



National Audit Office

BRIEFING FOR THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS
ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT
SELECT COMMITTEE

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Department of Energy and Climate Change

Carbon Budget Management

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Background

1 The UK is committed, under the Climate Change Act 2008, to cutting carbon emissions by at least 34 per cent by 2020¹ and by at least 80 per cent by 2050 compared to a 1990 baseline. The Climate Change Act requires the Government to publish interim five-year carbon budgets which set carbon emissions limits. The carbon budgets set progressively lower emissions limits and act as a roadmap towards achieving the 2020 and 2050 targets. The first three carbon budgets were set in law in May 2009 and cover the periods 2008-12, 2013-17 and 2018-22². The fourth carbon budget was set in June 2011 and covers 2023-27³. For the first four carbon budgets the emissions limits have been set as 3018, 2782, 2544 and 1950 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e). The Government plans to review the target set for the fourth carbon budget in 2014 in light of the emissions reductions expected from sectors covered by the EU Emissions Trading Scheme.

2 Under the Climate Change Act the Government is required to publish a plan setting out its proposals and policies for meeting the statutory emissions targets of current and future carbon budgets. This Government published a draft version of its Carbon Plan in July 2011 and a final version⁴ in December 2011 to fulfil this requirement. The Carbon Plan lists carbon reduction policies together with their expected emissions savings covering the first three carbon budgets. For the fourth carbon budget the plan details a number of scenarios of how carbon emissions targets could be met. The Plan also includes milestones for delivery by departments and devolved administrations.

3 The Government's latest projections from October 2012 indicate that it expects to achieve the limits of the first three carbon budgets on the basis of policies announced to date, undershooting the budgets by 90, 132 and 71 MtCO₂e respectively. However these projections also show that further action is needed if the government is to achieve the fourth budget. Current policies alone would mean it would exceed the limit

¹ Percentage as amended by The Climate Change Act 2008 (2020 Target, Credit Limit and Definitions) Order 2009 No. 1258

² The Carbon Budgets Order 2009. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2009/1259/article/2/made>

³ The Carbon Budget Order 2011. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2011/1603/made>

⁴ The Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-carbon-plan-reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions--2>

of the fourth budget by 205 MtCO₂e⁵. In March 2013⁶ the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) released provisional estimates for 2012 Green House Gas emissions which suggested emissions of 571.6 MtCO₂e in 2012⁷, up 3.5 per cent from 2011. DECC considers this increase is due to a switch from gas to coal use in power stations and does not alter the high level picture of its expectations of meeting the first three carbon budgets, but missing the fourth.

4 In its latest review of progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the independent Committee on Climate Change noted that there had been good progress in 2012 in implementing some of the measures required to meet carbon budgets. It warned that the pace of emissions reductions will need to increase markedly if the UK is to meet the third and fourth carbon budgets; it estimated that greenhouse gas emissions would have fallen by 1 to 1.5 per cent in 2012 without the temporary effects of the cold winter and the switch from gas to coal use in power generation. This compares with a 3 per cent annual emissions reductions required to meet the third and fourth carbon budgets.⁸

5 In October 2011 the Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) published a report expressing concern over the content of the draft Carbon Plan and made recommendations for the final Carbon Plan⁹. The EAC's report included concerns over the level of detail provided in the draft Plan for monitoring and evaluating progress against carbon budgets and recommended that the final Carbon Plan make it clear how departments would be held accountable for their performance.

6 The final Carbon Plan set out the following expectations for how departments would be held to account:

- departments that lead or have an impact on the majority of policies that affect emissions would be held accountable for delivery through a framework of regular monitoring and reporting against their actions and indicators of progress;

⁵ The Department of Energy and Climate Change, *Updated energy and emissions projections* - Table 1. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/65717/6660-updated-emissions-projections-october-2012.pdf. The numbers given are the central estimates for emissions. DECC also publish high and low estimates to reflect the uncertainty involved. In each of these scenarios the Government still expects current policies will be sufficient to achieve the first three carbon budgets but not the fourth.

⁶ DECC Statistical release, available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/193414/280313_ghg_national_statistics_release_2012_provisional.pdf

⁷ The 2012 greenhouse gas emissions figure includes emissions from the UK, Crown dependencies (Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man) and overseas territories (Gibraltar, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands and Montserrat). The emissions limits for carbon budgets cover UK emissions only.

⁸ Committee on Climate Change, *Meeting the Carbon Budgets – 2013 Progress Report to Parliament*. Available at: <http://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/2013-progress-report/>

⁹ Environmental Audit Committee, *Carbon budgets, Seventh Report of Session 2010–12, HC 1080, October 2011*. Available at: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201012/cmselect/cmenvaud/1080/1080.pdf>

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- wider actions of all government departments would be kept under review, with particular attention paid to new initiatives that may have a knock-on effect on emissions; and
- the Government would report progress against the actions in the Carbon Plan on a quarterly basis via the Number 10 website.

7 This briefing reviews the governance and reporting arrangements for managing carbon budgets. In producing this report we conducted a desk-based review of the key carbon budget management related reports. We reviewed the minutes and related materials of the cross-government National Emissions Target (NET) Board, which was established to provide senior level oversight of carbon budgets and national climate policy. We conducted an analysis of departmental performance against the milestone deliverables of the Carbon Plan¹⁰ as reported in quarterly reports. We also conducted interviews with key staff at DECC regarding carbon budget management.

¹⁰ The milestone deliverables are in Annex C of the Carbon Plan, available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/47618/3750-carbon-plan-annex-c-dec-2011.pdf

The management of Carbon Budgets

1.1 There are three strands to the governance and reporting arrangements for carbon budgets:

- the production and publication of statutory and non-statutory reports;
- reporting against the Carbon Plan; and
- monitoring by the NET Board.

1.2 The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) takes the lead role in coordinating the management of carbon budgets. Within DECC a Carbon Budgets team monitors progress in meeting the budgets and coordinates data and actions from across government to produce the key reports. The team provides the secretariat for the NET Board.

1.3 The following sections review each strand of the governance and reporting arrangements for carbon budgets.

Statutory reporting framework

1.4 The Climate Change Act 2008 outlines statutory requirements for reporting on carbon budget management:

- The Annual Statement of Emissions is published in March each year¹¹. This provides final UK-wide greenhouse gas emissions data for the calendar year from two years previously and provides provisional data for the latest year (for example, the March 2013 report covers the final emissions data for 2011 and provisional data for 2012). This report shows the progress made annually towards the commitment in the current carbon budget.

¹¹ The Department of Energy and Climate Change, Annual Statement of Emissions for 2011. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/167920/annual_statement_of_emissions_2011.pdf

- The Committee on Climate Change¹² reports to Parliament on emissions trends over the past year and evaluates underlying progress in implementing carbon-reduction measures and policies in the UK¹³. The Committee uses an evaluation framework to produce this report which draws on a wide range of emissions and policy progress indicators, including those produced by government departments. The Committee's report is published annually every June. The June 2013 report was the Committee's fifth progress report.
- The Government's response to the Committee on Climate Change's annual progress report¹⁴. The Government's response outlines the actions to be taken at departmental level to address the Committee's recommendations. The Government's response, which must be laid before Parliament by October, is agreed across Whitehall with all relevant departments.

1.5 DECC also produces an annual Updated Energy and Emissions Projections report¹⁵ containing updated projections of energy demand, supply and greenhouse gas emissions. The report updates the projected carbon emissions savings for each of the policies listed in the Carbon Plan. DECC compiles the expected emissions for each policy by consulting with the relevant government departments and drawing on the policy impact assessments which the departments produce. The report is published in October each year.

1.6 DECC considers that the statutory reports and the Updated Energy Emissions Projections report are the primary mechanism for holding Departments to account for performance against carbon budgets. Producing these reports involves consultation across Whitehall and provides a public and annual assessment of progress.

¹² The Committee on Climate Change is an independent body set up under the Climate Change Act 2008. The Committee advises the Government on emissions targets and reports to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for climate change.

¹³ Committee on Climate Change, Meeting the Carbon Budgets – 2013 Progress Report to Parliament. Available at: <http://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/2013-progress-report/>

¹⁴ Government Response to the Fourth Annual Progress Report of the Committee on Climate Change: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/65566/6682-gov-response-ccc-fourth-annual-prog-rpt.pdf

¹⁵ The Department of Energy and Climate Change, Updated energy and emissions projections 2012. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/65717/6660-updated-emissions-projections-october-2012.pdf

Reporting against the Carbon Plan

1.7 The Carbon Plan lists 124 'milestones' for delivery by departments and devolved administrations against which departments will be held to account¹⁶. The milestones are actions to be started or completed (or both) over the five year period of the Plan, starting from the fourth quarter of 2011. Ninety per cent of the actions are assigned to the main carbon departments: the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Department for Transport (DfT), the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS). The remaining ten per cent of milestones are assigned to the devolved administrations.

1.8 The milestones of the Carbon Plan are mostly output-based deliverables such as "publish a report", "implement a framework" or "introduce a standard". There are no quantitative indicators for progress on delivering programmes or outcomes achieved¹⁷. The milestones assigned to the departments generally relate to specific policies. The milestones assigned to the devolved administrations cover broader national goals. Unlike under the Low Carbon Transition Plan 2009, which preceded the Carbon Plan, there is no accountability at department level for the total emissions from the individual sectors contributing to carbon emissions: buildings; transport; industry; electricity; agriculture, forestry and land management; and waste.

1.9 Fifty two of the milestones in the Carbon Plan were for new actions, while 72 (58 per cent) were for actions which had already started when the Carbon Plan was published in December 2011 and some had already been completed. For example, the commitment to set arrangements for the independent assessment of the safety, security and environmental impact of new nuclear reactor designs, as part of the government effort to facilitate the world's first new nuclear development without public subsidy by 2018, was in DECC's Business Plan for completion in June 2011. The Carbon Plan was not intended to launch new policies as they were not required to meet the first three carbon budgets and it was too early to determine new policies to meet the fourth Carbon Budget.

1.10 The planned delivery dates of the milestones listed in the Carbon Plan are heavily skewed towards the early part of the 5 year Plan, with far fewer deliveries in later years. Twenty-nine per cent of the milestones were to take place within the first 6 months of the Plan period and overall half of the milestone deliveries were for

¹⁶ Annex C of the Carbon Plan, available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/47618/3750-carbon-plan-annex-c-dec-2011.pdf

¹⁷ Note that whilst the milestones of Annex C of the Carbon Plan are not quantitative indicators, the main body of the Carbon Plan makes reference to many policies whose progress can be quantified.

actions within the first 18 months of the five year plan. The second half of the Carbon Plan contains only one sixth of the Plan's milestones.

1.11 There has been no extension of the original milestones in the Carbon Plan. The skewing of milestone deliverables to the early years of the Carbon Plan reflected the Government's intention to provide more detailed plans for the early part of the Plan period and then subsequently to challenge the departments to include extra milestones as the Plan progressed. The Department of Energy and Climate Change told us that it has not worked with departments to update the milestones and to align them with departments' current Business Plans due to resource constraints. It intends to recruit a new member of staff who will oversee this work.

1.12 The Carbon Plan contained 72 milestones for delivery up to the end of the third quarter of 2012 but the quarterly reports for that period only covered the progress of 37 of those milestones and failed to report on the remaining 35 milestones¹⁸. Of the 37 milestones reported upon in the quarterly reports, two were delayed in their implementation, both of which are DfT milestones:

- Writing into UK Law the greenhouse gas savings requirements of the European Union Fuel Quality Directive. The Carbon plan set an ambition to complete the adoption of the Directive into UK law by December 2011. The quarterly report states that while many of the requirements of the Directive were implemented in December 2011, the Directive was not brought in until April 2013.
- A review of progress from industry-led schemes to reduce fuel consumption and emissions from the freight sector and reconsider the case for government intervention. The Carbon Plan set an ambition to review progress by September 2012, but the final review was not published until May 2013.

1.13 The milestones not reported upon up to the end of the third quarter of 2012 included significant actions such as to:

- consult on the secondary legislation needed for the Green Deal, a policy which permits loans for energy saving measures for properties in Great Britain, including the new obligation on energy companies to make improvements to some homes at no upfront cost to the consumer (legislation was put in place in July 2012); and to
- review the Government's strategy to support the transition from early ultra-low emission vehicle (ULEV) market to mass market (a renewed ULEV strategy will be published in September 2013).

¹⁸ The first quarterly report covered the period up to the end of 2011, but given that the Carbon Plan was published in December 2011, the report did not cover a full three months of Carbon Plan activity.

1.14 DECC has not produced quarterly reports for the last quarter of 2012 and the first quarter of 2013, though DECC told us that government departments did submit data on progress against quarterly milestones up to the last quarter of 2012. The Department is in the process of reviewing its approach to the quarterly monitoring process and how best to ensure that there is transparency around the progress government is making towards delivering on the commitments contained in the Carbon Plan. It plans to resume publication of a revised form of report in coming months. By not producing the last two quarterly reports, 32 milestones from the Carbon Plan between the last quarter of 2012 and the first quarter of 2013 were not reported upon. These included:

- Four milestones relating to the implementation and support for the Green Deal, such as DECC's milestone to "develop policies to increase demand for the Green Deal, alongside core finance"; and
- Seven milestones relating to cooperation with EU and international partners, such as Defra's milestone to "work with the EU to agree energy efficiency and labelling standards for remaining energy using products in residential and tertiary sectors, and some industrial products"

The National Emissions Target (NET) Board

1.15 The National Emissions Target (NET) Board first met in September 2010 and was established to provide senior oversight of carbon budget management and national climate policy, to ensure policies to deliver carbon budgets are identified and delivered and to challenge policies that could potentially make budgets harder to meet. The NET Board was intended to be closely connected to the policy process, for example, by providing a link to Cabinet committees that consider national climate change. It is chaired by the DECC Permanent Secretary and its membership includes the Director Generals responsible for carbon management in the departments with responsibility for sectors which produce the majority of carbon emissions, DECC, Defra, DfT, DCLG, BIS, together with HM Treasury and the Cabinet Office.

1.16 The NET Board has met irregularly and not as frequently as it intended. It has met seven times in the three years from mid-2010 to June 2013. It met twice in 2010, in September and November. In July 2011 the NET Board committed to meeting quarterly and over the year it met three times, in February, July and September. The NET Board met next in March 2012 and agreed then to meet twice a year to track progress through the updated emissions projections in the Autumn and the annual data release in March; and to have extra ad hoc meetings to deal with pressing issues as required. It has met once since then, in April 2013. The NET Board has not had a role in collectively overseeing the government's response to the Committee on Climate Change; DECC told us that collective agreement across departments was obtained through the Economic Affairs Committee, a cabinet committee.

1.17 The NET Board minutes have not routinely included the job titles and grades of the attendees, making it difficult to assess whether the provision in the Board's terms of reference, that attendees should be of Director General level, has been satisfied. DECC consider attendance has typically been from civil servants below Director General level. At the April 2013 NET Board meeting, the attendees from Defra, BIS and HMT were at the director grade (one grade below Director General). The Cabinet Office attendee was at the deputy director level.

1.18 DECC consider that meetings have been infrequent partly because they have not been needed due to there being no major decisions or milestones which required NET Board input and partly to await the view of an incoming Permanent Secretary for DECC on whether existing governance arrangements should continue¹⁹. The NET Board has covered the following ground:

- In 2010 it considered the development of the Carbon Plan and the proposed carbon budget management system.
- In its meetings of 2011 it considered the setting of the fourth carbon budget in June 2011 and the publication of the final Carbon Plan in December 2011.
- in March 2012, it reviewed progress and considered whether emissions from international aviation and shipping should be included in the UK's 2050 emissions targets and associated carbon budgets.
- in April 2013, the first meeting chaired by the new DECC Permanent Secretary, it reviewed progress against current and future budgets and discussed plans for the 2014 review of the fourth carbon budget.

1.19 DECC told us that they expect the NET Board to meet twice a year in future, with more frequent meetings in the run-up to significant events, such as the review of the fourth carbon budget in early 2014 and the setting of the fifth carbon budget by June 2016.

NET Board monitoring

1.20 In three of its seven meetings, the meetings of November 2010, July 2011 and April 2013, the NET Board has used a "carbon scorecard", produced by the NET Board Secretariat, to monitor progress against the carbon budgets. The scorecards draw on the Government's annual emissions report, projected emissions report, the Committee on Climate Change's annual progress report and data maintained at departmental level. The scorecards do not seek to reproduce all this material in detail

¹⁹ DECC had an acting Permanent Secretary between the departure of the former Permanent Secretary from the Civil Service in October 2012, and February 2013 when a new Permanent Secretary took up post

but instead aim to highlight significant data and trends to allow the NET Board to focus on strategic issues.

1.21 The content and presentation of the scorecards have evolved over time. The first two scorecards included a traffic light rating assessment of departments' progress in implementing milestones against their policies, and also included the projected emissions savings for each policy. The April 2013 scorecard did not include this level of detailed analysis of delivery at the departmental level. Instead it focused on quantitative indicators of progress in some key policy areas, including actual and projected figures for the average energy efficiency of new homes and the proportion of electricity generation from renewable sources.

1.22 The 2013 scorecard reports projected emissions savings at an aggregate level and not on a policy by policy basis. Emissions reductions for individual energy and climate change policies are listed in the Carbon Plan and updated annually in DECC's published updated energy and emissions projections report. The latter includes the impacts of all energy and climate change policies including those aimed at reducing fuel poverty, some of which may be projected to increase emissions.

1.23 NET Board minutes do not show evidence of the Board taking action to hold Departments to account on progress against individual policies in the Carbon Plan. This is despite the projected emissions reductions from some policies having changed between the publication of the Carbon Plan and the latest updated emissions projections. For example, there are two DECC policies where expected cumulative emissions reductions over this period changed; the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme, a scheme aimed at improving energy efficiency and cutting emissions in large public and private sector organisations, increased from 6.5 to 9.1 MtCO_{2e}, and the non-domestic element of the Renewable Heat Incentive, a scheme that provides payments to industry, businesses and public sector organisations to install technologies which use renewable heat, fell from 28.5 to 22.3 MtCO_{2e}.

1.24 DECC consider that it has not been necessary for the Board to consider progress against individual policies as the latest emissions projections continue to suggest that in aggregate existing policies will be sufficient to meet the first three carbon budgets. Instead, at its April 2013 meeting the NET Board considered the first of a series of proposed deep dive reviews on carbon emission sectors to examine the risks to meeting the fourth carbon budget, to put forward proposals to address relevant risks and agree a steady stream of new policies designed to ensure that the fourth carbon budget is met. This first deep dive review covered buildings and concluded that a significant acceleration in the deployment of technologies will be needed in the buildings sector to help to meet the fourth carbon budget, especially in the areas of solid wall insulation and renewable heat. The review has not yet led to the introduction of any new policies, but highlighted issues to consider as new policies are developed. The NET Board plans to consider deep dive reviews on transport, power and industry in forthcoming meetings.

1.25 The NET Board minutes do not show any evidence that the Board has reviewed any wider actions of government departments since the publication of the Carbon Plan that might increase or decrease carbon emissions.

Senior responsible officers and ministerial meetings

1.26 The NET Board agreed in 2010 that departments' progress would be addressed through bilateral meetings between the DECC Permanent Secretary as the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) for carbon budget management and the Permanent Secretaries of the main carbon departments, Defra, DfT, CLG, BIS, HMT and the Cabinet Office. These meetings were to allow a focus on live policy issues and topical matters and enable a two way dialogue between DECC and other departments. They would be followed by bilateral ministerial meetings. The NET Board in July 2011 confirmed that ad hoc bilateral meetings would take place between the DECC SRO and the SROs of the main carbon departments. This arrangement was endorsed again by the NET Board in March 2012 which said that bilateral meetings should take place annually, followed by bilateral ministerial meetings to allow a discussion of key risks and resolve any issues highlighted in the SRO meetings.

1.27 There is no evidence of, or reference to, meetings with SROs in any of the NET Board minutes. DECC were unable to tell us if or when meetings took place or to provide us with minutes, but confirm that no meetings have taken place in recent months. DECC's view is that these meetings have not taken place primarily because there were no issues which obviously required resolution through this route. DECC told us that they are considering whether regular meetings such as those proposed at the July 2011 NET Board are a proportionate way of engaging with departments.

Appendix One

Carbon Plan milestones

The following milestones were listed in the Carbon Plan, but were not reported upon through the quarterly reporting system

Milestones	Department
Set arrangements for the independent assessment of the safety, security and environmental impact of new reactor designs	DECC
Finalise the framework that will ensure that new nuclear operators have arrangements in place to meet the full costs of decommissioning and their full share of waste management costs through publication of statutory Funded Decommissioning Guidance and a pricing methodology for government taking ownership of the operator's waste	DECC
Put staff and back office systems in place for the Green Investment Bank, in preparation for the launch of the incubation phase	BIS
Publish report outlining abatement potential, barriers and opportunities for key energy intensive sectors	BIS DECC / HMT
Continue market testing for the role of the Green Investment Bank beyond the incubation phase	BIS
Encourage a strong EU position in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations in Durban, South Africa	FCO / DECC
Agree action plan for co-operation with Norway on oil and gas, carbon capture and storage and renewables	DECC
Design a new international Green Fund with international partners	DECC

Work for a comprehensive global agreement on climate, including securing significant progress at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations in Durban, South Africa	DECC / FCO
Achieve emissions reductions from new buildings through a progressive tightening of thermal standards required under Building Regulations. Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP) to take this forward in two stages – 2011 and 2013	DFP
Limit on use of carbon units to be set for 2013–17 (with successive batches at five-year intervals thereafter)	Scottish Government
Target to generate 31% of final electricity demand from renewables	Scottish Government
UK Climate Change Committee advice to Welsh Government on delivery of Climate Change Strategy and review of actions (and annually thereafter)	Welsh Government
Climate Change Commission for Wales report on Welsh Government delivery of Climate Change Strategy (and annually thereafter)	Welsh Government
Consult on revisions to Part L 2013 conservation of fuel and power of the Building Regulations	DCLG
Consult on secondary legislation to enable the Green Deal, including the new obligation on energy companies	DECC
Lay secondary legislation to enable the Green Deal before Parliament	DECC
Implement the inclusion of aviation within the EU Emissions Trading System	DfT
Review strategy to support transition from early ultra-low emission vehicle market to mass market	DfT
Push for early EU adoption of electric vehicle infrastructure standards	DfT
Consult on sustainable aviation framework for UK	DfT

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Consider Planning Policy Statement 1 (Sustainability) which is being undertaken to take account of, and give support to, planning reform implementation	DOE
Report on progress requested from the Committee on Climate Change (and annually thereafter)	Scottish Government
Scottish Government response to Committee on Climate Change progress report (and annually thereafter)	Scottish Government
Welsh Government report to National Assembly for Wales on delivery of Climate Change Strategy and refresh of Delivery Plans (and annually thereafter)	Welsh Government
Publish National Planning Policy Framework	DCLG
Introduce as part of the national planning framework a strong presumption in favour of sustainable development	DCLG
Undertake first major review of Feed-in Tariffs for small-scale renewable energy; consult and implement changes (fast-track consideration of some aspects to be completed in 2011)	DECC
Transfer relevant functions from the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) into the Major Infrastructure Planning Unit	DCLG
Review water efficiency advice to be given as part of broader sustainability information available under the Green Deal	Defra
Conduct a pilot project to develop and trial methods for delivering integrated environmental advice for farmers (including on reducing GHG emissions)	Defra
Review of progress made towards reducing GHG emissions from agriculture	Defra
Agree EU legislation on energy infrastructure to support projects of European interest and facilitate commercial infrastructure investment needed for security of supply and low carbon transition	DECC

Take part in UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) discussions on Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and institutional frameworks	Defra
Report on Proposals and Policies for 2023–27	Scottish Government
Publish, with the nine other nations in the North Seas Countries' Offshore Grid Initiative, North Sea grid configuration options and proposals for tackling regulatory, legal, planning and technical barriers	DECC
Develop policies to increase demand for the Green Deal, alongside core finance	DECC
Support Green Deal implementation by providing access to EPC data	DCLG / DECC
Drive Green Deal demand by introducing energy efficiency regulations for private rented sector housing and commercial rented property from 2018 (conditional on there being no net or upfront costs to landlords) and consider as part of the Part L 2013 Building Regulations review ways of generating take-up of greater levels of energy efficiency measures in existing buildings in order to help support demand for the Green Deal.	DCLG / DECC
Encourage local authorities to become involved in delivering energy efficiency in their areas and social landlords to take action to improve the energy performance of their social housing stock, which will also stimulate the Green Deal and provide greater certainty to suppliers, e.g. through Permissive Guidance to be published by April 2012	DCLG / DECC
Encourage voluntary take-up of Display Energy Certificates to the commercial sector	DCLG / DECC
Develop policies to enable application of the Green Deal to the commercial sector, alongside household offer	DECC
Decide whether or not to include international aviation and shipping in UK carbon budgets and 2050 target	DfT / DECC

Provide input into the European Commission's ongoing review of the EU's new car and van CO2 targets for 2020	DfT
Release second round funding to successful bidders for Plugged-in Places pilots programme to encourage the establishment of electric vehicle recharging infrastructure	DfT
Adopt sustainable aviation framework	DfT
Provide an update to the Plug-in Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy	DfT
Support the European Commission in implementing the low carbon roadmap	DECC
Complete review of EU regulation on fluorinated greenhouse gases and conclude possible negotiations on any proposals	Defra
Work with the EU to agree energy efficiency and labelling standards for remaining energy using products in residential and tertiary sectors, and some industrial products	Defra
Work with international partners to increase take-up of effective product policies and to move towards harmonised global product standards	Defra
Work with partners in Europe to establish standards for smart grids and Smart Meters by the end of 2012	DECC
Complete negotiations on next EU budget spending period (Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)) – including agreeing an increase in the share of low carbon spending within an MFF settlement that increases by no more than inflation overall	HMT
Publish proposals for tackling the regulatory, legal, planning and technical barriers to co-ordinated offshore grid development in the North and Irish Seas	DECC
Continued in principle support for phase-down of hydrofluorocarbon production and use, using the Montreal Protocol	Defra

Work with the Convention on Biological Diversity to improve synergies between climate change and biodiversity policy, including on biodiversity safeguards in REDD+ strategies to reduce emissions from deforestation	Defra
Continuing to engage bilaterally with key countries and international fora involved in CCS such as the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum, the International Energy Agency, the Global CCS Institute and European CCS bodies	DECC
Publish final EU report on fast-start funding	DECC / DFID / HMT
Encourage governments, through a range of initiatives, to design and deliver low carbon development	DECC
Establish the Capital Markets Climate Initiative to use private sector expertise to test new and innovative instruments for leveraging private finance to tackle climate change in developing countries	DECC / DFID
Deliver £300 million of UK fast start finance to reduce emissions from deforestation	DECC / DFID / Defra
Work through the UNFCCC negotiations to make progress towards a global deal on reducing emissions and the provision of climate finance	DECC
Monitor and evaluate the impact and value for money of the Advocacy Fund to help the poorest countries take part in international negotiations	DFID
Support work through the UNFCCC to review progress towards the 2 degree target and its adequacy in the light of the latest science	DECC
Achieve renewable electricity target of 12% as part of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) strategic Energy Framework (SEF)	DETI

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Scottish Government report on whether annual target met (and annually thereafter)	Scottish Government
Implementation of outcomes of review of new-build domestic energy standards for 2013 – intention of further improvement to achieve a 60% reduction in emissions compared with 2007	Scottish Government



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