



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

Committee Conveners
Scottish Parliament

20 November 2025

Dear Conveners

Joint scrutiny of the draft Climate Change Plan

The Scottish Government laid the [draft Climate Change Plan \(CCP\)](#) on 6 November. The draft is laid for 120 days, therefore ending on 5 March next year.

I last wrote to you on [9 October 2025](#) outlining committee remits and how they may relate to scrutiny of the draft CCP. I said the NZET Committee could not practically scrutinise every major aspect of the draft in this period. Just as importantly, in many areas, the real in-depth knowledge and expertise has been built up in your committee in this session, so the NZET Committee would really welcome your engagement.

Now that we have the draft and that the clock is ticking down, I would be very grateful if Conveners could reply as soon as conveniently possible, outlining any scrutiny their committees intend to undertake.

I am especially grateful to committees who have already undertaken or committed to undertaking some work on the draft CCP. I do appreciate that for all of us this is a busy time, but I would very much welcome any support other committees can offer.

Timelines for committee scrutiny

It may be helpful to outline the NZET Committee's own agreed CCP scrutiny "backstops" now that these have been agreed: Committees are of course entitled to undertake scrutiny in the timescales that best suit them (within the 120 days) and that is a decision for them. However, the NZET Committee's role is to try to draw together the main threads of scrutiny, and consider whether the Plan as a whole "adds up" to meeting the recently set Carbon Budgets.

It would therefore be helpful to have all your main points in time for our final roundup evidence session with the Cabinet Secretary, or if that is not possible, in time for when we consider our draft report.

Contact: Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.

Email netzerocommittee@parliament.scot

We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

Indicative deadlines, would therefore be:

- If Committees intend to share findings to support NZET in questions we put to the Scottish Government, we would be grateful for reports / letters by **Monday 2 February**;
- If Committees intend to share findings to support NZET in developing our report, we would be grateful for reports / letters by **Tuesday 10 February**.

Support for committees undertaking scrutiny

Thanks to the Conveners Group agreeing at the start of this session that this matter is a priority, there is enhanced support available to *all* committees undertaking scrutiny of the draft CCP, which I do hope you are able to take advantage of in the coming weeks. (I know that many of you have accessed some of these resources already in this session.) A summary of this support is provided in the annexe.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Mountain MSP
Convener

Annexe: summary of support available to committees on CCP scrutiny

Type of support	Purpose
SPICe subject specialists	Support and advice, including briefings, lines of questioning and identifying witnesses in relation to the CCP
Shared Adviser on net zero (Dr Kirsten Jenkins)	Additional specialist support to all committees in relation to CCP scrutiny (and other areas related to net zero)
SPICe Knowledge Exchange Manager	To provide access to diverse academic expertise to support with evidence / briefings / witnesses etc and support academic engagement
SPICe background briefing on CCP for Committees	To provide an overview of the CCP, available now upon request from SPICe
Responses to NZET Call for Views on the draft CCP 2025	Full published responses to the NZET Call for Views
SPICe analysis of Call for Views	The NZET Call for Views received 101 responses and SPICe have prepared summaries, broken down by sector, to inform scrutiny across committees
SPICe breakfast seminar series on CCP	To highlight key issues in the CCP; facilitate access to internal and external expertise; and provide a forum for discussion. Currently scheduled are heat networks in Scotland and agriculture and land use, with further seminars to be scheduled shortly
SPICe Snippet on the CCP	To provide an overview of the CCP, statutory requirements, headline issues in each sector and key non-sector specific issues - Wednesday 26 November, 3:30-4:30pm (hybrid)
Areas of Research Interest (ARIs)	Three ARIs have been undertaken to identify research expertise and insights in three particular areas relevant to the CCP: 1) Industrial decarbonisation, 2) Just Transition and 3) waste/circular economy. Available now upon request from SPICe
Public SPICe briefings/blogs on key areas of CCP	To provide an in-depth analysis of the key issues for scrutiny, to be published from November 2025 onwards