



Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales

On the 21st March 2019, the Welsh Government published its first low carbon plan, **Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales**.

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 requires the Welsh Government to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in Wales by at least 80% 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.

Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales is our first plan for our first budget (2016-2020). It outlines the Welsh Government's approach to cut emissions and transition to a low carbon economy in a way which maximises wider benefits for Wales, ensuring a fairer, healthier and more equal society. The Plan pulls together 100 policies and proposals from across the Welsh Government, UK Government and the EU where

Welcome

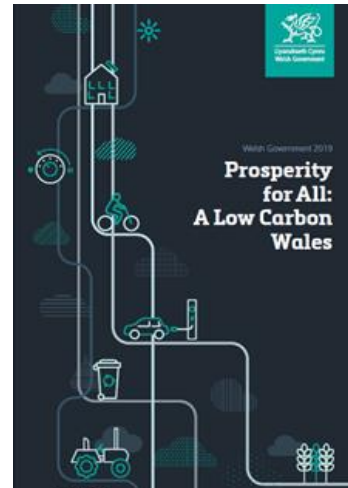
Welcome to the latest edition of the Decarbonisation Programme Newsletter which highlights the first Low Carbon Plan for the first budgetary period (2016-2020).

decarbonisation is integrated either as a direct outcome or a wider benefit.

Action stretches across sectors and encourages leadership, collaboration and involvement at all levels. Many of the policies focus on helping the transition to a low carbon economy, ensuring a fair and just transition and maximising well-being opportunities for all.

Plan Overview

- Sets down immediate actions but also sets direction for the long term by setting the foundations for Wales to transition to a low carbon society
- Contains 100 policies and proposals
- Includes 76 existing policies some of which have either direct emission reduction effect or wider emission reduction benefit. Many have been introduced or have been revised since the start of the carbon budget such as Economic Action Plan such as Planning Policy Wales
- Introduces 24 proposals which will be explored or developed further into future policy action.
- Sets down the cross cutting actions we are taking by integrating decarbonisation across government policy and delivery
- Has people at its centre of thinking recognising prevention principle and equity as part of the transition
- Sets out how we are thinking more holistically recognising the wider and joined up systems
- Cuts across all Ministerial portfolios and levels of society emphasising the crucial role of leadership, collaboration and involvement
- Illustrates Wales' global responsibility in working with key partners on the international stage



We all have Roles to Play

The public sector, business and communities must adopt leadership roles. Many of the important actions in the plan stretch out across government, public sector and business. Communities, third sector and people also have crucial roles.

Cutting emissions and moving towards a low carbon economy offers enormous opportunities to create a vibrant and socially-just economy. Whilst Brexit creates uncertainty, Welsh Government is clear the path to decarbonisation puts the welfare of our people, the health of our economy, and the protection and enhancement of our natural environment front and centre. This is a critical time for Wales. We now look forward to working with all our partners both here and on the international stage in meeting the challenge of climate change.

You can find a full copy of the Plan, Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales [here](#).

The Launch

The launch of Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales was on the morning of the 21st March. The plan was launched by First Minister, Rt. Hon Mark Drakeford AM for Wales in the Exchange Hotel (previously Coal Exchange), Cardiff Bay.



The Coal Exchange was once the heart of the global coal trade – in a symbol of Wales' commitment to move forward a photograph recreating the room of the past with the future low carbon leaders was taken.

The event was attended by over 250 people from across all sectors in Wales. Speakers at the event included Sophie Howe the Future Generations Commissioner, Sion Sleep from Uprising's Environmental Leadership programme for young people, Peter Davies representing the third sector and communities, Chris Williams on behalf of the business sector and CBI and Lorraine Whitmarsh talking about the role of behaviour change. Their speeches can be seen by following the links below and the whole event can be seen [here](#).

Public Sector Decarbonisation

The afternoon session was dedicated to the leadership role of the Welsh public sector. The opening address saw Andy Middleton of TYF present *Pioneers of the Possible* before an interactive session to encourage collaboration across the public sector around the four themes of Transport and Mobility, Buildings, Procurement and Land Use. Dr Tracey Cooper CEO from Public Health Wales then described her personal experience of leading the delivery of environmental and social outcomes by adopting innovative approaches within Public Health Wales. We intend to run a further interactive session in North Wales and will share the outputs of both sessions with participants. A big thank you to all involved and to Dr Jane Davidson for chairing both the morning and afternoon sessions.

“It is really important that young people have a voice with regards to climate change because we are the people who are going to have to deal with the problems eventually and our children as well. We are not the people who put ourselves in this situation but we are the people who are going to have to try and bring about real change.” Sion Sleep, Uprising Cymru

Professor Lorraine Whitmarsh, the new Director of the Centre for Climate Change and Social Transformation, said:

“While there is now international momentum on action to tackle climate change, it is clear that critical targets, such as keeping global temperature rise to well within 2 degrees Celsius relative to pre-industrial levels, will be missed without fundamental transformations across all parts of society.

“At the Centre we recognise that climate change is an emergency that requires action on a far greater scale than has been seen so far. Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales recognises that everyone has a role to play. We will address the fundamental question of how we can live differently and better, in ways that meet the need for these systemic, deep and

Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, Sophie Howe, has contributed to the plan and spoke at the launch and said:

“We now need to see bold leadership across the whole of Government, and from our public bodies and public services boards in creating a movement of change that enables everyone to make better choices that minimise our collective emissions. From the builders who can help make our homes and offices more energy efficient, to our town planners who create the spaces we live in and travel to, to the young people who will pay with their health and well-being if we do not take immediate action to ensure we all play a crucial role in tackling climate change for the benefit of people today and our future generations.”

Key announcements

- There will be a Climate Just Group established to advise Welsh Ministers on the low carbon transition. Further information will be shared shortly.
- In recognition of the importance of community leadership the Welsh Government has today committed a further £4 million to the Welsh Government Local Energy Fund, enabling even more community-led projects to take their projects forward.
- Welsh Government announced having an annual conference. This will start this autumn and we are already thinking about how to run this, with all stakeholders involved and focused around key themes or sectors.

Other information

BBC Article - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-47632409>

Hashtag

[#LowCarbonWales](#)

[#ALowCarbonWales](#)

A fond farewell to Prys Davies

As many of you will already know Prys Davies, Deputy Director for Decarbonisation and Energy will leave the Welsh Government on the 29th March for pasture new. Prys has been leading the way on transformation of the programme over the past 3 years and has been ensuring the Decarbonisation Programme is set as a priority for Welsh Government and for Wales.

Diolch yn Fawr

