



Progress in 2018

The foundations are set and momentum is building. Firstly, we would like to thank each and every one of you who has worked with us to deliver the programme over the past 3 years. It has been a huge challenge but we are grateful for your support and the achievements speak for themselves.

In our end of year newsletter for 2017 we had just accepted the UKCCC advice on the Net Welsh Emissions Account and were awaiting advice for the Welsh Targets and Budgets. We have now set both these in regulation and have a clear pathway to 2050.

That is not all. Decarbonisation is now a priority in Prosperity for All and the Decarbonisation Ministerial Task and Finish Group have continued to drive momentum, investigating opportunities for cross-cutting action. The Group also published the “Achieving a pathway to 2030” and Young peoples consultations, an Eco schools 2050 competition, as well

Welcome

Welcome to the December 2018 issue of the Decarbonisation Programme Newsletter, which brings together the latest decarbonisation news, reflecting on our work throughout 2018 and with a forward look to 2019.

as various meetings, events, newsletters and even speaking with the public at Caerphilly Castle!!

The list of what we have achieved is starting to sound a lot like the 12 days of Christmas:

- 200 consultation responses
- 23 Internal Working Groups
- 4 Ministerial Task and Finish Groups
- 6 Programme Boards
- 5 Regulations laid
- 5 Written Statements
- 2 international summits
- 2 external consultation events
- 1 Pillar of the National Frame, Prosperity for All

UK Climate Projections 2018

The UK Climate Projections 2018 (UKCP) were published on 26th November. These projections provide the most up-to-date assessment of how the UK's climate may change over the 21st century and use new approaches in emissions scenarios to incorporate mitigation action.

Over land, projections show an increased chance of milder, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers with projected increase in frequency and intensity of extremes. The updated sea level projections indicate continued rise around the UK to 2100 under all emission pathways.

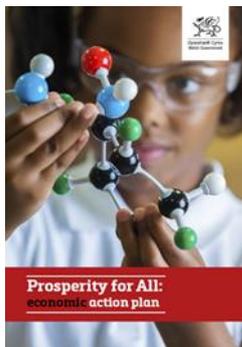
The projections will be used to inform government's adaptation and mitigation planning and decision making and will help businesses and individuals to take action to improve resilience. Like the results of UKCP09, they will be used to inform the next UK Climate Change Risk Assessment in 2022.

Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Wales

The draft Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Wales was launched for consultation on 3rd December and is available [here](#). The consultation is open for responses until 4 March 2019.

Prosperity for All

Decarbonisation has been included as one of the six priority areas in the National Strategy, *Prosperity for All*. This places the low-carbon agenda at front and centre of Welsh Government business and will be a core part of the way we develop and deliver policy.



The six priority areas are:

1. Early Years
2. Good quality, affordable homes
3. Dignified care
4. Mental ill health
5. Skills
6. Decarbonisation

The Climate Change (Wales) Regulations

On 4 December the National Assembly for Wales approved the Climate Change (Wales) Regulations 2018.

The following five regulations have been passed:

1. The Climate Change (Interim Targets) (Wales) Regulations 2018. These regulations set interim emission reduction targets for the years 2020, 2030 and 2040.
2. The Climate Change (Carbon Budgets 2016-2020 and 2021-2026) (Wales) Regulations 2018. These regulations set the carbon budget level for the first and second carbon budgets.
3. The Climate Change (International Aviation and International Shipping) (Wales) Regulations 2018. These regulations include emissions from Wales' share of international aviation and international shipping within Wales' targets and budgets.
4. The Climate Change (Credit Limit) (Wales) Regulations 2018. These regulations provide a limit on the maximum amount of carbon credits (credits purchased to reduce emissions outside Wales) that can be used to meet the first carbon budget and the 2020 interim target.
5. The Carbon Accounting (Wales) Regulations 2018. These regulations set out what emission we will include in our targets and budgets. We have decided to take a different approach from the UK Government and will be accounting for all emissions in Wales, with no complicated reporting process, as we believe it is the most transparent way.

The interim targets are:

1. 2020: 27% reduction against the baseline
2. 2030: 45% reduction
3. 2040: 67% reduction

Our first carbon budget runs from 2016-20 and requires an average reduction of 23% against the baseline.

All of our decisions align with advice from our statutory advisers, the UK Committee on Climate Change (UKCCC).

In March the Low Carbon Delivery Plan will set out how we will meet the first carbon budget.

COP24

This year the annual Conference of Parties (COP24) took place in Katowice, Poland from the 3-14 December.

Now more than ever there is a significant amount of importance about the dangers of climate change.

On this occasion no Ministers attended COP, however, officials continued the important role Wales has in the international process and as part of the States and Regions.

The delegation met with various members of the states and regional governments, including Ministers, to promote the work Wales is doing and learning from others on their actions to decarbonise their own economies.

The conference marked an important junction in efforts by agreeing on the range of measures to implement the Paris Agreement making it operational by 2020.



Consultation on low-carbon pathway to 2030

Between 12 July 2018 and 4 October 2018, we held a consultation on



Achieving our low-carbon pathway to 2030.

We presented some initial ideas to get early views from stakeholders and ran events in Cardiff and Llandudno. We also did a webinar with the WCVA and promoted it on social media. There were well over 200 responses from individuals and a real mix of organisations. Around four in ten respondents agreed with the ideas, although there were many calls for more detail and more ambition – in the Power and Transport sectors in particular. We are using the responses to help draft our first Low Carbon Delivery Plan – although many ideas will need more development, engagement and possibly further consultation before we commit to them for future carbon budgets.

We also published a version for young people, which we promoted in schools. There were almost 100 responses, with around three quarters of respondents being under 16. Around half of respondents did not feel climate change is taken seriously enough in Wales but this proportion increased the older the respondent. Approximately seven in ten of all respondents agreed with the ideas.

We will publish a summary report of responses before Christmas at <https://beta.gov.wales/low-carbon-pathway-wales>.

Planning Policy Wales edition 10

In December, the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs launched the new Planning Policy Wales.

This will underpin all future planning decisions, will put an emphasis on people and places and ensure developments built today leave a legacy of well-designed, sustainable places which improve lives.

Key changes have been included to low carbon emissions:-

- Promote Active Travel
- New policy on Ultra low emission vehicles (ULEV)
- Promote renewable energy development
- Restricting extraction and use of fossil fuels

You can find out more information on the PPW10 [here](#)

Public Health Wales Conference

Decarbonisation officials attended the Public Health Wales conference titled 'Healthy Planet, Healthy Wales' in November. The conference was an opportunity for participants across a wide range of sectors to hear about and discuss the drivers of health and well-being that go beyond health care, to include healthy environment, healthy society, healthy economy and healthy community. A key theme running through the two day conference was the action that could benefit public health and reduce carbon.



Prys Davies, Head of Decarbonisation gave a keynote speech at the event alongside, the First Minister for Wales, Public Health Wales, World Bank and the World Health Organisation. All of the speakers set out how climate change and emissions are having an impact on global health.

Prys Davies:

“Climate Change and Public Health are completely mutually dependent on each other. We need to take action urgently, this action will create a better Wales in terms of Public Health, Environment and Economy”

Officials also worked with members of the Well-being for Future Generations office to host a side event on Decarbonisation and the Art of the possible including the role of organisations and individuals. There were over 70 people signed up to the event which brought out lots of interesting ideas.

You can find the summary video of the PHW conference [here](#).

Public Sector Decarbonisation

In 2017, the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs outlined the Welsh Government’s ambition for a carbon neutral Welsh Public Sector by 2030.

This was followed by a call for evidence to explore the most effective mechanisms for achieving the ambition and the appropriate strategic actions required. A Public Sector Leaders event was held on 1 February 2018.

Public sector organisations in Wales are already taking significant action across a range of areas to reduce the carbon footprint of their organisations, including working collaboratively across organisational boundaries. However, we need to upscale our efforts and broaden the scope of our actions if we are to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 and stimulate the significant economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits that are possible. One of the next steps is to survey Public Bodies to

gain a better understanding of the current situation in order to best target support and encourage further decarbonisation.

We also need to be able to monitor and report progress to achieving our ambition and identify the impacts we are making, With the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC) coming to an end after the 2018/19 reporting year, we will be considering a replacement reporting scheme for the Welsh Public Sector. We are currently scoping options and will be sharing our conclusions next year.



Welsh Government Energy Service

The Welsh Government has been supporting almost all Public Bodies in Wales for a number of years, to not only decarbonise, but also realise significant financial benefit. On 11 October we announced the launch of the new **Welsh Government Energy Service**, which brings together the support services we have previously provided to the public sector (Green Growth Wales) and communities (Local Energy Service). The service provides a single point of contact for Public Bodies and others seeking to develop energy efficiency or renewable energy schemes. Building on experience and learning over recent years, the service offers technical, financial and commercial support to public bodies and communities. Aligned to the Energy Service is a programme of deep retrofitting of energy efficiency measures across the Public Sector estate through our Re:fit Cymru programme, which we have recently extended to 31 March 2020.

Since 2015, we have invested over £55m of zero-interest loans across the public sector in Wales and also supported the delivery of a further £27m of energy and energy efficiency projects, where finance was secured from alternative routes. This approach will realise savings of £138m over the life of the assets in which we're investing and reduce carbon emissions by over 800,000

Carbon Positive Project

The Welsh Government has funded Natural Resources Wales to implement a **Carbon Positive Project** and share its key findings so we might share learning across the Public Sector. The project highlighted a number of key areas for action if we are to achieve carbon neutrality – the way we build, manage and use our buildings; our transport and mobility strategies; how we manage our land; and how we procure goods and services. The next steps are to consider the Carbon Positive project outputs alongside international examples, the results of our survey of Public Bodies and our options on monitoring and reporting in order to bring forward our proposals on how we might deliver the ambition to 2030.



tonnes. We expect a further £14 million will be invested during 2018/19.

The Energy Service is also scoping out work on regional energy mapping, which we expect will assist regions in visioning the energy system of the future, support growth deals and identifying greater regional benefits than the current system delivers for Wales. This will include power, heat and transport.

The Welsh Government would like to thank the Public Sector for their ongoing support and we look forward to a further Leaders event in March 2019 to discuss how we can best build on the successes to date and deliver our ambition of carbon neutrality by 2030.

2019 Forward Look

2019 has a lot of uncertainty for many reasons. In Wales, however, we are providing certainty around the clear pathway to decarbonisation.

We will be publishing our Low Carbon Delivery Plan (LCDP) alongside a launch event in March. This plan will contain policies we will be delivering for the first Carbon Budgetary period (2016-2020).

There are also plans for an all Sector stakeholder event to gather insights and create networks ready for our 2nd LCDP, which will need to be published in 2021. Feedback we have received from stakeholders is previous Decarbonisation events are a particularly good forum for sharing knowledge and expertise on emission reduction and cost savings.

We would love to hear your ideas and suggestions on what you think this event could look like. If you would like to take part in the creation of this event please get in touch.

More detailed information on this event will be provided next year.

Upcoming events

1. [Public Sector Leaders Event – March 2019](#)
2. [Low Carbon Delivery Plan Launch - March 2019](#)

Useful information

The UK Committee on Climate Change (UKCCC) often release documents which maybe of interest. They provide advice to the Welsh Government and often report on specific topic such as Hydrogen, Land Use and Biogas from a UK perspective. You can find these reports [here](#).

Further information

Previous issues of the newsletter are available on our internet pages [here](#)

You may also be interested in our sister newsletter the Adaption Newsletter [here](#).

Other Key documents:

1. [Prosperity for All: annual report 2018](#)
2. [Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10](#)
3. [Green Great Britain Week](#)
4. [IPCC Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C](#)

Recent News Articles:

[From burping cows and food miles to greenhouse gases](#)

[EU aims to be 'climate neutral' by 2050](#)

[Climate change: Where we are in seven charts and what you can do to help](#)

[Climate change: 'World at crossroads' warning as key talks begin](#)

[CO2 emissions rising for first time in four years](#)

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