

Climate Change Newsletter

June 2021



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welcome

Welcome to the summer edition of the Climate Change Newsletter

Hello and Welcome

Welcome to the summer edition of the Climate Change Newsletter.

It's been a busy few months since our last edition, which has seen the formation of a brand new Government.

Included in this Government is the all new Climate Change Portfolio that will be split between two Ministers. **Julie James MS**, will now become **Minister for Climate Change** and **Lee Waters MS** has become **Deputy Minister for Climate Change**.

The past **Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths MS** has now taken over as **Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd**

Climate Change Committee Progress Report

In December 2020 the Climate Change Committee (CCC) published its first emissions reduction progress report for

Wales, required under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The CCC considered our performance in emissions reduction since 1990, with a focus on trends in emissions during the first carbon budget period (2016-20).

Drawing on the most recent available emissions data at the time (2018), the CCC concluded that "Wales is on track to meet its 2020 target (a 27% reduction on 1990 levels) and the First Carbon Budget (23% average reduction on 1990 levels across 2016-2020) on the current inventory basis, as long as emissions do not increase in 2019 and 2020."

The Welsh Government is therefore confident we are on track to meet our first carbon budget and 2020 target.

You can read the full response by Welsh Government to the CCC's progress report here:

<https://gov.wales/reducing-emissions-wales-welsh-government-response>

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Welsh Emissions Data 2019

On the 15th June, a report on 'Devolved Administration Greenhouse Gas Inventories, 1990-2019', was published on the National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) website:

http://naei.beis.gov.uk/reports/reports?section_id=4#

The report presents estimates of greenhouse gas emissions for Wales, as well as for England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The report shows;

- **In 2019, it was estimated that emissions** totalled 39 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent, **a fall of 31 per cent compared to base year emissions.**
- **These emission reductions are mainly due to efficiencies in energy generation and business sector heating (of buildings and for processes), the use of natural gas to replace some coal and other fuels as well as abatement in some chemical industries.** In addition, variations in manufacturing output (e.g. in iron and steel, bulk chemical production) have a significant impact on the trend.
- The data published shows we have maintained our good progress towards our 2020 target **Continued emission reductions**

in the 2020 data will be required to ensure we stay on track to meet our 2020 target.

COP Cymru – We need you!

In similar fashion to Wales Climate Week last year, we would like your help in shaping the agenda of COP Cymru by answering our latest survey which can be found here.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/J7FUPC/>

We will use all the information and ideas provided by you to develop COP Cymru and much more.

We'd really appreciate people to share the link so we can have wide and varied ideas for Cop Cymru.

COP26

COP26 Newsletter

To keep up to date with the latest information on COP, we recommend signing up to the UK Government's external COP26 newsletter, which is published on a monthly basis via the Unit's engagement team and interested parties can sign up [here](#).

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Young People Update

From **July 5th** Eco Schools are inviting secondary schools to take part in activities around climate change, deforestation and fast fashion. They will be discussing ways to empower young people to make a difference and as we are in the lead-up to the UK hosting COP26, the focus will be on Climate Action.

Each day will have a different focus and details can be seen below.

- Monday 5th July 9:30am - Fast Fashion and circular Economy
- Tuesday 6th July 9:30am – Deforestation
- Wednesday 7th July 9:30am - Nature Based Solutions
- Thursday 8th July 11:15 – 12:15 - Youth Summit with Welsh Assembly Government
- Friday 9th July 9:30am - Making your voices heard!

Each workshop is stand alone to allow flexibility to mix and match the students/classes/Eco – Committee to the workshops.

If you would like to register, please complete the form at:

www.keepwalestidy.cymru/forms/senior-eco-committee-2021

There will also be 4 Mock COPs over the next 6 months:

- COP15 biodiversity in September
- October – a four nations Mock COP
- December – Annual Session for Secondary School
- January – a first Mock COP for Primary School pupil.

Keep an eye out! More information on the above sessions will be included in future newsletters and in emails from the Decarbonisation Team.

Stakeholder Engagement

Our latest Engagement Approach for the Low Carbon Delivery Plan 2 can be found here:

<https://gov.wales/low-carbon-delivery-plan-2-engagement-plan>

We are continuously updating our engagement approach, so we would encourage you to keep an eye, especially on pages 19-21, where we will be updating the summaries of engagement activity and announced Welsh Government publications on a regular basis.

A small reminder...

Don't forget, our pledge campaign is still open! We have currently received over 80 pledges from across all sectors in Wales which are helping to shape our next plan,

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but we would love to reach a 100 in the next few months.

Please continue to pledge at the following link:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/rx0po/>

In case you missed it...

Welsh Public Sector Net Zero Reporting Guide

The Welsh Public Sector Reporting Guide is now live on our website. The guide allows for our Public Sector to estimate our net carbon footprint, including direct and indirect emissions and also allows us to produce a baseline for the whole public sector in Wales.

More information can be found at the link below.

<https://gov.wales/public-sector-net-zero-reporting-guide>

Climate Risk Independent Assessment (CCRA3)

On 16th June, the CCC published its latest [Independent Assessment of Climate Risk](#) and [Advice Report to Government](#). The launch event was recorded and can be viewed via the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLHEIcmph50>

The assessment provides a comprehensive update of the latest evidence on the risks, opportunities and impacts arising from climate change. It highlights those areas requiring urgent further action by Governments across the UK, including in relation to business, infrastructure, housing, the natural environment and health.

Local Places for Nature is back! Apply for a free garden package today

Welsh Government has provided funding to Keep Wales Tidy to run another year of Local Places for Nature grants. Last year more than 500 green spaces across the country were created, restored and enhanced.

This is your chance to reverse nature's decline and provide an important boost to the well-being of your local community at the same time.

Each pre-paid package includes native plants, tools and other materials. Keep Wales Tidy will handle the orders and deliveries, and their project officers will provide support on the ground.

Packages this year fall into two categories:

1. [Starter packages](#) for community or volunteer groups looking to create a Pollinator Garden, Fruit and Herb Garden, or Urban Garden.

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2. **Development packages** for community-based organisations that are ready to take on a bigger project and build a Food Growing Garden or Wildlife Garden.

It's a simple application process. Just [visit the Keep Wales Tidy website](#), choose your package, read through the guidance, and download and complete the application form. If you have any questions, please get in touch with our Local places for Nature team, nature@keepwalestidy.cymru

Green Health Wales

On the 29th June there will be a conference to launch 'Green Health Wales', a network for sustainable healthcare in Wales, led by staff across the sector. Opening the conference is **Dr. Andrew Goodall CBE, Director General for Health and Social Services and the NHS Wales Chief Executive.**

For more information on this event please see:

www.greenhealthwales.co.uk

To register for this event please follow the link below.

[Green Health Wales: The Launch | Iechyd Gwyrdd Cymru: Y Lansiad](#)

[Tickets, Tue 29 Jun 2021 at 09:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Innovation and social challenges

The Welsh Government Innovation Team is currently considering a new approach to innovation within Wales. We have commissioned two pieces of research on innovation in Wales and around the world, and have now held three engagement events with stakeholders within Welsh Government and in the public and private sectors. The recommendations from the research combined with the feedback from stakeholders so far all point to innovation taking a leading role in social challenges such as climate change, decarbonisation and net zero. You can find the research reports on the IACW webpages ([Innovation Advisory Council for Wales | Innovation \(gov.wales\)](#)). If you would like to have a say, please email InnovationStrategy@gov.wales to contribute to the discussion.

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**Previous issues of the newsletter are available
on request from the Decarbonisation mailbox.**