

Freedom of Information (FOI) Request

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Climate Change Committee

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Your request:

Please can you provide:

1. details of any requests from the Committee's sponsor departments and administrations for detailed recommendations or proposals on specific policies, as referred to in section 14.3 of the Committee on Climate change Framework Document.
2. details of the legal basis for the change of the name of the Committee from the Committee on Climate Change to the Climate Change Committee.
3. a breakdown of the costs incurred in the name change and associated re-branding.
4. any information held on the status of the updating of the Framework Document.

CCC response:

1. Specific requests for policy advice from the UK and devolved governments in the past three years include:

- A request from the UK, Scottish and Welsh Governments in 2019 for advice on various aspects of the design and operation of a UK emissions trading scheme (UK ETS).
- A request from the Scottish Government in 2020 on how to deliver a green recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.
- Two requests from the Northern Ireland Executive (in 2018 and 2021) on policies that could help to deliver to the necessary emissions reductions in Northern Ireland.

Even where it has not been specifically requested by the UK or devolved governments, the Committee often considers issues related to policy delivery. This is essential to the Committee's monitoring of progress towards meeting current and future carbon budgets and the Net Zero target in its progress reports annually to the UK and Scottish Parliaments, and every five years to the Welsh Parliament.

For the December 2020 advice on the Sixth Carbon Budget and associated targets at devolved administration level, consideration of policy options and delivery timescales helped to inform the feasible timings of emissions reductions, and helped the Committee to make its statutory considerations required under the Climate Change Act when recommending carbon budgets in the following aspects (which cannot be properly considered without considering which policies may be used to deliver them):

- economic circumstances, and in particular the likely impact of the decision on the economy and the competitiveness of particular sectors of the economy;
- fiscal circumstances, and in particular the likely impact of the decision on taxation, public spending and public borrowing;
- social circumstances, and in particular the likely impact of the decision on fuel poverty;

In providing its advice on the Sixth Carbon Budget, alongside its statutory advice on the level of the budget and the various considerations set out by the Climate Change Act, the Committee provided in a separate report a range of policy advice on how the budget could be delivered. This supports the statutory advice set out above, and is in line with the provisions of the Climate Change Act section 39 (1).

2. Our legal title has not changed, it remains "The Committee on Climate Change" as set out in section 32 of the Climate Change Act 2008. The name 'Climate Change Committee' was adopted in published materials to mirror the naming convention that is in common usage in reference to the organisation.

3. The costs incurred in the design work relating to the Climate Change Committee are £20,100.

4. The framework document is drawn up by our Sponsor Organisations and is in the process of being updated. The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) are co-ordinating this process. We recommend contacting BEIS for further information on the status.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. In keeping with our transparency policy, the information released to you will be published on www.theccc.org.uk. Please note that this publication will not include your personal data.

Kind regards,
Climate Change Committee