

Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith /
Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee
Blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y Chweched Senedd / Priorities for the Sixth Senedd
PR17

Ymateb gan Sefydliad Peirianwyr Sifil Cymru / Evidence from Institution of Civil
Engineers Wales



Thank you for the opportunity to give input to the consultation on the Senedd climate change committee- priorities. I am submitting this on behalf of the Institution of Civil Engineers Wales Cymru.

Priority 1

Transport is responsible for approximately 27% of the UK's total emissions in 2019. Of this, the majority (91%) came from road transport vehicles. This should feature as a key area to address. The first priority is to increase the energy charging points – before limiting the use by non-emission producing vehicles. The charging infrastructure should be in place first.

Priority 2

The second priority is to ensure that only sustainable forms of energy are available for Wales.

Priority 3

The third priority is to maximise the sustainable forms of energy. Wales has a long coastline and the second highest tidal range across the world. This is a huge potential for sustainable power – tidal, wave, together with wind and other forms of sustainable power, e.g. pv and nuclear. Investments in previously rejected forms such as the Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon and the Cardiff Bay Barrage should be reexamined with a view to commissioning these sources of power. These types of lagoon and barrage power also have major flood resilience benefits.

Priority 4

Maximise the use of non-emission producing vehicles – e.g. electric vehicles, hydrogen vehicles. There are concerns in relation to the sustainability of the production and disposal of suitable materials for batteries.

Priority 5

Increase Cycling and Walking should be treated as a priority, Wales is rightly proud of the Active Travel Act, resources should be given to projects that prioritise these forms of transport – where appropriate and where pollution or congestion are consequent on the implementation of such schemes.

Priority 6

Research should be undertaken to establish the optimum speed limits across Wales for minimum emissions. Research to date shows this to be 50mph. It is noted that a speed limit of 20mph is currently under consideration / out for consultation for residential areas. Speed limits must be perceived by drivers to be correct or they will not be successful. Main rads and distributor roads should not be included without additional measures.

Priority 7

Highway lighting should change to LED, this should be for all forms of lighting on street, not just the traditional street lighting but highway sign lighting, traffic signals, etc. Where possible this should also include an energy generation source as part of the installation.

Priority 8

Buildings – Increase wood as primary construction material, minimise the use of cement.

Priority 9

Require the public sector to meet onerous carbon zero targets together with energy efficient buildings and minimise emissions.

Priority 10

Flood risk management, NO buildings on flood plains, increased Natural Flood Risk Management as opposed to 'hard' infrastructure.

Priority 11

Maximise tree planting, set example with Welsh Government land.

Priority 12

Develop carbon capture and storage.

Priority 13

Maximise the use of local materials. Labour and resources.

Yours sincerely,



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Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)

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Senedd climate change committee- priorities

ICE Wales Cymru response

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