sector contracts which should flow from KPIs specified in contracts 2. Carbon Reduction Plans (CRPs) are mandated for WG contracts and frameworks over £5m from 1st April 2022. WPPN 06/21 Taking Account of Carbon Reduction Plans was published in September 2021 to give buyers advance notice. WG Corporate Procurement Services ensure that CRPs are duly considered for WG contracts and frameworks on which they advise WG departments. 3. An amendment to the Grant funding standard clause 15. Buying goods and services is being developed to require compliance with WG Welsh Procurement Policy Notes (WPPNs) including WPPN 06/21 Taking Account of Carbon Reduction Plans. Further discussions required with the grants team. 4. Sustainable Procurement Risk Assessment (SRA) templates have been updated to support circular economy actions in procurement planning processes. The revised templates for Goods and Services will be published to Gov.Wales and promoted to the Welsh Public Sector in summer 2022. The SRAs compliment other sustainable procurement guidance commissioned by WG, including the WRAP “Sustainable Procurement Hierarchy Guidance” that was published in spring 2021 and Local Government Association’s, “Sustainable procurement Delivering local economic, social and environmental priorities - A toolkit for commissioners, procurement practitioners and contract managers” that was published in October 2021. As guidance these tools will not generate metrics against which emissions reduction can be assessed, but they should influence the planning and performance of public sector contracts that should be able to demonstrate emissions reduction. 5. NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership (NWSSP) Procurement plans reflect the commitment as set in Net Zero Wales. NWSSP have established a work-plan and are working in conjunction with WRAP and WGES to deliver a reduction in procurement emissions across the estate. Funding has been allocated to build capacity in NWSSP to pick up pace on this work across H&SC. <p>WRAP is providing support for public sector organisations with individual contracts and procurement policy to tackle the embedded carbon emissions and ensure procurement will support the transition to a circular economy. This includes developing and trialling a Sustainable Procurement Maturity Review tool across public sector organisations in Wales. Sustainable procurement guidance has also been published on early market</p>

		engagement and for individual procurement categories: Public sector guidance on the procurement of sustainable products WRAP (wrapcymru.org.uk)
80	All new public sector cars and light goods vehicles should be zero/ultra-low emission by 2025 and heavy goods by 2030	<p>Technical Fleet reviews have been completed for the majority of public bodies in Wales by the Welsh Government Energy Service (WGES), who are now supporting their implementation. With availability increasing, Resource Efficiency has supported the transition of over 40 EVs > 7.5 tonnes, c. 5% of the LA collection fleet.</p> <p>WG grants are supporting the update of EV and EV charging infrastructure across Wales (Climate Change, Circular Economy, Transport etc)</p> <p>NHS Wales plans reflect the commitment as set in Net Zero Wales.</p> <p>LA CSP / WLGA support programme working towards this commitment.</p>
81	All public sector organisations should understand the sequestration potential of land in their ownership	<p>This is linked to the development of decarbonisations plans (Policy 76) which is progressing well.</p> <p>NHS Wales plans reflect the commitment as set in Net Zero Wales.</p> <p>Ystadau Cymru (YC) to liaise with NRW and report at quarterly Board meeting. YC also developing mapping tool with asset managers and DataMap Wales.</p> <p>NZW commitment to map all LA holdings by April 2022 (in collaboration with NRW/WG/WLGA) to identify land types and sequestration potential to develop plans to maximise benefits. This work has started and reported back to Feb and March CSP, initial review completed by April, further work identified.</p> <p>NZW commitment - for leaders to see sequestration as a valid core purpose for public land. WLGA programme supporting this ambition through a land based decarbonisation (LBD) and leadership programme of work, working closely with WG policy, coordinated by WG local government sustainability team. Both strands of work due to report by the autumn.</p>
82	NHS Wales is committed to the collective net zero ambition by 2030	The Health and Social Care Climate Emergency National Programme has been established along with a National Programme Board and five supporting National Project Boards (Transport and Procurement, Buildings, Estates Planning and Land Use, Approach to Healthcare, Social Care and Adaptation) to drive delivery and assure progress against plans. Revenue funding for the programme has been secured to support a three year funding scheme, key enabling activity and to build capacity in NWSSP as a key delivery partner across NHS Wales. The first round of funding for Grass Roots Initiatives across HB's has been completed.
83	A joint NHS Wales and LG Social Care Decarbonisation Plan	A Route Map for Social Care has been developed jointly with NHS Wales, Local Government and Social Services Stakeholders. The Route Map was launched in July 2022. The work has included activity to estimate emissions within the sector to provide an indicative baseline. A Social Care National Project Board has been established to support delivery of the 15 initiatives to their deadlines that align to the Public Sector Route Map.

84	The Local Government Decarbonisation Strategy Panel and WLGA will support the commitments made by Local Government organisations	<p>The Strategy panel has been established and driving the work. Local Authority engagement and ambition is high and WLGA have a programme set up and developed which is starting to deliver. Funding is secured for next 3 FY's.</p> <p>Regular (annual/18 month) assessment of LA decarbonisation action plans will be carried out (next one due spring 2023), a review of adaptation plans is being scoped, to line up with CCC overall review of the position in Wales.</p> <p>WLGA programme workstreams established to support and accelerate action and provide hands on practical support to LA's to accelerate change, provide peer support and share learning in: leadership (all 22 leaders meeting 28 July), procurement, transport (building on the WGES fleet reviews and supporting LA's to put the findings in place), and analysis of land types and sequestration potential to support LA decision making.</p> <p>The WG annual emissions monitoring is key to monitoring progress. Supported by the LA programme, all 22 authorities completed their returns for 2021.</p>
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Proposals

	Proposed Action	Status
1	Develop a long-term strategy to promote a dietary shift to a healthier and suitable diet	A contract has been awarded to Leeds Beckett to undertake a piece of work that details the food system map or maps to articulate the complex environment that drives dietary choices, whilst also supporting Government officials to understand how the system works. This work will be supported by a steering group.
2	Making New Thermal Power Generation Ready for Net Zero	Government response to the Call for Evidence on Decarbonisation Readiness is being prepared for publication. We have begun work with Natural Resources Wales to scope detailed options for policy implementation.
3	Updated targets For Renewable Energy Developments to Support our Net Zero Pathway	Consultation on Review of Wales' renewable energy targets was published 24 January 2023 and will be open for 12 weeks.
4	A pause and review of existing road proposals and a new methodology for assessing the appropriateness of future road schemes	As per the Deputy Minister for Climate Change's 30 November 2022 Written Statement , we are now considering our full response to the Roads Review in light of the deteriorating fiscal and economic situation we have been placed in by the UK Government. We will set out our response, together with those schemes which we will be taking forward, in our National Transport Delivery Plan, which will be published shortly.

5	Supporting Private Rental Sector (PRS) landlords to improve energy efficiency	Steps have been made into supporting PRS through using ORP to support new Leasing Scheme in Wales. The Minister for Climate Change updated members through an Oral Statement on intent to develop new area based scheme across housing tenures.
6	Supporting the owner-occupied sector to improve energy efficiency and shift to low carbon heat	Working with DBW on pilot scheme for owner occupiers. The Minister for Climate Change updated members through an Oral Statement on developing new area based scheme across tenures.
7	Bringing empty homes back into use and helping owners to start their journey to net zero	A new £50m scheme has been announced to bring more empty homes back to life. £50m to bring empty homes back to life GOV.WALES
8	Water Efficiency and Water Labelling	The UK Government have launched a consultation on plans to introduce mandatory water efficiency labelling across all UK nations - England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The consultation proposes to label water using products (e.g. taps, showers, toilets, dishwashers and washing machines). This consultation ran from September to November 2022.
9	Develop Evidence and Analysis of the Industry and Business sector to ensure cost effective and rapid emission reduction – Welsh Government.	We are looking to build our evidence. Miller Research is carrying out an analysis of emissions from industry and business using data from the National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) and using Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes. Research from the Miller consultancy will be used in the model being used by 'Decarbonisation' colleagues to inform pathways to meet decarbonisation targets. The Miller research helps with building the central decarbonisation model, but also provides evidence to inform decarbonisation ambitions and policies. It is a contribution to informing the next climate plan and the modelling to show the Welsh Government can deliver future targets.
10	Prioritise financial, and other, support for clean and green jobs leading to a decarbonised economy	The Minister for Finance and Local Government has agreed a new Financial Transactions capital allocations of £10m for 2023/24 for the Development Bank of Wales (DBW) to support DBW's proposed business finance decarbonisation schemes.
11	Develop a Decarbonisation Action Plan for the food & drink manufacturing Sector	Research to determine the carbon footprint of the food manufacturing sector has been commissioned. A draft report has been received, and next steps for developing the plan will be determined.
12	Fishing and fish supply chain decarbonisation	Preliminary scoping of emissions to establish a baseline for the Welsh fishing sector has been undertaken and a review of potential decarbonisation pathways is underway at UK level.

13	Review and development of Business Wales	Business Wales ran a 'Green Ambition' Campaign in March 2022 and currently offering one-to-one appointments with businesses to deliver specialist advice. Business Wales Resource Efficiency Advisers are getting businesses to sign up to the 'Green Growth Pledge'. Ongoing campaign planned in 22/23. Business Wales have a training module available online for businesses which has just been refreshed in 2022. 3900 businesses adopt or Improve Environmental Sustainability Strategies by the end of Sept 2022. 3529 already completed by end of March 2022 so on track.
14	Build on our Foundational Economy (FE)	Our focus is on maximising opportunities for the FE from decarbonisation of housing and transport. Focus in other priority areas (food, health & social care, procurement) is on increasing local supply & shortening supply chains to bring decarbonisation and wider social benefits. Backing Local Firms Fund 22/23 includes a £1.4m Energy Efficiency/Decarbonisation scheme aimed specifically at residential care home providers.
15	Industrial Clusters – fuel switching	Officials are working closely with SWIC and HyNET clusters on deployment approach for hydrogen and fuel blending, and directly with DNOs and utilities on distribution and storage upgrades (Project Union). HyBRID and WBRID SBRI's also modelling fuel transition plans. Following up on the Wales Hydrogen Pathway strategy consultation outcomes and alignments with UK Gov hydrogen and other low carbon vector production incentivisation schemes and energy security approaches as they achieve firmer definition.
16	Engage with the UK Government on their policies in support of fuel switching	Officials are working with relevant UKG divisions covering fuel switching and their evolving policy proposals. Officials have highlighted a number of Welsh considerations around timing and availability (at scale) of green / alternative fuels, eg hydrogen. This includes delivery to dispersed sites and rural communities.
17	Continue to build our evidence base on Carbon Capture Utilisation & Storage (CCUS)	A CCUS transport and shipping sensitivity analysis was published in June 2022. Officials are engaging with industry regarding the findings of the report. The report will refine our understanding and assist with our discussions with UKG around the new business model they are building
18	Industrial Clusters - Carbon Capture Utilisation & Storage (CCUS)	Progress is ongoing. Net Zero Industry Wales has now been incorporated and its first CEO Ben Burggraaf is in post (Oct 22). This membership organisation will lead on Industrial decarb pathways, initially focusing on the South Wales Industrial Cluster (SWIC) it will develop expertise across the whole of Wales in due course.
19	Greenhouse gas removals feasibility study	Currently scoping work around the research exploring how study could inform Wales 2050 Calculator and UK ETS position

20	Property Delivery Plan	We are delivering a number of self build to net zero carbon standards. The first project (50,000 sq ft unit in Ebbw Vale) currently under construction. c.10,000 sq ft development of small units underway at Treowain Industrial Est., Machynlleth. 32,000 sq ft pilot project also underway at Cross Hand as part of joint venture with Carmarthenshire County Council and involving Swansea University's Active Buildings team. https://www.specific.eu.com/crosshands/?utm_sou
21	Property Energy Efficiency Rating Scheme (PEERS)	An information gathering exercise is being undertake to establish the energy performance of the portfolio in advance of developing a schedule of works to be undertaken to meet the new standards. A range of decarbonisation interventions have already been completed.
22	Encourage and support innovation in Industrial Decarbonisation	We are currently developing a new Innovation Strategy which will be launched for consultation in September 2022. New support mechanisms will be a key feature of this, and the resulting action plan.
23	Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS)	The proposed outline of the Sustainable Farming scheme was published on the July 2022. The Agriculture Bill was introduced to the Senedd in September and is currently progressing through scrutiny. The Agriculture Bill will provide Welsh Government with the powers to introduce a new system of farm support in line with a Sustainable Land Management framework. There will be a consultation on the final proposed scheme in 2023.
24	Improve resource efficiency and increase circularity on farms	The Senedd passed a bill banning single-use plastics in December 2022 with cross party support. Commencement of the bans will be undertaken in two phases, with bans for the majority of the products included in Table 1 of the Schedule being introduced in the autumn of 2023. The second phase of bans, which includes oxo-degradable plastics, will be commenced by the end of this Senedd term. In addition, work is planned amongst Welsh Government officials to ensure any new KT contract will include support for agricultural businesses to improve resource efficiency
25	Fuel Efficiency (Welsh Government)	The next Farming Connect contains support for agricultural businesses to exploit opportunities for use of low carbon farm technology and on farm renewable energy generation. It also includes subsidised technical advice on energy & water efficiency and renewable energy generation.
26	Support innovation in renewable energy/technology	The equipment and technology supported through the Small Grant - Efficiency scheme will be reviewed for the next application window that opens in 2024. Consideration will be given to including further items that will support energy efficiency and energy generation.
27	Organic conversion	An organic conversion scheme was opened in July 2022. Applications have been processed and 120 contracts were offered. Contract are currently being accepted and awarded with the final count of awarded contracts to be confirmed later in 2023.
28	Precision Farming	The PfG sets out a clear commitment to see Wales exploit precision agri-tech for the betterment of the agricultural economy. The next Farming Connect contains subsidised technical advice on agri-tech. The category has been established to support farm businesses to drive on farm adoption to achieve productivity and efficiencies.

29	Land Sharing	The proposed outline of the Sustainable Farming scheme was published in July 2022. The Agriculture Bill was introduced to the Senedd in September and is currently progressing through scrutiny. The Agriculture Bill will provide Welsh Government with the powers to introduce a new system of farm support in line with a Sustainable Land Management framework. There will be a consultation on the the final proposed scheme in 2023
30	Explore the potential to support Horticulture	Two application windows supporting existing and new horticulture enterprises were opened in April and May 2022 will be followed by a further window for new horticultural enterprises in April and May 2023. A contract has been awarded as part of the KT Programme - Farming Connect Horticulture Support - to run from April 2023 to March 2025. Awarded to Lantra Cymru, the programme will provide support for commercial horticulturalists to foster innovation, business success and more environmentally-friendly farming.
31	Attracting private sector investment into Woodland Creation	The woodland finance working group submitted recommendations to Ministers in December. Recommendations are now being taken forward in consultation with the working group.
32	New Sustainable Farming Scheme (woodland strand)	See main SFS entry (Agriculture proposals)
33	Supporting tree planting by families and communities	Second phase of 'My Tree Our Forest' campaign nearly completed. 295,000 trees will be made available this year through the hubs, postal and "plant a tree for me" options.
34	Develop a new Timber Industrial Strategy for Wales	Postholders are in place to lead work on the Strategy. Grant awarded to Powys Council for Home Grown Homes phase 2, and NRW developing alternative timber sales methods. We are establishing a working group to inform the strategy.
35	The ban of the sale of peat in compost	The Welsh Government announced on 5 December 2022 the retail sale of peat in horticulture will end in Wales. This follows a public consultation which shows 92% of Welsh respondents supported an overall ban of the sale of peat compost. Defra announced plans to ban all sales of peat to amateur gardeners in England by 2024 to protect peatlands and the natural environment. The Welsh Government is working with the UK Government on next steps to implement the ban in Wales.
36	Investigating the potential contribution of blue carbon to achieve net zero	The UK Blue Carbon Evidence Partnership has now been established and held its inaugural meeting in May 2022, with a key objective to identify the evidence needs and an implementation roadmap for inclusion of saltmarsh and seagrass (blue carbon habitats) in the UK GHG Inventory.
37	Further increase CH ₄ Capture and utilisation in Welsh landfill sites by 2030	NRW are leading the work to assess and plan improvements in both the capture and reporting of methane from operational and closed landfills (covered under the Landfill Directive). A pathway to achieve net zero for landfills is being developed by July 2023.
38	UK Government organisations who have a significant presence in Wales to develop and publish plans setting out.	The Welsh Government does not have strategic engagement with UKG organisations in Wales or any direct levers to influence their actions. The objective for a net zero Public Sector in Wales is more ambitious than UKG so existing plans are unlikely to align.

	how they will support Wales' ambition for a net zero public sector by 2030	
39	All future public sector properties being built or refurbished achieve a net zero standard by 2030 (Policy)	Collective update (including Schools etc), reporting on the policy/processes in place to support this outcome and the progress made to date. NHS Wales plans reflect the commitment as set in Net Zero Wales. Ystadau Cymru Pilot in north Wales progressing. Strategy for a) expanding across Wales and b) developing solutions will follow.

Document is Restricted

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Finance and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-RE-0423-23

Llyr Gruffydd MS
Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay,
Cardiff,
CF99 1SN

15 February 2023

Dear Llyr,

Thank you for your detailed report which was published on 16 January 2023. I reiterate my thanks to the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee for its diligent work on the UK Infrastructure Bank Bill. I have addressed the recommendations and points raised in your Report below.

Recommendation 1. You will be aware that a debate was held on 17 January 2023, and I believe I addressed the recommendations below during the debate as you requested. I am pleased that the Senedd consented to the Legislative Consent Motion.

Recommendation 2. I welcome the broadening of the definition of public authorities to make clear that the Bank can lend to a wider range of devolved public authorities, rather than simply Local Authorities. The appropriateness of borrowing to specific public authorities and any impact on their funding arrangements would have to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Recommendation 3. In our negotiations we argued that devolved interests needed to be appropriately reflected in the Bill and we were absolutely clear about which clauses were problematic in respect of the devolution settlement. With regards to the role of the Senedd, I will ensure that the Government consults with Members as and when Welsh Ministers are consulted by the UK Government, as I indicated in my comments during the debate. I hope that this helps alleviate your concerns about the role of the Senedd in scrutinising the exercise of powers.

I share the Committee's disappointment that the amendment agreed by the House of Lords to broaden the definition of infrastructure to include 'nature-based solutions' was not retained at House of Commons Stage.

I note your comments on the timing of the debate following the tabling of SLCM (no.3). I recognise that only a limited amount of time allotted for scrutiny as a result. However, this was dictated by the schedule of the UK Parliament and not Welsh Government.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Finally, I am pleased that you welcome the amendment to ensure the Bank's Board includes at least one director to represent the interests of Wales.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Evans." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Finance and Local Government

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change

Agenda Item 4.2

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MA/JJ/2983/22

Llyr Gruffydd MS
Chair
Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
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CF99 1SN

SeneddClimate@senedd.wales

14 February 2023

Dear Llyr,

I am writing to inform you that The Packaging Waste (Data Collection and Reporting) (Wales) Regulations 2023 which will shortly be laid before the Senedd fall under the scope of the Resources and Waste Common Framework.

Yours sincerely,



Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Agenda Item 4.3

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Huw Irranca-Davies MS

Chair

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Huw.Irranca-Davies@senedd.wales

6th February 2023

Dear Huw,

In accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement, I wish to notify you a meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Group for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs was held on 23 January 2023.

The meeting was chaired by Mark Spencer MP, Minister of State for Food UK Government on behalf of Northern Ireland. The meeting was also attended by Mairi Gougeon MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Islands, Scottish Government; Lorna Slater MSP, Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy, and Biodiversity from Scottish Government UK Government; John Lamont MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland, UK Government; James Davies MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales, UK Government; and Katrina Godfrey, Permanent Secretary, DAERA in the absence of Northern Ireland ministers.

At the meeting we discussed the Retained EU Law (Reform and Revocation) Bill, including the status of the Bill, and in particular Defra's plans for managing the extensive amount of legislation in the portfolio.

We then discussed the positive outcomes of the CBD COP15. We will be discussing next steps in March.

Following this, the UK Agricultural Market Monitoring Group provided an update on the supply issues impacting on the sector.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

There were several items of AOB. I requested an update on the Animal Welfare (Kept Animal) Bill and noted I will be responding to Lord Beynon's letter on the Animal (Low-Welfare Activities Abroad) Bill. I also asked for an update on the call for evidence on caged birds I agreed to last year.

Scottish Government ministers reiterated their concerns over the Offshore Wind Environment Improvement Package.

I then requested an update on the GB Invasive Non-Native Species Strategy, which I consented to publication of in October 2022.

Scottish Government finally raised end-of-life fishing equipment and asked to work together to reduce plastic waste from the industry.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 6 March.

A communique regarding this meeting will be published on the UK Government website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/communique-from-the-inter-ministerial-group-for-environment-food-and-rural-affairs>.

I am copying this letter to the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee and to the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee.

Regards,

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd

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Agenda Item 4.4

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS
Chair of the Finance Committee

15 February 2023

Dear Peredur,

Scrutiny of the financial implications of Bills

Further to your letter of 19 December 2022 to the First Minister regarding the scrutiny of the financial implications of Government Bills, I have considered the Finance Committee's further request.

I will give a commitment that all Welsh Ministers will endeavour to respond to the Finance Committee's Stage 1 report for Senedd Bills in advance of the General Principles debate on that Bill.

However, Finance Committee will wish to note in giving this commitment, there will be occasions where the detail the Committee is asking for will not be readily available within the timeframe.

The Government continues to follow the requirements of the Senedd's Standing Orders where the financial resolution seeks agreement to the financial implications of a Bill not as introduced, but as amended, after completing its scrutiny journey. In addition, Welsh Ministers will continue to provide the Finance and the policy scrutiny committees with details of where there have been developments or amendments that have significant changes to the financial implications of each Bill.

I have asked my officials to consider further the implications of moving the financial resolution debate to a week after the General Principles debate and the impact this will have going forward on the legislative programme.

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Your letter along with this reply has been copied to all Welsh Ministers. This reply will also be issued to the Business Committee and the Chairs of Policy Committees.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd