



# Reaching net zero

## Ideas and advice to help us talk about our next steps

Net zero means the amount of harmful gas we put into the air, is no more than the amount we can take out of it



# How to use this document



This is an Easy Read version of: **Enabling the People of Wales to Deliver and Benefit from the Net Zero Transition in 2026-2030 and beyond.**



You might need help to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.



Words in **bold blue** may be hard to understand. You can check what they mean on **page 44**.



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Where the document says **we**, this means **Welsh Government**. For more information contact:

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# Contents

<b>About this booklet.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>How you can be involved.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>How climate change affects Wales .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>What we need to do.....</b>	<b>12</b>
1.Sharing the same goals .....	16
2.People take part .....	17
3.New ideas and skills .....	19
<b>How areas link together .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Advice from research .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Next steps .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Hard words .....</b>	<b>45</b>

# About this booklet



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

We are the Welsh Government.



We are writing our next 5 year plan to help us get to **net zero**. The plan will come out in late **2026**.



**Net zero** means the amount of harmful gas we put into the air, is no more than the amount we can take out of it.

We do this by:

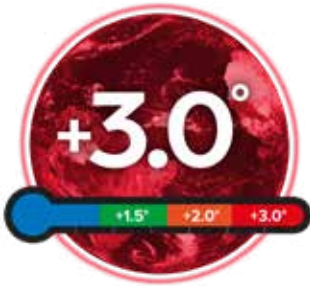
- Lowering the amount of harmful gases we put into the air.
- Finding ways to clean harmful gas from the air.



We want your views to help us make this plan. We want to make sure it is fair and good for everyone.



Harmful gases are put into the air when we burn fuel. Like oil and gas to heat our homes, and drive cars.



The gases in the air act like a blanket. Trapping heat in and warming the planet. This leads to **climate change**.



**Climate change** is big changes in the weather. For example, places getting warmer, wetter, or drier. These changes cause things like storms to get worse, flooding and wildfires.



This booklet tells you about ideas, research, and advice for how we can get to **net zero**.



The ideas in this booklet will help you take part in talks about what we should do.

# How you can be involved

**You can take part in Wales Climate Week.**



At Wales Climate Week, we will be talking about the ideas in this booklet.



Wales Climate Week is in November.



There will be an online conference from Monday 3 to Wednesday 5 November.



There will be 3 workshops in South Wales, Mid Wales and North Wales.



## You can join a Climate Conversations event.



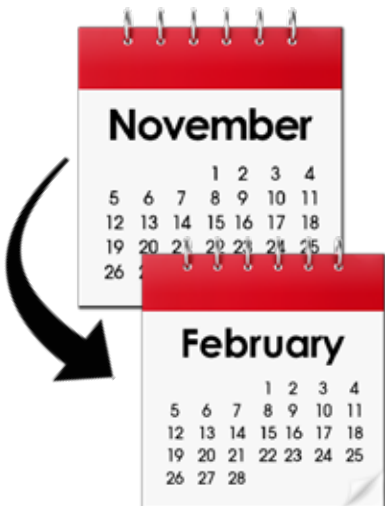
We will support organisations to hold their own community talks.



At the talks you will talk about the ideas in this booklet.



Organisations can get money to support this.



The community events will happen between November 2025 and February 2026.



We have supported over 100 of these events since 2022. Over 6 thousand people have taken part.

### **Your feedback will help us:**



- Include different views in our next plan.



- Find ways to get more people involved in work that looks after our planet.



Find out more about these events here:  
[www.climateaction.gov.wales/wales-climate-week](http://www.climateaction.gov.wales/wales-climate-week)



# Things to think about



**As you read this booklet, please think about:**

- **How can we make changes quickly?**
- **How can people in Wales save energy, and travel in greener ways? Greener means better for the planet.**
- **How can we cut harmful gases while staying safe from risks, like storms and floods?**
- **What things stop progress, and how can we remove them?**
- **How can we make changes that are fair for everyone?**

# How climate change affects Wales



Wales is getting warmer. This causes many problems, like flooding and wildfires.

**Climate change** can affect:



- People's health.



- Jobs and money.



- Homes and communities.

Doing something about this can make life better.  
It can help:



- Keep people healthy.



- Save money for people and businesses.



- Make energy safer and easier to rely on.



- Create more jobs.



If we wait too long to do anything, things will get worse.

# What we need to do



In Wales, we have targets to help tackle **climate change**. We must reach **net zero** by 2050.



Our first **net zero** plan came out in 2016.



We have done good work so far – we are on track to hit our targets.



Our 2026 plan will be our third plan.

Most cuts in harmful gases so far have come from changes in:



- The way we use and provide power, like electricity.



- Industry, like factories.

Our plan for the next 5 years needs to focus on lowering harmful gases in:



- **Transport** – by using more electric cars, buses and trains.



- **Homes and buildings** – by using electric heating and cutting down the use of energy. Making sure houses are built to keep heat inside and save energy. Also making old houses better insulated.



- **Farming and land use** – farmers can use different ways to cut harmful gases. They can plant more trees. Use fewer harmful fertilisers, keep sheep healthier. Use farm machines that produce little or no carbon.



We can use land better for food, trees, houses, and creating energy.

We need to make sure:



1. All our work shares the same goals.



2. People take part.



3. We use new ideas and skills.



# 1. Sharing the same goals

Our goals for transport, homes and buildings, and farming and land use, should:



- Reduce harmful gases quickly.



- Use greener energy.



- Be fair and help people who need extra support.



- Make life better for people.

## 2. People take part



Everyone can help by making good choices, like:



- Eating healthy food that is good for the planet.



- Saving energy at home.



- Using electric cars and walking, wheeling, or cycling more.



We want people to have a say on things like:



- The way farmers and land owners use their land and run their farms.



- Improving homes and building houses that use less energy.



- Helping plan transport so it meets your needs and is better for the planet.

### 3. New ideas and skills



All businesses can reduce harmful gases, look after nature and still do well.

We need:



- New tools and business ideas, like electric cars and heat pumps.



- New skills, like training for workers to make homes better.



- Ways to track progress and help decisions.



To get all this we need businesses and government to put more time and money into:

- Communities.
- Education and training.
- Digital tools – like apps and the internet.

**At Wales Climate Week we will look at:**



- **What makes it hard to try new ideas and learn new skills.**



- **If there is enough support for technology, skills, and data.**

# How areas link together

We need to:



- Understand how different areas affect each other.



- Think about problems and how to fix them.



- Lower extra costs and get the most benefits.



We will talk about some examples of how areas connect.

# Land use and housing



Building homes can take land needed for farming, nature, and forests.



There is not much land. We must use land in way that lets us have homes, food, energy, **and** protect nature.



Having green spaces in new housing sites can help people, nature, and **climate change**.



We need to plan housing sites in ways that are good for nature and the planet.



# Housing and transport



- Some housing is built in places where people need to use cars to get around. Using petrol and diesel cars more increases harmful gases.



- Smaller communities with good walking, cycling, and wheeling routes reduce car use.

# Transport and land use



- Transport projects can affect wildlife and how land is used.



- We need to protect nature while cutting harmful gases.



- Good transport in the countryside supports people and businesses.

# How things are located



This means planning about how land, buildings, roads are made. And how people use those spaces.



[Future Wales – the National Plan 2040](#) is the plan for how Wales will grow until 2040.



It focuses on:

- A strong economy.
- Cutting carbon.
- Protecting nature.
- Better health and wellbeing.



Future Wales shows where new homes, transport, and energy projects should go. It helps make sure all new developments work well together.



The plan asks government, businesses, and communities to work together for a better Wales.



It is the top plan for Wales. Local and regional plans must follow it.



All planning decisions in Wales must fit with Future Wales. This will help to build a greener, healthier, and fairer future.

# Why this matters



These links show we need planning across areas.



People and communities should be involved in decisions.

**At Wales Climate Week we will look at:**



**What links, problems, and benefits are shared across areas?**

# Advice from research



Research gives us information to help us make good decisions. Research also shows:

- Things we do not know yet.
- New problems that may appear.
- Advice to help make better choices.



This booklet shows expert advice from:

- The **Climate Change Committee** about reaching our targets.
- UK and Welsh Government policies.
- Other research and reports about reaching **net zero**.

# Farming and land

We have many policies and plans for farming and land use. They aim to:



- Make sure Wales makes enough food for the future.



- Make sure, we help farmers and their businesses. While also helping cut harmful gases.



- Cut harmful gases from farming and farm animals.



- Help farmers plant more trees. Trees help clean the air and stop flooding.





- Encourage farms to work in ways that are better for the planet.



- Give farmers guidance to support them when things change.



- Manage our land in way that is good for nature, like including hedges and grasslands.



- Protect wildlife while farming.

## Expert advice and ideas for action:



- Have more woodland.



- Restore peatlands to help clean the air and protect nature. Peatlands are a special type of wetland – land soaked in water. They are important for nature and wildlife. And they capture and store harmful gases.



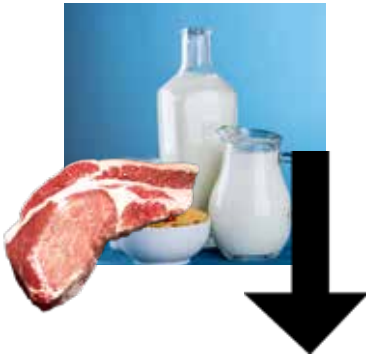
- Use more trees and hedges on farms.



- Farming should deliver food, help clean the air, help nature and water.



- Keep fewer farm animals to make less harmful gases and farm in a better way.



- Reducing how much meat and dairy we make and eat, helps the land and lowers harmful gases.



- Farmers need advice and support for changes.



- Farmers should be rewarded for protecting nature.



- We need good ways to measure results.

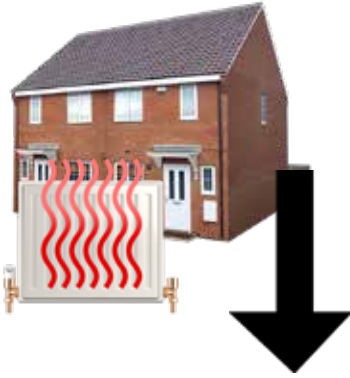
## Questions to discuss at Wales Climate Week:



- What helps or makes it hard for farms to reduce harmful gases?
- How can we use land for food, housing, work, nature, and living in a fair way?
- How can technology help?
- How can selling nature-friendly products support all farmers, including smaller farms?

# Housing and heat

We have many policies and plans for housing and heat. These aim to:



- Make homes warmer and use less energy.



- Help people struggling with heating costs.



- Support people who own their homes with advice, grants, and heating options.



- Train workers to deliver home upgrades and fill green jobs. Green jobs are jobs that help protect the planet.



- Make sure new homes use less energy.



- Support new ways of building, including using local wood and materials that last.

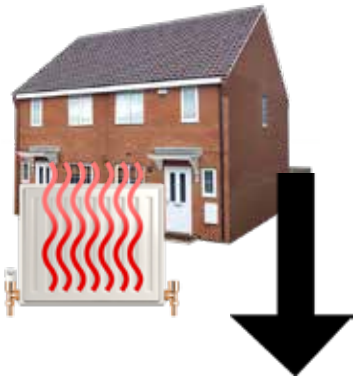


- Give free advice and training to help people save energy and improve their homes.

### Expert advice and ideas for action:



- Stop gas and oil heating. By 2033, almost 1 in 4 homes should use heating with less harmful gases. This will cut bills and improve the air.



- Make homes use less energy. Big upgrades for some homes and small fixes for over 1 million homes.



- All new homes 2026 will be **net zero** ready. Replace old items like fridges and cookers and keep good energy habits.



- Train a skilled workforce for green jobs. Support young people and workers to change jobs.



- Give clear information to help people make choices better for the planet.



- Focus on social housing and low-income households.





- Let local areas choose the best solutions for them.



- Encourage people who rent to share advice with each other.



- Most people want us to set strong energy targets that can be reached.



- Social housing providers want long-term funding so they can plan better.

## Questions to discuss at Wales Climate Week:



- **How can we cut harmful gases from homes faster?**
- **What stops people from getting heating with less harmful gases?**
- **How can we support owners and landlords to spend money?**
- **How can we give clear advice?**
- **How can young people start careers in green housing?**
- **How can workers learn new skills for this work?**
- **How can we support Welsh businesses to supply better products for housing?**
- **How should government and businesses share the costs?**

# Transport

We have many policies and plans for transport in Wales. These aim to:



- Get people to travel by buses, trains, walking, or cycling more by 2040.



- Build walking and cycling paths to make travel healthier and reduce car use.



- Stop or pause major road projects that increase harmful gases.



- Have more charging points for electric cars and vans.



- Create a joined-up bus system with better times and tickets.



- Make public transport fairer and easier for everyone, including communities in the countryside.



- Reduce harmful gases from cars, vans, and trucks through technology.



- Plan transport to benefit people's health, communities, and the planet.

## Expert advice and ideas for action:



- Switch to electric cars and vans. By 2033, around 4 in 10 cars and vans will be electric. By 2030 almost all new vehicles sold will be electric.



- Replace diesel trucks with battery-electric trucks.



- Encourage more walking, cycling, and bus use, to cut car travel and pollution.



- Build more bus lanes, cycle paths, and safe walking areas.



- Make petrol and diesel cars use less fuel.



- Speed limits, and better shipping save fuel, cut harmful gases, and reduce costs.



- Support countryside areas and low-income people.



- Plan towns, so people live near shops, services, and jobs.

## Questions to discuss at Wales Climate Week:



- How can we cut harmful gases in transport faster?
- How can everyone in Wales make the most of walking, cycling, and public transport?
- What stops people from using buses, cycling or walking?
- How can we help people and businesses switch to electric cars and vans?
- Should people pay to use roads to help cut harmful gases?
- Can we give rewards or fines to cut harmful gases? Do we know enough about their effects and what would happen?
- Where should we focus most: Public transport? Walking and cycling? Electric vehicles?

## Next steps



We need to take the advice in this booklet and write our next plan.



We want to include your views.



Join us at Wales Climate Week in November 2025.



Take part in Climate Conversations.



Find out more here:

[www.climateaction.gov.wales/wales-climate-week](http://www.climateaction.gov.wales/wales-climate-week)



# Hard words

## Climate change

Climate change is big changes in the weather. For example, places getting warmer, wetter, or drier. These changes cause things like storms to get worse, flooding and wildfires.

## Net zero

Net zero means the amount of harmful gas we put into the air, is no more than the amount we can take out of it . We do this by:

- Lowering the amount of harmful gases we put into the air.
- Finding ways to clean harmful gas from the air.