

Consultation QuestionsTargets

<p>1. Should a Scottish target be based on carbon dioxide only or the basket of six greenhouse gases?</p>	<p>All six.</p>
<p><i>2. Should the Bill contain provisions to alter which gases are included, for example if the reliability of data for a particular gas improves or if science changes in the future about which gases cause climate change?</i></p>	<p>Yes, absolutely.</p>
<p>3. The Scottish Government wishes to ensure that the Bill gives sufficient incentives to invest in energy efficiency and renewable electricity. Should the targets be based on source emissions; an end-user inventory, or on individual targets for energy efficiency and renewable electricity? Do you have any other suggestions?</p>	<p>Targets (and incentives) need to apply to all, whether they are generators or users. Part of changing the way in which we all use (and waste energy), requires "culture" changes in our thinking as well as changes in our activities. In the context of climate change, I have heard people say "I can afford energy at its present cost" - the real issue is that the</p>

	planet (and therefore the rest of us) cannot afford the profligacy of other.
4. Do you agree that the Bill should allow the means of measuring the target to be changed through secondary legislation to reflect international developments or unforeseen consequences of the Bill?	Yes, as long as its not used as a means of fudging the issue if the targets get difficult to reach.
5. Should the emissions reduction target take account of the abatement effort made by companies under emissions trading schemes? If so, how?	Not sure what this means. Trading schemes are open to abuse and the main aim should be an overall reduction of the emissions we all make (production or consumption) in Scotland. If trading really can do that HONESTLY, then OK.
6. Do you agree that international credits should be counted towards Scottish targets? Should there be limits on credits counted towards Scottish targets?	Probably yes and as long as the credits are fair and honest, I don't see why they need to be limited.
7. Should the Bill allow the level of the 2050 target to be changed through secondary legislation? If so, should this only be allowed on the basis of independent, expert advice, to reflect international developments or unforeseen consequences of the Bill? Should any changes to the target be limited to an increase in the target?	Yes and it should be based on independent advice. I see no reason why changes should be limited to increases - new legislation can always be introduced, so such a limit is of limited real value.

Supporting Framework

8. What factors should be taken into account when setting the level of budgets?	Those listed seem reasonable, but immediacy of impact is also a legitimate factor. The very high price we are all paying now (through Council Tax, insurance premiums etc) as a consequence of increased flood risk, is largely due to the fact that the true environmental cost was not paid in the past by developers etc on the grounds of their being a competitiveness disincentive, but we are all having to pay now. By all means consider competitiveness, but include the true costs we will have to pay in the future, if the real cost is not paid today.
9. How long should interim budget periods be?	2 years - we need to get a move on.

10. How many years in advance should emissions budget periods be set in order to provide sufficient time to develop infrastructure?	4 years is surely enough.
11. What should be the limit (in terms of absolute quantity or as a percentage of the budget period) on the amount of emissions which the Government can borrow from a following budget period?	50%
12. Should the Bill include an interim point target? If so, what year (or years) should it be for (2020, 2025, 2030 etc)? How should the level be chosen?	Half way point.

Reporting Scrutiny and Framework

13. Should the Scottish Ministers be required to report on any other issues related to climate change in addition to the requirements already set out. If so, what and how often?	The suggestions made seem reasonable and reporting should be in line with the interim budget period.
14. Is a process of Parliamentary scrutiny the appropriate way of holding the Scottish Government to account if targets or budgets are not met?	I would prefer an independent form of scrutiny. Sadly, parliamentary scrutiny finds it difficult to set party politics to one side for the sake of the common good.
15. What should be the primary source of advice to the Scottish Government for setting emissions targets or budgets and why? Options include: the proposed UK Committee on Climate Change, a new Scottish Committee on Climate Change, an existing public body in Scotland, or the Scottish Government itself.	Scottish Committee on Climate Change.
16. If it were to be an existing Scottish public body, which public body is most suited to carrying out this task and why?	None.
17. Which organisation should be tasked with monitoring the progress of the Scottish Government on reducing emissions and why? Options include: the proposed UK Committee on Climate Change, a new Scottish Committee on Climate Change, an existing public body in Scotland, or the	A new Scottish Committee.

Scottish Government itself.	
18. If it were to be an existing Scottish public body, which public body is most suited to carrying out this task and why?	None.
19. Should additional independent mechanisms for scrutinising the effectiveness of the Scottish Government's policies in reducing emissions be created by the Bill (in addition to any scrutiny already provided by the Scottish Parliament)?	Yes - see answer at Q 14.
20. If so, which organisation is best placed to carry out this function and why? Options include a new Scottish Committee on Climate Change or an existing public body in Scotland.	A new Scottish Committee.
21. If it were to be an existing Scottish public body, which public body is most suited to carrying out this task and why?	None.
22. Are there any other functions related to climate change, existing or new, which should be carried out at arms length from the Scottish Government and why?	Don't know.

Supporting Measures

23. Should the Bill contain enabling powers to introduce a duty on certain parts of the public sector (i.e. local authorities and large public bodies) to take specified actions on climate change or other specified environmental issues? Why?	Yes - and it should include the Scottish Government and the Scottish Parliament. There needs to be more leadership by example. Why do offices have their lights on all night ? Why do public bodies still pay their staff car users allowances ? How much video-conferencing is used ? But why stop at public bodies ?
24. What should such a duty (or duties) include?	Reduce gas/electricity use in offices by all their employees. Reduce car use for work by all their employees. Increase use of public transport by all their employees. Increase use of video-conferencing by all their employees. These to be done by ALL GRADES, not just the lowly ones. Reward achievement over the last 5 to 10 years. Those who made an effort in the past should have that acknowledged, especially when so many others couldn't be

	bothered. Allow those who made and continue to make savings, keep the money saved for their present or future, front line services.
25. Should the Bill contain enabling powers to introduce statutory guidance for certain public sector bodies (i.e. local authorities and large public bodies) on specified climate change or other environmental measures? Why? Are there gaps in any existing guidance?	Yes.
26. What should this guidance include?	If they don't do this, their administrative budgets would be cut, not their operational or delivery ones.
27. Should the Bill contain enabling powers to create a requirement for certain public sector bodies (i.e. local authorities and large public bodies) to make regular reports on specific measures they are taking to tackle climate change (whether mitigation or adaptation) or other environmental issues? Why? What should be included in such reports?	See answer to Q24.
28. As a potential non-legislative measure, should current Best Value guidance be amended to take specific account of climate change mitigation and adaptation? If so, how should Best Value guidance be amended?	Best value is too focussed on cost today and does not consider cost tomorrow - which is partly why we face the problems we do. Building Regulations specified a very low level of insulation because more was too expensive. If a bit more had been paid in the past, things would be much better now.
29. Are there any amendments to existing legislation or any enabling powers needed to allow for variable charging (for example by local authorities) to incentivise action or eliminate perverse incentives?	Yes - but it has to apply to Local Authorities too (perhaps first of all).
30. Are there any provisions to help Scotland adapt to the impacts of climate change which should be included in the Scottish Climate Change Bill?	LAs are doing a lot now in recycling, but REDUCE and REUSE still seem to be getting scant attention. Central and local government must set a better example - AT ALL LEVELS. Needs to tie in with more realistic thinking on flood prevention and coastal protection and the impacts land use and development have on these. It's no use getting people to use less energy, if we still allow inappropriate development and land

	use along the coasts, in river floodplains etc.
31. Should provisions within the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, be amended in order to provide clearer links with emissions reduction? If so, how should this be done?	Yes it should, but it needs greater expertise that I have to say how. However it is done, it has to be honest and not cosmetic.
<i>32. What are the equalities implications of the measures in the proposals for the Scottish Climate Change Bill?</i>	That those who have already made the effort to reduce their contribution to climate change will have to bear the same restorative "costs" as those who have done little or nothing so far to reduce their contribution, indeed may well have made a lot of money from avoiding or evading our shared responsibility - the polluters who didn't pay.
33. Is there any existing legislation within the competence of the Scottish Parliament (devolved) which needs to be amended so that appropriate action can be taken on climate change by sectors in society?	I don't know. Perhaps the answer lies in whether there is anything given in my answers that would require amendments elsewhere.