

12 December 2022

Dear

ATISN 16937

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 7 December 2022. You asked for:

In-depth report on how Welsh Government can reach net zero by 2050.

Our response

Welsh Government does not hold data on an 'in depth report on how the Welsh Government can achieve Net Zero 2050'.

However, in March 2021 the Senedd formally committed Wales to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. Alongside the net zero target, we also updated our interim targets and 2nd and 3rd carbon budgets, as follows:

- Carbon Budget 2 (2021-25): 37% average emission reduction against the baseline year (without the use of international offsets)
- Carbon Budget 3 (2026-30): 58% average emission reduction
- 2030 - 63% emission reduction
- 2040 - 89% emission reduction
- 2050 – at least 100% reduction (net zero)

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 requires Welsh Government to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in Wales to net zero for the year 2050 with a system of interim emissions targets and carbon budgets. Under Section 39 of the Act Welsh Ministers must prepare and publish a report for each budgetary period setting out their policies and proposals for meeting the carbon budget for that period.

In October 2021 we published [Net Zero Wales](#), our emissions reduction plan focused on how we will achieve our second carbon budget. While it focuses on our second carbon budget (2021-2025), it also looks beyond to start building the foundations for Carbon Budget 3, our 2030 target, and our net zero 2050 target. The Plan contains 123 policies and proposals and over 100 pledges for action, reflecting the breadth and depth of activity taking place across Wales. The Plan also sets out the wider actions to be taken by others, our calls on UK Government and contain pledges made by our partners.

Our independent statutory advisors the Climate Change Committee (CCC) published their [Advice Report: The Path to a Net Zero Wales](#), which sets out recommendations for the actions that are needed in Wales and policies to deliver net zero. The CCC's advice includes a recommended balanced pathway which was designed by the CCC

to reflect Wales' 'highest possible ambition' within Wales' particular capabilities, as required by the Paris Agreement.

I would recommend reviewing [Net Zero Wales](#) and the [CCC's advice](#) as they may provide further insight.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at: Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely