Our Approach to the Climate Change Plan

The production of a report on policies and proposals is a statutory duty under the Climate Change Act (Scotland) 2009, and the draft Climate Change Plan, the third report on policies and proposals 2017-2032, will contain all the information required to meet the requirements set out in the Act. Further to this, the development of the Plan is being guided by the advice provided by the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) in its 2016 Scottish progress report; experience and lessons learned from the first and second reports on policies and proposals; and the Scottish TIMES energy model. A separate briefing has been provided to the Committee on the TIMES model.

Sectors in the Climate Change Plan
The TIMES model forms the analytical basis for the report. The model helps us to develop an optimal pathway for meeting Scotland’s statutory climate change targets by assessing how effort is best shared across the economy. The pathway contains a carbon envelope for each sector within the Climate Change Plan, along with suggested measures needed to remain within the envelopes. Policies and proposals are then developed to realise these measures.

The draft Climate Change Plan will include chapters detailing policies and proposals for the following sectors:
- Electricity Generation
- Residential
- Transport
- Services
- Industry
- Land Use (including forestry and peatland)
- Agriculture
- Waste

In addition, we will publish within or alongside the draft Plan:
- An explanation of the different approach between RPP2 (the previous plan) and the draft Climate Change Plan to assist the scrutiny process
- Technical detail on how TIMES and other sector models have informed the analysis behind the development of measures, policies and proposals
- A report on the outcomes of the Climate Conversations held across Scotland in 2016
- A report from the stakeholder event, scheduled for late November 2016
- A report on behaviours and the ISM tool, and how behaviours are being addressed in the draft Plan
- A report on co-benefits of climate change mitigation action.

Monitoring and evaluation
Ensuring the Climate Change Plan allows Scottish Ministers, Parliament, and stakeholders to assess progress is a key part of our approach. The draft Plan will be clear, concise and accessible to allow easy scrutiny, and will include the integration of a monitoring and reporting framework. This framework will make it possible to track whether policies are having the desired effect, and will ensure there are mechanisms to adjust our approach as circumstances inevitably change over time.