

Industrial Decarbonisation Policy News Update June 2024

*The **IDRIC Policy News Update** provides a monthly round-up of key policy developments relevant to industrial decarbonisation at UK level and in the devolved administrations. Previous issues can be found [here](#). To receive future issues per email, sign-up [here](#).*

Content

[SPECIAL: Election manifestos on industrial decarbonisation](#)

1. [UK Policy](#)
2. [Scotland](#)
3. [Wales](#)
4. [Consultations and calls for evidence](#)

Election manifestos: Industrial decarbonisation

The following matrix highlights manifesto pledges of the **six biggest parties by party support** according to the latest BBC polling (27 June 2024).

Topics covered:

- Climate change and net zero commitments
- Green Economy and industrial strategy
- Energy (general policy, Renewables, Hydrogen / CCS, Grid and storage, Nuclear, Fossil fuels)
- Industrial decarbonisation
- Infrastructure and planning
- Just transition and regional investment
- (Green) Skills
- Research and Innovation
- Inter-governmental coordination and devolution

Please note: the table contains summaries that may depart from original wording, please refer to the manifesto documents for exact wording and context.

	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Climate change and net zero	<p>Climate and nature crisis as the greatest long-term global challenge</p> <p>Commitment to reach net zero by 2050.</p> <p>Make Britain a clean energy superpower to cut bills, create jobs and deliver security with cheaper, zero-carbon electricity by 2030, accelerating to net-zero.</p>	<p>Commitment to delivering net-zero by 2050, but pragmatic and proportionate transition</p> <p>Cut cost of tackling climate change for households and business, reduce green levies on household bills, rule out creating further green levies</p> <p>Give parliament vote on the next stage of net zero pathway</p> <p>Mandate Climate Change Committee to consider cost to households and UK energy security in future climate advice.</p>	<p>CO2 targets unaffordable and unachievable</p> <p>Net-zero as crippling the economy and damaging British industries like steel</p> <p>Ditch net-zero and scrap environmental levies to save the public sector over £30bn per year for the next 25 years.</p>	<p>Climate change as an existential threat</p> <p>Commitment to reach net-zero by 2045 at the latest</p> <p>Establish a Net Zero Delivery Authority to coordinate action across government departments and work with devolved administrations</p> <p>Appoint Chief Secretary for Sustainability in the Treasury to ensure sustainable, resource-efficient and zero-carbon economy</p>	<p>Climate emergency is accelerating</p> <p>Commitment to transition to zero-carbon society by 2040 or earlier</p>	<p>Commitment to tackling the twin crises of climate change and nature loss, net zero by 2045 (Scotland)</p>
	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Green economy / Industrial strategy	<p>Green Prosperity Plan, invest in the industries of the future in partnership with business, through a new National Wealth Fund (£7.3 billion over next Parliament)</p> <p>Introduce a mission-driven and future-focused industrial strategy</p> <p>Establish a statutory Industrial Strategy Council to provide expert advice, with representation from all nations and regions, business and trade unions</p>	<p>Affordable and pragmatic approach to net zero, leverage the innovation and investment of the private sector to unleash technologies that cut costs for households</p>		<p>Develop industrial strategy to give businesses certainty and incentivise investment in new technologies</p> <p>Create statutory Industrial Strategy Council for oversight and monitoring of the industrial strategy</p>	<p>Long-term green economy plan with £40bn investment per year to shift (incl £50bn for electricity generation, transmission and storage, and £11bn for reducing emissions from industry)</p> <p>Support SMEs to play key role in green economy, with regional mutual banks to drive investment in decarbonisation</p> <p>Strengthen local economic sustainability, support community-owned enterprise & cooperatives.</p> <p>Carbon tax to make polluters pay</p>	<p>UK Government to invest at least £28bn a year in green economy and domestic supply chain.</p> <p>Reverse in UK Government public spending cuts to green energy, ensure fair funding flows to devolved nations to enable net zero</p>

					Keep economic growth within planetary boundaries, with more domestic production and circular economy	
	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Energy policy general	<p>Make Britain a clean energy superpower.</p> <p>Introduce a New Energy Independence Act as framework for energy and climate policies</p> <p>Create Great British Energy, a publicly-owned company, capitalised with £8.3 billion, to co-invest in new energy projects</p> <p>Create a new Regulatory Innovation Office, update regulation for new technologies, speed up approval timelines, and co-ordinate across boundaries.</p>	<p>Boost energy independence and secure long-term energy supply through annual licensing rounds for North Sea oil and gas, new gas power stations and investment in renewables.</p>	<p>Increase and incentivise ethical UK lithium mining for electric batteries, combined cycle gas turbines, clean synthetic fuel, tidal power and explore clean coal mining.</p>	<p>Reduce dependence on fossil fuels and invest in renewables</p> <p>Work with European neighbours to build a sustainable supply chain for renewable energy tech</p> <p>Support expansion of community and decentralised energy</p> <p>Decouple electricity prices from wholesale gas price</p>	<p>Decarbonise the energy system before 2030</p> <p>Properly regulate biofuels to end greenwashing</p>	<p>Scale up renewables, storage, hydrogen and carbon capture</p> <p>UK Government to seek an equity stake in future energy projects</p> <p>Devolve powers over energy regulation to Scotland, incl. pricing and production, to harness opportunities from Scotland's natural energy resources</p>
	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Renewables	<p>Double onshore wind</p> <p>Triple solar power</p> <p>Quadruple offshore wind by 2030</p>	<p>Treble offshore wind</p> <p>Onshore wind: ensure democratic consent, striking balance between energy security and views of local communities</p> <p>Solar: change planning to support solar on brownfield sites and rooftops but not on best agricultural land. Prevent clusters of multiple solar farms in rural landscapes.</p>	<p>Renewables cause of increase in bills</p> <p>Scrap annual £10bn of renewable energy subsidies and replace with equivalent taxes</p> <p>Productive land must not be used for solar farms</p> <p>Incentivise tidal power</p>	<p>90% of the electricity to be generated from renewables by 2030</p> <p>Remove restrictions on new solar and wind power</p> <p>Support investment and innovation in tidal and wave power</p>	<p>70% of the UK's electricity from wind by 2030.</p> <p>By 2035:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 80GW offshore wind - 53 GW onshore wind, - 100 GW solar <p>Increase maximum CfD strike price to accelerate wind energy development</p> <p>Equip ports and supply chains to support floating offshore wind.</p> <p>New support for solar and other renewable energies,</p>	<p>Modernise the CfD scheme to enable the stable deployment of Scotland's renewable energy pipeline</p>

					<p>including marine, hydro-power and geothermal</p> <p>End de-facto ban on onshore wind, and transform planning system to support increase in wind power and other renewable generation, striking balance between energy needs with protecting biodiversity and food supply.</p> <p>Crown Estate into public ownership, to open more coastal waters for offshore wind and marine energy.</p> <p>Ensure long-term profits from energy assets for communities.</p> <p>End import of wood for burning at the Drax power station and end subsidies for biomass</p>	
	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
<i>Grid and energy storage</i>	<p>Upgrade national transmission infrastructure and grid connections for clean power generation and industry electrification.</p> <p>Increase distributed production capacity through Local Power Plan</p> <p>Ensure long-term energy storage</p>	<p>Implement recommendations of the Winser Review to cut connection waiting times.</p> <p>Review alternative network technologies to overhead pylons, with presumption of undergrounding.</p> <p>Build more interconnectors and offshore cables to reduce onshore infrastructure.</p>		<p>Reduce access costs for grid connections.</p> <p>Expand grid infrastructure, facilitated by a strategic Land and Sea Use Framework.</p> <p>Build more electricity interconnectors, while avoiding disruption to local communities and minimising environmental damage.</p> <p>Invest in energy storage, including green hydrogen,</p>	<p>Expand and improve efficiency of electricity grid and interconnectors with Europe</p> <p>Favour offshore power distribution networks to reduce onshore connection infrastructure along coastlines</p>	<p>Devolve powers to Scotland to improve electricity grid, including reducing fees for Scottish producers to connect, and to ensure local communities benefit from developments</p>

	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
<i>Hydrogen and CCS</i>	<p>£500m to support manufacturing of green hydrogen.</p> <p>£ 1bn to accelerate the deployment of carbon capture</p>	Build the first two CCS clusters across North Wales and North West of England and Teesside and Humber, and progress the second tranche in Aberdeenshire and Humber.		<p>Invest in energy storage, including green hydrogen</p> <p>Reduce emissions from industry by supporting CCS</p>	Rapidly increase the use of green hydrogen for necessary industrial use and energy storage	<p>Scale up hydrogen and CCUS</p> <p>Promote Scotland's hydrogen export potential, UK Government to secure progress with direct interconnection between Scotland and the continent</p>
<i>Nuclear</i>	Extend lifetime of existing nuclear power plants and get Hinkley Point C over the line, endorsing role of new power stations and Small Nuclear Reactors	<p>Scale up nuclear power, approve two new fleets of Small Modular Reactors in first 100 days, speed up planning and environmental approval for new nuclear reactors.</p> <p>Deliver new nuclear power plant at Wylfa in North Wales and deliver existing projects at Hinkley Point and Sizewell.</p>	Fast-track clean nuclear energy with new Small Modular Reactors, built in Britain		Phase-out of nuclear energy	Rule out new nuclear power plants in Scotland
<i>Fossil Fuels</i>	<p>Maintain strategic reserve of gas power stations to guarantee security of supply</p> <p>No revoking of existing licences for oil and gas production</p> <p>No new licenses</p> <p>Ongoing role of oil and gas in UK's energy mix, phased and responsible transition in the North Sea, making use of existing offshore infrastructure and the skills</p>	<p>New gas power stations to maintain a safe and reliable energy source and back up renewables</p> <p>Legislate to ensure annual licensing rounds for oil and gas production in the North Sea</p> <p>Keep the windfall tax on oil and gas in place until 2028-29, unless prices fall back to normal sooner.</p> <p>Maintain the investment allowances to provide</p>	<p>Increase and incentivise combined cycle gas turbines</p> <p>Start fast-track licences of North Sea gas and oil.</p> <p>Grant shale gas licences on test sites for 2 years. Enable major production when safety is proven, with local compensation schemes.</p> <p>Explore clean coal mining</p>	<p>Implement the UK's G7 pledge to end fossil fuel subsidies.</p> <p>Impose a one-off windfall tax on oil and gas super-profits</p> <p>Maintaining the ban on fracking</p> <p>Introduce a ban on new coal mines.</p>	<p>Cancel recent fossil fuel licenses and stop all new extraction projects.</p> <p>Remove all oil and gas subsidies.</p> <p>Introduce a carbon tax on all fossil fuel imports and domestic extraction, based on greenhouse gas emissions produced when fuel is burned.</p>	<p>Any further extraction of oil and gas must be consistent with climate obligations and take account of energy security considerations, make evidence-based decisions on case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Ban new coal licences.</p>

	<p>of offshore workforce for future of energy production and storage.</p> <p>Close loopholes in windfall tax on oil and gas companies. Extend the Energy Profits Levy until the end of the next Parliament. Increase rate by 3%. Retain Energy Security Investment Mechanism</p> <p>No new coal licences.</p> <p>Ban on fracking.</p>	<p>incentives to invest in the North Sea</p> <p>Retain the current moratorium on fracking.</p>				
	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Industrial decarbonisation	<p>Investment in ports, hydrogen and industrial clusters and secure the future of Britain's automotive and steel industries, including through National Wealth Fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - £1.8bn to upgrade ports and build supply chains - £1.5bn for new gigafactories for automotive industry - £500m for manufacturing of green hydrogen. - £ 1bn for carbon capture - £2.5bn to rebuild steel industry <p>Drive down high electricity cost and upgrade electricity grid to support industrial electrification (see 'Energy')</p> <p>Support for introduction of a carbon border adjustment mechanism</p>	<p>Support the development of vibrant industrial clusters in places like the North East of England, Scotland and Wales (See 'Hydrogen / CCS')</p> <p>Invest £1.1bn into the Green Industries Growth Accelerator to support manufacturing capabilities and supply chains</p> <p>Continue work to secure the future of steelmaking across the UK.</p> <p>Implement carbon pricing mechanism by 2027.</p>	<p>Net-zero damages British industries like steel</p>	<p>Support British industry to cut emissions while holding businesses to account to tackle climate change</p> <p>Reduce emissions from industrial processes by supporting carbon capture and storage and new low-carbon processes for cement and steel production.</p> <p>increasing the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund</p> <p>Implement the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism</p> <p>Require large businesses to publish transition plans to become nature-positive across their activities and supply chains.</p> <p>Expand the market for climate-friendly products</p>	<p>Expect most industry to transition to clean energy</p> <p>Rapidly increase the use of green hydrogen for necessary industrial use</p>	<p>UK Government to work at pace with the Acorn Project and Scottish Cluster to secure the fast deployment of carbon capture, utilisation and storage</p> <p>Deliver a sustainable future for Grangemouth, extend refining and retain skilled workforce while transition to green industries</p> <p>Support the production and use of sustainable bridging fuels in the maritime and aviation sectors</p>

				and services, including through public procurement		
				Providing advice to companies on cutting emissions		
				Support the development of regional industrial clusters for zero-carbon innovation		
	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Infrastructure and Planning	<p>Introduce 10-year infrastructure strategy, aligned with industrial strategy and regional development priorities</p> <p>Create new National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority, to set strategic priorities and oversee the design, scope, and delivery of projects</p> <p>Reform planning regime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to accelerate nationally significant infrastructure, - reduce red tape - build support for developments by ensuring community benefits - update national planning policy to support growth and innovation 	<p>Speed up infrastructure delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - simplify the planning system through reducing EU red tape (including reform of environmental impact assessment regimes), - proportionate requirements to offset the impact of new infrastructure and homes, - allowing quicker changes to consented projects, - regularly update the National Policy Statements, - focus the role of statutory consultees on improving projects in line with clearer objectives, - implement changes to judicial reviews to reduce wasting court time <p>Update National Planning Policy Framework to ensure direct benefit to local areas that host onshore wind</p> <p>(see also 'Renewables')</p>	<p>Overhaul and merge the National Infrastructure Commission and the Infrastructure Bank.</p> <p>Scrap Net Zero objectives.</p> <p>Simplify funding process</p>	<p>Introduce a strategic Land and Sea Use Framework to balance competing demands on land and oceans.</p> <p>Strengthen environmental safeguards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that new developments result in significant net gain for biodiversity, with up to a 100% net gain for large developments. - Require the National Infrastructure Commission to take into account the environmental implications of all national infrastructure decisions. - Empower Local Nature Recovery Strategies to identify a new Wild Belt for nature's recovery - Properly fund local planning departments 	<p>Give local authorities resources needed to exercise place-making and place-shaping role.</p> <p>Introduce land use planning policy framework to balance various needs in local planning.</p> <p>(see also 'Energy')</p>	<p><i>Planning policy is devolved to the Scottish Government</i></p> <p>(See also 'Energy')</p>

	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Just transition and regional investment	<p>Work with business and trade unions to manage the transition.</p> <p>Introduce British Jobs Bonus to incentivise clean energy developers who offer good jobs and build manufacturing supply chains in industrial heartlands, coastal areas, and energy communities (allocating up to £500 million per year from 2026)</p>	<p>Provide a bonus to reward energy firms that invest in manufacturing in the most disadvantaged places or invest in sustainable supply chains</p> <p>Support Scotland's workforce transition to new industries, including by providing £15m to support the Energy Transition Zone's skills programmes.</p> <p>Create more Freeports and Business Rates Retention zones to generate investment and create jobs</p> <p>Continue backing Investment Zones to catalyse local growth and investment.</p>		<p>Ensuring a just transition for oil and gas workers and support regions and communities most affected</p> <p>Support local and regional economic partnerships to coordinate development projects and boost growth in their areas.</p>	<p>Ensure just transition, led by workers and unions.</p> <p>Establish an Offshore Energy and Skills Passport to aid transition of workers between offshore energy industries.</p> <p>Introduce a share of community ownership in local sustainable energy infrastructure such as wind farms.</p> <p>Develop regional strategy building on industrial strengths across the country to maximise the contribution to the transition from existing jobs and businesses</p>	<p>Devolve new borrowing powers to invest in a just transition</p> <p>UK Government to match the £500 million North-East Transition Fund to support workers of declining oil and gas industry.</p> <p>Deliver a sustainable future for Grangemouth, extend refining and retain skilled workforce while transition to green industry</p>
	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
(Green) skills	<p>Establish Skills England to coordinate business, training providers and unions with national and local government to ensure highly trained workforce to deliver Industrial Strategy.</p> <p>Devolve adult skills funding to Combined Authorities</p> <p>Transform Further Education colleges into specialist Technical Excellence Colleges, working with businesses, trade unions, and local government.</p>	<p>Bonuses for new teachers in priority areas and key STEM and technical subjects, including in further education colleges</p> <p>Create 100,000 more apprenticeships in England every year, funded by closing low-performing university courses</p> <p>Deliver the Lifelong Learning Entitlement to support adults to train, retrain and upskill flexibly.</p> <p>Expand adult skills programmes, such as Skills</p>		<p>Invest in education and training to equip people with the skills for the low-carbon economy.</p> <p>Improve the quality of vocational education, and strengthen careers advice and links with employers in schools and colleges</p> <p>Identify and seek to solve skills gaps, such as the lack of advanced technicians, by expanding higher vocational training like foundation degrees, Higher National Diplomas, Higher National</p>	<p>Investment in skills and training (including retrofitting) reaching £4bn per year</p> <p>(see also 'just transition')</p>	<p><i>Skills policy is devolved in Scotland</i></p>

	Reform the Apprenticeships Levy, create a flexible Growth and Skills Levy, with consultation on eligible courses to ensure qualifications offer value for money.	Bootcamps which meet skills shortages.		<p>Certificates and Higher Apprenticeships.</p> <p>Replace apprenticeship levy with a broader and more flexible skills and training levy, and boost the take-up of apprenticeships, including by guaranteeing National Minimum Wage</p> <p>Develop National Colleges as national centres of expertise for key sectors, such as renewable energy, and review further education funding, including the option of exempting colleges from VAT.</p> <p>Create new Lifelong Skills Grants for adults to spend on education and training</p>		
	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Research and innovation	<p>Scrap short funding cycles for key R&D institutions in favour of ten-year budgets to allow partnerships with industry</p> <p>Work with universities to support spinouts</p> <p>Work with industry to ensure start-ups have access to finance, simplify the procurement process to and reduce micromanagement</p>	Funding for Catapults to support innovation and de-risk the transition from research and delivery, (£1.6 billion by 2028)		<p>Support science, research and innovation, among small businesses and startups, in universities and in zero-carbon, environmental and medical technologies</p> <p>Continue to participate in Horizon Europe and joining the European Innovation Council</p> <p>Aim for at least 3% of GDP to be invested in research and development by 2030, rising to 3.5% by 2034</p>	<p>Create vaccine style task force approach to clean power.</p> <p>Increase investment into R&D by over £30bn over next parliament with spending focused on tackling the climate and environmental crisis, including energy storage; agroecological agriculture and soil health; re-use, repair, recycling and designing out waste; carbon neutral construction; carbon-neutral production and carbon capture technology.</p>	

	Labour Party	Conservative Party	Reform Party	Liberal Democrats	Greens	Scottish National Party
Inter-governmental coordination & devolution	<p>Reset UK government's relationship with devolved governments, ensure structures and institutions of intergovernmental working improve collaboration on policy</p> <p>Strengthen the Sewel Convention by setting out a new memorandum of understanding outlining how the nations will work together</p> <p>Establish a new Council of the Nations and Regions that brings together the Prime Minister, Heads of Devolved Government, and the Mayors of Combined Authorities</p> <p>Ensure that UK-wide bodies are more representative of our nations and regions</p> <p>Restore decision-making over the allocation of structural funds to the representatives of Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland</p> <p>Industrial strategy to support industries across all nations of the UK</p>	<p>Committed to supporting the Union, working with devolved governments and local partners to deliver for people across the UK</p> <p>Hold devolved governments to account and provide comparable data to assess their performance in public services</p> <p>By 2030, offer devolution deal to every part of England that wants one</p> <p>Extend UK Shared Prosperity Fund for three years and a further £540 million a year for communities across Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Support Freeports and investment zones in Scotland and Wales, in Northern Ireland.</p>		<p>Introduce a written constitution for a federal United Kingdom with strong voices for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland</p> <p>Creating a United Kingdom Council of Ministers to bring together the devolved governments with regional leaders across England.</p> <p>Creating a Joint Climate Council of the Nations to tackle the climate emergency by helping to foster innovation and encourage collaborative action.</p> <p>More powers and resources to local councils for local net zero strategies.</p>	<p>National self-determination for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland</p> <p>More powers and resources for local authorities</p> <p>Increase in local government funding of £5bn per year to enable local authorities to play a key role in the transition to a zero-carbon economy and protecting nature.</p>	<p>Scottish independence</p> <p>Establish a Four Nations Climate Response Group to agree climate plans across the UK and ensure the UK Government stops backtracking on climate ambition</p> <p>More devolution of powers in energy and planning to Scotland (see above)</p>

[Back to main menu](#)

1. UK policy

Official policy announcements have paused after the calling of a general election for the 4th July.

UK Parliament has been dissolved and Select Committees have ceased to exist from 30 May until after the General Election, with all ongoing inquiries now closed. The House of Commons will next sit on Tuesday 9 July 2024.

In line with pre-election guidance, many **public bodies** have refrained from making any public statements since the calling of a general election.

The calling of the general election also affected the publication of **the Climate Change Committee's** annual UK Progress Report, which was planned for June but now cannot be published until it is laid in Parliament after the general election.

Court sends signal against new oil and gas exploration

UK Supreme Court

20th June 2024

In a recent judgement, the UK Supreme Court decided that in planning new oil and gas projects, Scope 3 emissions, or the emissions emanating from the burning of the oil or gas need to be considered. It ruled that Surrey County Council had acted unlawfully by granting planning permission to a new oil production plant based on considering the environmental impact of Scope 1 and 2 emissions alone, without considering Scope 3 emissions. The judgement could set a precedent for the new oil and gas fields in the North Sea, as well as for the planned coal mine in Cumbria, as planning bodies are expected to become more cautious in backing projects.

The UK Supreme Court rejected arguments by oil producers that the exact measurement of Scope 3 emissions remains difficult: "The majority of the Court considers this question to be one of causation to which, on the agreed facts, only one answer can reasonably be given. The emissions that will occur on combustion of the oil produced are 'effects of the project' because it is known with certainty that, if the project goes ahead, all the oil extracted from the ground will inevitably be burnt, thereby releasing greenhouse gases into the earth's atmosphere in a quantity which can readily be estimated".

More info [here](#).

[Back to main menu](#)

2. Scotland

Circular Economy Bill passed

Scottish Parliament

26 June 2024

With the passing of the Circular Economy Bill, Ministers and local authorities will receive tools to increase reuse and recycling rates, as well as modernise and improve waste and recycling services. The Circular Economy Bill will give Ministers the powers to:

- set local recycling targets, building on the experience of Wales, which has the best recycling rate in the UK
- set statutory targets for delivery of a circular economy to measure progress in transforming the economy
- restrict the disposal of unsold consumer goods, to prevent good products ending up in landfill
- place charges on single-use items like disposable cups to encourage the move to reusable alternatives
- give local authorities additional enforcement powers, allowing them to crack down on flytipping and littering from cars.

More info [here](#).

Scotland: New Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy

Scottish Government

19th June 2024

With Màiri McAllan, the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, starting maternity leave from the 1st July, her duties will be covered by:

- Gilian Martin as Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (currently Minister for Climate Action)
- Alasdair Allan as Acting Minister for Climate Action.

More info [here](#).

Scotland misses interim emissions reduction target

Scottish Government

18th June 2024

The Scottish Government published the latest statistics on Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The publication contains two measures: Source emissions and measures for reporting against targets:

- In 2022, **source emissions** amounted to **40.6 MtCO₂e**, which is down from 0.1% from 2021, and 50.1% from 1990. Source emissions are a net measure of the actual emissions and removals of greenhouse gases in Scotland, which include international aviation and shipping. This measure can be used for UK and international comparisons.
- The Committee for Climate Change (CCC) recommended a new method of reporting emissions for the purposes of monitoring performance against targets for the June 2020. On this adjusted basis, greenhouse gas emissions **reduced by 50.0 per cent** between the baseline period and 2022, short of the **target reduction of 53.8 per cent** specified in the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019.

Scotland has missed nine of the past 13 annual benchmarks for tackling climate change. The Scottish Government has confirmed in April that it will replace annual targets, with the exception of the net-zero goal for 2045, with carbon budgets covering five-year parliamentary terms, in line with the rest of the UK. Amendments to the Climate Change Act are expected to be made later this year.

More info [here](#).

[Back to main menu](#)

4. Wales

General news

- **Tata Steel:** In response to a strike called by the trade union Unite from the 8 July, the company has indicated it may cease operations at much of the Port Talbot plant by 7 July, three months earlier than intended, due to insufficient resources to ensure safe and stable operations.
- **No-confidence vote:** First Minister Vaughan Gething (Labour) refused to resign after he lost a no confidence vote in the Welsh Senedd. The vote had been called by the Conservatives after it emerged Mr Gething had receiving donations from a company owned by a man convicted of environmental offences. The vote was supported by Plaid Cymru, which has withdrawn from the cooperation agreement with Welsh Labour. In the vote, 29 of the 60 Senedd members voted in favour of the no-confidence motion, with 27 voting against. The no-confidence vote does not compel Mr Gething to resign, but the loss of cooperation with other parties impacts on his ability to pass legislation, including the annual budget which is due shortly.

[Back to main menu](#)

Consultations and calls for evidence

(by closing date)

- [CCUS: non-pipeline transport and cross-border CO2 networks](#), DESNZ, closes on 16th July 2024
- [UK Emissions Trading Scheme Scope Expansion: Waste](#), DESNZ, closes on 18th July 2024
- [Integrating Greenhouse Gas Removals in the UK Emissions Trading Scheme](#) DESNZ, closes on 15th August 2024

[Back to main menu](#)