

Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith /
Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee
Blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y Chweched Senedd / Priorities for the Sixth Senedd
PR87

Ymateb gan Cyfeillion y Ddaear Cymru / Evidence from Friends of the Earth Cymru

Annwyl Bwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith,

Diolch am y cyfle i gyfrannu at waith y pwyllgor wrth i chi ystyried eich rhaglen gwaith a blaenoriaethau'r llywodraeth yma, rydyn ni'n edrych ymlaen at gydweithio gyda chi dros y tymor nesaf.

I enclose our priorities as Friends of the Earth Cymru as set out in our 'Climate Action Plan – a green and fair recovery for people and communities'.

This was launched last year and proposed to parties during the Senedd election campaign, so there have been updates in some areas such as waste and transport since then, but we feel that it remains relevant, especially given the broad nature of the new Climate Change Ministry and the work that remains to be done.

Yn Gymraeg – [HYPERLINK](#)

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The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently released its [most alarming scientific report yet on climate chaos](#). It has been described by UN Secretary General António Guterres as being "a code red for humanity".

Some key findings from this report state that:

- Global surface temperature was 1.09C higher in the decade between 2011-2020 than between 1850-1900.
- The past five years have been the hottest on record since 1850
- The recent rate of sea level rise has nearly tripled compared with 1901-1971

- Human influence is "very likely" (90%) the main driver of the global retreat of glaciers since the 1990s and the decrease in Arctic sea-ice
- It is "virtually certain" that hot extremes including heatwaves have become more frequent and more intense since the 1950s, while cold events have become less frequent and less severe

[Scientists are also now warning](#) that we have 4 years in which to turn things around and ensure that within that timeframe that climate emissions have peaked.

This stark warning and revised time frame for action should now lead to even greater efforts on behalf of all sectors, industries and public bodies in Wales to reduce emissions in line with current climate science.

As well as of course tackling the major sources of emissions in Wales, we would also like to see action taken immediately to reduce and eliminate emissions from small scale sources. Pinpointing and targeting some of these could help us reduce overall emissions quickly whilst also generating momentum for further change in Wales. Examples of these from our Climate Action Plan are stopping the subsidy for the north-south air link, and taking action to encourage public body pension funds to take their money out of fossil fuel companies.

We would also emphasise our global responsibility and the significance of the emissions we use and consume in Wales as well as those we directly produce. Although our legislative carbon budgets and carbon reduction targets don't include those it is crucial that we take responsibility for our global footprint and impact on the world, and work to reduce those emissions as well.

I look forward to giving oral evidence at the end of the month and can elaborate at that stage.

Pob hwyl

Haf

Haf Elgar

Cyfarwyddwr / Director

Cyfeillion y Ddaear Cymru / Friends of the Earth Cymru