

Dear

**ATISN 18586**

### **Information requested**

Thank you for your request which I received on 12/06/2023. You asked for: information regarding the cost that achieving net zero targets would have on every single taxpayer in Wales.

### **Our response**

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you require is not held by the Welsh Government.

There is a great deal of uncertainty inherent in estimating future costs associated with long-term emission targets, particularly due to the considerable uncertainty around the cost and development of future low-carbon technologies, as well as uncertainty around the future actions of government, business, other social groups, and individuals.

The Climate Change Committee's (CCC) [recommended pathway](#) to net zero in 2050 involves increasing annual low-carbon investment in Wales to around £3 billion by 2030. By way of comparison, UK-wide annual low-carbon investment is required to increase to around £50 billion by 2030. For context, UK-wide whole economy investment is currently around £400 billion annually. These investment costs will not only fall on the Welsh Government's budget, Welsh businesses, or Welsh consumers. Many of the actions to reduce emissions will likely be paid for at UK Government level or socialised across the whole of the UK, such as the costs associated with new low-carbon power.

Additionally, across the economy as a whole and in the long term, the CCC analysis projects savings in fuel costs will largely offset the cost of the transition and could stimulate tens of thousands of jobs. The CCC estimate that the level of UK GDP would be around 2% higher than it would have been by 2035, as resources are redirected from fossil fuel imports to UK investment. The required changes may also bring wider (unquantified) cashable benefits to other areas, such as air quality, health, and biodiversity.

### **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](mailto: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