

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MA - P/LG/3586/18

Mike Hedges AM  
Chair of the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

19 October 2018

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 8 October 2018 on behalf of the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee regarding the development of our Low Carbon Delivery Plan (LCDP).

Although we are already half way through the first carbon budget, as required by legislation, the publication of the LCDP in March 2019 represents an important milestone in setting out how we will meet our first carbon budget (2016-2020) and also our longer-term ambitions for a low-carbon Wales, which will feed in to our next Delivery Plan in 2021.

Since the Environment Act 2016 received Royal Assent, we have engaged extensively on the development of the legislative framework for decarbonisation and the Delivery Plan more generally. We have worked alongside the UK Committee on Climate Change, our statutory adviser, to promote two calls for evidence and we have hosted a number of joint stakeholder events.

Over the summer, we launched our public consultation seeking stakeholder views on decarbonisation action up to 2030. As part of the consultation, we held events in Cardiff, and Llandudno, involved young people through a young person's consultation, ran a webinar with the Welsh Council for Voluntary Action and promoted the consultation on social media. The public consultation, which closed on 4 October, generated over 200 responses from a range of stakeholders and an additional 94 responses to our young person consultation. We are currently analysing the responses and we will be publishing a summary of the responses in November. Our response to the report will be published alongside our LCDP.

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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.

My letter dated 7 September indicated we are working to very challenging timescales in terms of finalising both the statutory framework and the first LCDP. During the autumn, we will be considering evidence, including the consultation responses, to inform the content of the LCDP. In December we are laying the regulations, which set our interim targets and first 2 carbon budgets. If these are agreed by the Assembly, we will be in a position to confirm what our first carbon budget limit is for the first LCDP and to seek the agreement of Ministerial colleagues to the content. Accordingly, I will not be in a position to provide the Committee with a draft before the scheduled publication in March.

I would emphasise that our policy and delivery developments supporting decarbonisation will continuously develop and evolve from now until 2050 and beyond. The Committee's opportunity to engage and inform policy development and delivery is not limited to the timescales prescribed by the Act.

Whilst the consultation on actions to 2030 has now closed, I would once again encourage you to share the Committee's views with me and I will ensure they are considered. The consultation document focussed on the longer term action, which will need to be continually reviewed in light of new evidence and technological changes.

Regards  
Lesley

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