

# Decarbonisation Programme Newsletter



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

December 2017

## Introduction

Welcome to the December 2017 issue of the Decarbonisation Programme Newsletter, which brings together the latest news on the implementation of the climate change provisions within the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and sets out the next steps for delivery.

In our previous [issue](#) we looked back at the UK Committee on Climate Change (UKCCC) Call for Evidence on *Part 1 - on how we will account for Welsh emissions*, highlighted the Call for Evidence of *Part 2 - Setting Targets and Budgets* and the establishment of the working groups under *Part 3 for development of our Low Carbon Delivery Plan*. In this issue we will reflect on progress in 2017 and look forward to the next steps in 2018.

Newsletters will be regularly published over the duration of the Programme 2016-2019 and will be available on our **internet** pages.

## Progress in 2017

2017 has been a busy year for the Decarbonisation Programme and we would like to thank those who have taken part in events and Calls for Evidence. Your input has been invaluable.

The Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs accepted the UK Committee on Climate Change advice on how we will account for Welsh emissions (**Part 1**) earlier in the year. We will receive the next part of their advice on targets and budgets (**Part 2**) on 19 December. **We will be providing a further update on our decision around this key area in the summer of 2018.**

Over the last 12 months the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs (CS EP&RA) declared her ambition to achieve a carbon neutral Public Sector by 2030 and launched a Call for Evidence asking stakeholders to share their views on the potential interim targets, opportunities and challenges and monitoring progress. The CS EP&RA also announced ambitious new targets for 70% of electricity consumption to be generated from renewable electricity by 2030, 1GW of renewable energy capacity to be locally owned by

2030 and new renewable energy projects to have at least an element of local ownership by 2020.

Action is also being accelerated across Government with the help of the Ministerial Task and Finish Group. For instance the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport has announced the deployment of £2 million to support a network of electric vehicle charging points in Wales in 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The CS EP & RA [Written Statement](#) issued to Assembly Members on 14 December summarises progress of the Programme in 2017.

## **Part 2—Targets and Budgets**

Following the Call for Evidence earlier this year, the UKCCC have assessed the information and will publish their advice to the Welsh Government on the level of ambition for Targets and Budgets on the **19<sup>th</sup> December**. They will also be holding a launch event on the same day at the Norwegian Church Arts Centre, Cardiff. The Lord Deben and , Rebecca Heaton will be attending from the UKCCC board.

If you would like to attend the launch event please register your interest [here](#).

### **Next Steps**

The Welsh Government will set out its response to these recommendations summer 2018.

## **Part 3 — Low Carbon Delivery Plan**

Eight cross government working groups have been established to identify and develop policies and proposals for the Low Carbon Delivery Plan. A brief overview of the scope of the working groups is below.

### **Electricity**

The group will be looking at policies and proposals to help develop the transition towards a low carbon power system. They will be looking at the emission intensity of electricity by reducing our reliance of fossil fuels and the take up of renewable energy technologies in line with the recently announced renewable targets.

### **Public Sector**

The Public Sector working group will be looking at the policies and proposals needed to meet the CS EP&RA ambition for the Public Sector to be carbon neutral by 2030. This will include opportunities around reducing carbon

across buildings, transport, managing land and operational assets, and procurement of goods and services.

### **Transport**

The group will cover measures to reduce transport emissions. This will include identifying policies and proposals around measures to move to low carbon transport as well as modal shift.

### **Buildings**

The scope of the group covers both residential and commercial buildings. . They will be looking at potential policies and proposals around new build and retrofitting existing both residential and commercial buildings. They will also be looking at potential measures for the electrification of heat as well as other heat technologies.

### **Industry**

The Industry group is looking at policies and proposals primarily around energy intensive industry.

### **Agriculture, Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry**

The working group is looking at policies and proposals to tackle the sources of agriculture emissions. These include manure management, enteric fermentation and land and livestock management. They are also looking at the role of land use and how forestry and peatland can play a crucial role in increasing our carbon sink.

### **Waste**

The Waste team are looking at policies and proposals for emissions from landfill and through waste water treatment.

### **Corporate Services**

The Corporate Services Group looks at aligning the Decarbonisation Programme with central functions of Welsh Government. This includes looking at the process where Welsh Government can meet the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and aligning the decarbonisation and financial budgets.

Working groups are now starting to work with their key stakeholders and over the coming months will be broadening the scope of involvement.

## **Decarbonisation of Public Sector**

The Welsh Government will hold a joint event around the decarbonisation of the Public Sector with the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales Office and Natural Resources Wales on the 1<sup>st</sup> February.

The Welsh Government has set an ambitious low carbon pathway for our own estate and it remains imperative that Welsh Government should continue to lead by example in this area and fully align its own activities with its national strategy. For instance, we have started to install electric vehicle charging points in the car parks of the estate in Aberystwyth, Llandudno Junction, Merthyr Tydfil and Cathays Park.

## **NRW's Carbon Positive Project: Sharing Our Approach**

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is committed to positive action on climate change and recognises the importance of pursuing opportunities to decarbonise. Their Carbon Positive Project has shown how we can address carbon impacts across buildings, transport, managing land and operational assets, and procurement of goods and services.

Welsh Government funded the project to act as an exemplar in decarbonisation and, through sharing their approach and experience; they aim to encourage further decarbonisation across the Welsh Public Sector and beyond. You can find out more about the Carbon Positive Project using the link below. <http://www.naturalresources.wales/carbonpositive?lang=en>

NRW will be holding two technical events where there will be an opportunity for practitioners from across the Welsh Public Sector and beyond to learn from this approach. You can sign up to these events by using the link [here](#)

## **COP 23**

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP) was held in early November in Bonn, Germany.

Welsh Government officials attended COP23 as part of the UK Delegation party and focussed on showcasing Wales's achievements for example in our innovative legislation and progress in key areas such as waste management. This was also an opportunity to highlight the importance of the collective contribution of States and Regions in delivering action on climate change and driving further action around the Paris Agreement.

Delegates attended key meetings as part of networks such as nrg4SD and The Climate Group's Under2 Coalition, which now has 188 jurisdictions and collectively represents nearly \$30 trillion in GDP, equivalent to nearly 40% of the global economy.

Officials took part in a number of events and bilaterals sharing knowledge and learning with others such as New York State, Upper Austria and the Basque Country.

We also held a joint event with The Size of Wales, showcasing our global responsibility through our Wales for Africa work, where a fruit tree is planted in Uganda for every child born or adopted in Wales.

You can find out more about COP 23 [here](#)

## **Economic Action Plan**

The [Economic Action Plan](#) outlines a new economic contract between government and business that will help companies to meet key challenges head on and capitalise on available opportunities to drive economic prosperity right across Wales.

Key challenges facing Wales over the next ten years and beyond include Brexit, through to productivity, inequality, our aging population, climate change, automation and digitisation, the challenges are complex and broad.

The EAP is also one of the first plans coming out of the Prosperity for all: the national strategy.

## **Knowledge Hub**

Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 we are committed to reducing our emission by at least 80% by 2050. Wales is not alone in taking action to decarbonise.

Governments, organisations and individuals across the world are developing ways of decarbonising their economies. The Welsh Government Knowledge Hub is used to consolidate this wide range of information from multiple platforms (including social media and news pages) and provide information on policies and initiatives, which are happening across the world.

We have developed an Excel spreadsheet for the aggregate data from sources and an [Interactive Online Map](#).

Please feel free to email the [Decarbonisation Mailbox](#) if you have any suggestions or contributions. Alternatively use the hashtag #ClimateKnowledgeWales

## **Contact Details**

Mailbox: [Decarbonisationmailbox@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Decarbonisationmailbox@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

Decarbonisation Team

Floor 1

Cathays Park

Phone: 02920 821721