



National Assembly for **Wales**
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol **Cymru**

Climate Change and Sustainability Current Awareness

This paper provides information on recent events, publications and legislative developments concerning climate change, sustainability and other environmental issues which may be of interest to Assembly Members.

January 2009

Climate Change and Sustainability Current Awareness

Alison Castree

January 2009

Paper number: 09/006

© National Assembly for Wales Commission 2009

© Comisiwn Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru 2009

Climate Change and Sustainability Current Awareness

Coverage

This paper provides information on recent events, publications and legislative developments concerning climate change, sustainability and other environmental issues which may be of interest to Assembly Members. The electronic version of this paper contains hyperlinks to relevant websites.

Consultations, Press Releases, Laid Documents, Cabinet Statements and news items are listed by date.

1.	Consultations	1
1.1	Welsh Assembly Government	1
1.2	The Department for Communities and Local Government.....	2
1.3	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)	3
1.4	The Scottish Government.....	4
1.5	Northern Ireland Government.....	5
1.6	The Department for Transport.....	5
1.7	The Food Standards Agency	5
2.	Press Releases, initiatives and announcements	5
2.1	Welsh Assembly Government	5
2.2	The Scottish Government.....	7
2.3	Northern Ireland Executive.....	8
2.4	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)	8
2.5	Department of Energy and Climate Change	8
2.6	Further Press Releases	9
3.	Laid documents.....	10
4.	Cabinet Statements.....	11
5.	Legislation	12
5.1	Proposed Shipment of Waste for Recovery (Community Involvement Arrangements) (Wales) Measure.....	12
5.2	The Climate Change Act 2008	12
5.3	The Energy Act 2008	13
5.4	The Planning Act 2008.....	13
5.5	Progress of the Marine and Coastal Access Bill [HL]	14
6.	Reports, research and statistics.....	14
6.1	Publications	14
6.2	Statistics	14
6.3	Briefings by the four nations' research services.....	15
7.	Official Publications.....	15
7.1	House of Commons Papers	15
7.2	House of Lords Papers	16
7.3	Command Papers	16
7.4	Scottish Government Publications	16
8.	Journal articles and news items.....	16

Climate Change and Sustainability Current Awareness

1. Consultations

1.1 *Welsh Assembly Government*

[Severn Tidal Power Feasibility Study: Public Consultation](#)

The Government feasibility study is considering the contribution tidal power could make to combating climate change, and addressing the future energy needs of Wales. The study, which is now roughly half way through, is gathering and assessing up-to-date evidence to enable Government to decide whether or not to support tidal power development in the Severn Estuary. Ten potential development options have been considered so far (including barrages, lagoons, a tidal reef and tidal fence) and the consultation covers: a recommended shortlist of schemes for more detailed analysis this year; the scope of the Strategic Environmental Assessment that is being carried out within the feasibility study; and the issues the feasibility study is considering and how these are being approached.

[Climate change strategy consultation](#)

The Welsh Assembly Government is looking for comments on the first stage of development of their climate change strategy. The Strategy document explains the Assembly Government's policy on climate change and expands on the One Wales commitments. The consultation is open for six weeks only. This is because it is an initial consultation on the high level climate change policy framework. They will be holding a 12 week consultation on detailed proposals for action on climate change in Spring 2009. Responses are invited by 22 February 2009.

[Green jobs for Wales](#)

This consultation will deal with how the Welsh Assembly Government can support organisations and employers in Wales to best improve their own environmental performance and take advantage of the new growth market in green products and services. The development of a green jobs strategy forms a key element within the government's *One Wales* Programme. Responses are requested by 20 February 2009.

[Strategic Policy Position Statement on Water](#)

The Welsh Assembly Government provides policy direction for the water sector in Wales, within complex regulatory and operational responsibilities. Many of these responsibilities apply across the United Kingdom, but there are some areas where a different approach is more appropriate for Wales. The statement sets out aspects of water policy which have been changed to respond to the needs of Wales, and has been developed to fit within the Welsh Assembly Government's wider policies including; the *Climate Change Strategy for Wales*, the *Environment Strategy for Wales* and the consultation on a new Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales. Responses are invited by 25 February 2009.

[Sustainability Appraisal of the Non-Nuclear Industry Radioactive Waste Strategy](#)

This is a joint consultation between the UK Government, the Welsh Assembly Government and the other devolved Administrations. The UK Government has recognised that a strategy is needed to deal with solid radioactive waste created from non-nuclear industries. Work started on developing the strategy in 2007, resulting in the report *Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Non-Nuclear Industry Radioactive Waste Strategy*. This is an initial informal consultation on the Scoping Report which will be active between 09 January to 13 February 2009. A public consultation on the strategy will be held in 2009.

[Consultation on local air quality management](#)

The Welsh Assembly Government is seeking views on draft policy guidance for local authorities in Wales regarding their local air quality management duties under Part IV of the *Environment Act 1995*. The consultation includes practice guidance on; economic principles for the assessment of local measures to improve air quality; low emission zones; measures to encourage the uptake of low emission vehicles; and measures to encourage the uptake of retro-fitted abatement equipment on vehicles. The consultation closes on 02 March 2009.

[Consultation on an amendment to the Marine Works \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) Regulations 2007](#)

This is a joint UK Government and Welsh Assembly Government consultation to gain views on changing regulations about marine mineral dredging. It is intended that when changes are made to the *Marine Works Regulations*, changes will also be made to apply the *Habitats Directive* to marine minerals dredging in harbours and marine works. "Marine works" includes construction, coastal defences, dredging and the disposal of waste materials in the sea. The consultation closes on 19 February 2009.

1.2 The Department for Communities and Local Government

[Definition of zero-carbon homes and non-domestic buildings: consultation](#)

Budget 2008 announced the Government's ambition that all new non-domestic buildings should be zero carbon from 2019. This consultation proposes a definition of zero carbon homes, based on high energy efficiency, on- or near-site carbon reduction, and allowable solutions for dealing with the remaining emissions. The paper also sets out current Government thinking on zero carbon new non-domestic buildings. The consultation closes on 18 March 2009.

[Draft planning policy statement: Eco-towns](#)

The consultation seeks views on a draft planning policy statement (PPS) on eco-towns which defines what constitutes an eco-town; the environmental, social and economic standards these developments should achieve; and how eco-towns relate to the planning system. The draft eco-town PPS sets out the UK's toughest green standards for new development, including achieving zero carbon status across all the buildings within the

eco-town and allocating 40 per cent of the area within the town as green space. The consultation ends on 06 March 2009.

1.3 Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

[Paint Products Regulations 2005: Addressing monitoring and enforcement issues](#)

Defra has launched a consultation on the paints directive, which aims to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) across the UK and Europe. The consultation addresses three issues: monitoring and enforcement, and related guidance paints for vintage vehicles and historic buildings; following up the September 2007 consultation on proposals for a licensing scheme the 2007; and 2010 deadlines for further solvent reductions for decorative paints. The consultation closes on 31 March 2009.

[Modernisation of salmon and freshwater fisheries legislation](#)

Defra is seeking views on the government's proposals to introduce fish passes in obstructions and screening of water abstraction and discharge points, which will enable the free passage of migratory and freshwater fish. Obstructions, abstractions and discharges can all block or hinder the natural passage of fish, impacting on fish populations. The consultation will allow access to breeding, nursery and feeding grounds of fish in England and Wales. The consultation will close on 10 April 2009.

[Marine Works \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) Regulations 2007](#)

DEFRA has issued a consultation on a proposed amendment to the *Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007*. The consultation will address potential improvements to the management of activities in the marine area and will consult on whether the regulations should be extended so that they apply to the dredging for marine minerals in harbour areas in England and Wales. The consultation closes on 19 February 2009.

[Consultation on local authority pollution prevention and control: the scope of the proposed 6 year review of process guidance notes for Part B installations](#)

DEFRA, together with the Welsh Assembly Government and the Scottish Government, is seeking views on the next review of air pollution regulations and the scope of the proposed six-year review of process guidance notes for Part B installations.

The process guidance notes, which set out the government's view on what constitutes the best available techniques to minimise air emissions from Part B installations, are reviewed periodically to ensure that they remain relevant and up-to-date. The consultation seeks views on how the next review should be conducted and what it should cover. It is proposed to undertake the review of all 80 process guidance notes between 2009 and 2011. The consultation closes on 6 February 2009.

[Consultation on Draft Statutory Instrument to amend provisions of the Water Resources Act 1991 for Water Protection Zones, and related Draft Statutory Guidance for the Environment Agency](#)

This consultation follows on from one on diffuse water pollution from agriculture which was conducted in 2007. Following the first consultation Defra concluded that the need to provide a power to regulate where necessary to implement the *Water Framework Directive* would be best met by simply updating the existing power to designate Water Protection Zones. This power would be available for use where appropriate under the River Basin Management Plans now being developed by the Environment Agency with the aim of achieving good chemical and ecological status in inland and coastal waters by 2015. Parts of this consultation will also apply in Wales. The consultation closes on 31 March 2009.

1.4 The Scottish Government

[Implementing the *Water Environment and Water Services \(Scotland\) Act 2003*: Scotland's water: future directions](#)

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation on implementing the *Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003* and sets out proposals for action to support progress towards the successful delivery of the long-term ambitions for Scotland's water environment. The options as set out in the consultation paper aim to make a contribution to progress, but will have different relative impacts and costs. The government is seeking views in order to allow a practicable set of priorities to be established to guide the longer term approaches and future funding and implementation over the period to 2027. Views are requested by April 03 2009.

[Consultation on forestry provisions in the Scottish Climate Change Bill](#)

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation on proposed amendments to the *Scottish Climate Change Bill* in an attempt to increase the contribution of the national forest estate to climate change mitigation. Key elements include the establishment of joint ventures, to develop renewable sources of energy on the national forest estate, and the development of a new approach to cutting rights, allowing lease arrangements to release financial resources for investment in creating new woodlands. The government is also proposing that a suitably constituted not-for-profit voluntary body could help secure the public interest in forests and woodland creation. The consultation ends on 27 January 2009.

[Consenting process for thermal power stations in Scotland](#)

The consultation is on a draft of a guidance note for applications made under section 36 of the *Electricity Act 1989* to develop or extend a thermal power station. In developing expectations on clean energy they are looking for consultee comments on questions relating to Carbon Capture Readiness (CCR). Scottish Ministers would also welcome comments on whether any other approaches to reducing carbon emissions should be considered. It is intended that following the results of this consultation formal guidance will be produced. The consultation closes on 30 January 2009.

1.5 Northern Ireland Government

[Northern Ireland strategic energy framework 2009](#)

The Department of Energy, Trade and Investment in Northern Ireland has launched a scoping consultation aimed at engaging key energy stakeholders and seeking their views on Northern Ireland's future energy over the next ten years or so. The consultation ends on 8 January 2009.

1.6 The Department for Transport

[Delivering a sustainable transport system: 2014 and beyond](#)

The Department for Transport is inviting comments on the goals which form the approach for 2014-9 and beyond, which include supporting national economic competitiveness and growth through reliable and efficient transport networks, as well as reducing carbon emissions from transport. The consultation closes on 27 February 2009.

1.7 The Food Standards Agency

[Review of agency's advice on fish consumption](#)

The Food Standards Agency is reviewing its dietary advice to consumers on fish consumption to take into account nutrition, food safety and wider sustainability issues.

The consultation concludes that the evidence regarding the health benefits and safety of eating fish is established and has not been re-examined. The consultation also highlights the discussion of environmental concerns regarding the agency's dietary advice on fish consumption and the proposal that the agency should develop an 'information hub' within its dietary advice. This would offer links to other sources of information and advice to enable choices that take into account other aspects of sustainability. The emphasis would be on facilitating access to information rather than interpreting or duplicating it on the agency's website. The consultation closes on March 31 2009.

2. Press Releases, initiatives and announcements

2.1 Welsh Assembly Government

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [New funding boost for next generation energy-from-waste plant in south Wales](#), 27 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Five projects make Severn tidal power shortlist](#), 27 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Aberystwyth group shows the way for Wales' sustainable future](#), 22 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Six Welsh teens unveiled as new Climate Change Champions](#), 19 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Minister and water companies discuss future of water service](#), 16 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Welsh Minister voted top recycler in the UK](#), 12 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Welsh Assembly Government consults on targets to cut greenhouse gases](#), 09 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [From Port Talbot to Port Stanley](#), 07 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Think green after the Twelfth Night of Christmas asks Environment Minister](#), 06 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Extra £5.8 million to fight fuel poverty in Wales](#), 22 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Deal reached on fisheries](#), 19 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Minister welcomes pledge by leading supermarkets to cut carrier bag use](#), 19 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Extra £38 million for flood and coastal risk management in Wales announced](#), 17 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Llandudno group leads the way for Wales' sustainable future](#), 15 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Major UK climate change report launched in Wales](#), 12 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Wales takes to world stage for UN climate change talks](#), 08 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Welsh Environment Minister welcomes major UK climate change report](#), 01 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [New vision for sustainable Wales revealed](#), 19 November 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Bathing water standards rise in Wales in 2008](#), 13 November 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Welsh construction companies and organisations sign up to UK's first green building charter](#), 12 November 2008

Welsh Assembly Government Press Release, [Assembly Government signs international deal to help African regions to fight climate change](#), 10 November 2008

2.2 The Scottish Government

Scottish Government Press Release, [Plastics recycling key part of waste vision](#), 21 January 2009

Scottish Government Press Release, [Bugs, snails and starfish to be protected](#), 20 January 2009

Scottish Government Press Release, [Climate change fund](#), 15 January 2009

Scottish Government Press Release, [Improving water environments](#), 07 January 2009

Scottish Government Press Release, [Schools to go greener](#), 05 January 2009

Scottish Government Press Release, [2009 set to be a green year](#), 31 December 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Saltire Prize Challenge](#), 29 December 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Flooding insurance](#), 17 December 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [£5m for marine energy research](#), 17 December 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [New friend for Saltire Prize](#), 16 December 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Climate Change Bill published](#), 05 December 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Go ahead for hydro schemes](#), 04 December 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [EU support for Saltire Prize](#), 03 December 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Devolved Scotland extends out to sea](#), 27 November 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Environmental regulator to help businesses](#), 25 November 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Funding for fish farmers](#), 20 November 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Cod recovery plan](#), 19 November 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [European blueprint for offshore grid](#), 14 November 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Reports on energy and climate change](#), 14 November 2008

Scottish Government Press Release, [Perthshire town steps up climate change fight](#), 11 November 2008

2.3 Northern Ireland Executive

Northern Ireland Executive Press Release, [Minister announces another step forward for waste management](#), 31 December 2008

Northern Ireland Executive Press Release, [UK Government's Marine and Coastal Bill published](#), 05 December 2008

Northern Ireland Executive Press Release, [Minister outlines plans to speed up planning process](#), 04 December 2008

Northern Ireland Executive Press Release, [Schools fly the green flag](#), 13 November 2008

Northern Ireland Executive Press Release, [Environment agency has been breath of fresh air. Wilson tells assembly](#), 11 November 2008

2.4 Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [New Food and Environment Research Agency launched](#), 14 January 2009

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [New green farming guide launched](#), 13 January 2009

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [UK emissions of air pollutants – 2007 results](#), 08 January 2009

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [Government And Research Councils Establish Centre To Tackle Environmental Risk](#), 29 December 2008

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [UK secures balanced fisheries deal](#), 19 December 2008

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [Leading supermarkets pledge to cut carrier bags in landmark move](#), 18 December 2008

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [New alert centre to improve response to flooding](#), 17 December 2008

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [£138m to help reduce landfill waste](#), 27 November 2008

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Press release, [Minister challenges IT industry to help fight climate change](#), 19 November 2008

2.5 Department of Energy and Climate Change

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [Date for next emissions trading system auction announced](#), 09 January 2009

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [Time is running out to get green grants](#), 09 January 2009

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [Government welcomes completion of British Energy sale](#), 05 January 2009

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [Strong energy and climate progress in 2008 - but 2009 is crunch year for climate change, says Miliband](#), 27 December 2008

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [Energy Statistics](#), 23 December 2008

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [Historic EU climate deal delivers vital CCS funding](#), 12 December 2008

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [North Wales coast will be renewables powerhouse](#), 03 December 2008

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [UK law and people power join forces for a low carbon, secure energy future](#), 26 November 2008

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [Ed Milliband's speech to the Environment Agency](#), 25 November 2008

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [A fairer deal for energy customers](#), 24 November 2008

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [UK first to auction carbon](#), 19 November 2008

Department of Energy and Climate Change Press Release, [North Sea still open for business](#), 12 November 2008

2.6 Further Press Releases

European Parliament Press Release, [Energy security blueprint for the EU's future energy strategy](#), 21 January 2009

Friends of the Earth Press Release, [Conservatives launch low-carbon plan](#), 16 January 2009

Department for Transport Press Release, [Hoon outlines air, road and rail improvements to boost economy and jobs](#), 15 January 2009

Friends of the Earth Press Release, [Heathrow expansion will undermine climate targets](#), 09 January 2009

European Commission Press Release, [European demand for oil must be cut by 50% by 2050!](#), 09 January 2009

Friends of the Earth Press Release, [Councillors urged not to challenge wind farm decision](#), 05 January 2009

Countryside Council for Wales Press Release, [Welsh and Manx co-operate on horse mussel reefs](#), January 2009

Environment Agency Press Release, [Living waters for Wales](#), January 2009

Environment Agency Press Release, [Economic climate affects business investment in energy and water efficiency](#), January 2009

Department for Transport Press Release, [Invitation to tender issued for 200 new diesel train carriages](#), 22 December 2008

Town and Country Planning Association (TPCA) Press Release, [TPCA welcomes 2016 zero carbon homes consultation](#), 17 December 2008

European Parliament Press Release, [European Parliament seals climate change package](#), 17 December 2008

Welsh European Funding Office Press Release, [£30m EU Funds to Tackle Flood Risk in Wales](#), 17 December 2008

Friends of the Earth Press Release, [Pre-budget report - Brown must show bold new approach to economy and environment](#), 21 November 2008

3. Laid documents

[Sustainable Development Annual Report 2007-2008](#), GEN-LD735, 14 January 2009

[The Shrimp Fishing Nets \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Order 2008 – Explanatory Memorandum](#) (replaces SUB-LD7323-EM laid on 9th December), SUB-LD7344-EM, 06 January 2009

[Marine and Coastal Access Bill; Welsh Assembly Government Memorandum on framework provisions for the National Assembly for Wales](#), GEN-LD7334, 11 December 2008

[The Shrimp Fishing Nets \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Order 2008](#), SUB-LD7323, 09 December 2008

[The Shrimp Fishing Nets \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Order 2008 - Explanatory Memorandum](#) (replaced by SUB-LD7344 laid on 6th January 2009), SUB-LD7323-EM, 09 December 2008

[The Nitrate Pollution Prevention \(Wales\) Regulations 2008](#), SUB-LD7324, 09 December 2008

[The Nitrate Pollution Prevention \(Wales\) Regulations 2008 - Explanatory Memorandum](#), SUB-LD7324-EM, 09 December 2008

[Report of the Enterprise and Learning Committee - Report of the Committee's Consideration of the Fuel and Road Haulage Petition](#), CR-LD7298, 19 November 2008

[Report of the Enterprise and Learning Committee - Report of the Committee's Consideration of the Fuel and Road Haulage Petition](#), CR-LD7298, 13 November 2008

[Operations of the Forestry Commission in Wales](#), AGR-LD7293, 13 November 2008

[Report on the Sustainability Committee's Inquiry into Petition P-03-63 : Banning Plastic Bags](#), CR-LD7292, 12 November 2008

4. Cabinet Statements

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), *Fifth meeting of the Climate Change Commission for Wales*, Cabinet Written Statement, 20 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [Climate Change Commission Update and Consultation on the Climate Change Strategy](#), Cabinet Oral Statement, 20 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [Minerals Technical Advice Note 2: Coal](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 20 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [Sustainable Development Annual Report 2007- 2008](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 15 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [Launch of Consultation on the Strategic Policy Position Statement on Water in Wales](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 14 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [Publication of the Climate Change Strategy – High Level Policy Statement consultation](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 09 January 2009

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [The Pitt Review – an assessment for Wales](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 17 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Alun Ffred Jones (Minister for Heritage), [Visit Wales 2009 marketing campaign](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 15 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Alun Ffred Jones (Minister for Heritage), [Coastal Tourism Strategy](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 15 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [Marine and Coastal Access Bill](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 11 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [Streamlining the Planning Application Process in Wales](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 10 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Ieuan Wyn Jones (Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport), [*One Wales Transport Commitments and Review of Rail Programme and Forward Trunk Road Programme*](#), Cabinet Oral Statement, 02 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [*Publication of the Committee on Climate Change's report*](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 01 December 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Ieuan Wyn Jones (Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport), [*Local Transport Act*](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 27 November 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [*The pre-registering of chemicals under the REACH Regulation by 1 December*](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 24 November 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [*Consultation on a New Sustainable Development Scheme, One Wales: One Planet*](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 19 November 2008

Welsh Assembly Government, Ieuan Wyn Jones (Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport) and Jane Davidson (Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing), [*Green jobs for Wales: consultation document*](#), Cabinet Written Statement, 18 November 2008

5. Legislation

5.1 *Proposed Shipment of Waste for Recovery (Community Involvement Arrangements) (Wales) Measure*

Nerys Evans AM introduced the Proposed Shipment of Waste for Recovery (Community Involvement Arrangements) (Wales) Measure on 05 November 2008. The Measure (sometimes referred to as the Recycling Measure) proposes that local authorities consider and report on inter alia, the environmental and social impact of the end use and final destination of the recyclable material they collect.

The Measure and Explanatory Memorandum, as well as information about the progress of the Measure, can be accessed via:

http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-legislation/bus-leg-measures/bus-legislation-measures-proposed_recycling.htm

5.2 *The Climate Change Act 2008*

The *Climate Change Bill* was granted Royal Assent on 26 November 2008 and became the *Climate Change Act 2008 (Chapter 27)*.

The Act will create a long-term legal framework to enable the UK to meet its commitment to reduce CO² emissions by at least 60% by 2050. The *Climate Change Act 2008* can be accessed in full here:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/pdf/ukpga_20080027_en.pdf

Explanatory Notes can be accessed here:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/en/ukpgaen_20080027_en.pdf

5.3 The Energy Act 2008

The *Energy Bill* was granted Royal Assent on 26 November 2008 to become the *Energy Act 2008* (*Chapter 32*).

The Act contains the legislative provisions required to implement UK energy policy following the publication of the Energy Review 2006 and the Energy White Paper 2007.

The *Energy Act 2008* can be accessed in full here:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/pdf/ukpga_20080032_en.pdf

Explanatory Notes can be accessed here:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/en/ukpgaen_20080032_en.pdf

5.4 The Planning Act 2008

The *Planning Bill* was granted Royal Assent on 26 November 2008 and became the *Planning Act 2008* (*Chapter 29*).

The Act puts forward a new system for approving major infrastructure of national importance, such as harbours and waste facilities, and replaces current regimes under several pieces of legislation. The objective is to streamline these decisions and avoid long public inquiries.

The *Planning Act 2008* contains framework powers relating to local development plans and the *Wales Spatial Plan*, which will allow the National Assembly to make Measures in the areas specified. Please see Part 10 of the Act and *Explanatory Notes* for details.

The *Planning Act 2008* can be accessed in full here:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/pdf/ukpga_20080029_en.pdf

Explanatory Notes can be accessed here:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/en/ukpgaen_20080029_en.pdf

5.5 *Progress of the Marine and Coastal Access Bill [HL]*

The *Marine and Coastal Access Bill* was introduced by Lord Hunt, and makes provision for marine functions and activities including; setting up a new Marine Management Organisation under which many of the existing, diverse areas of marine regulation would be centralised; streamlining the existing marine licensing system and providing powers to create a joined-up marine planning policy; introducing new measures to reform fisheries management; providing a framework for establishing marine conservation zones and enabling the creation of a walkable route around the English coast.

The Bill includes frameworks powers for Wales which would allow the National Assembly for Wales to make Measures in relation to Welsh coastal routes for recreational journeys and rights of access to land near the Welsh coast. The Bill had its second reading in the House of Lords on 15 December 2008 and is currently at the House of Lords Committee stage. For further information about the *Marine and Coastal Access Bill* please see:

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/marineandcoastalaccess.html>

6. Reports, research and statistics

6.1 *Publications*

Committee on Climate Change, (2008) [*Building a low-carbon economy - the UK's contribution to tackling climate change*](#), London: The Stationery Office

Department for Energy and Climate Change, (2008) [*The potential for dynamic demand*](#), London: Department for Energy and Climate Change

Global Climate Network, (2008) [*Closing the mitigation gap: the challenge facing a shared vision for action to avoid dangerous climate change: December 2008*](#), London: Global Climate Network

Government Office for Science, (2008) [*Powering our lives: sustainable energy management and the built environment*](#), London: Government Office for Science

New Economics Foundation, (2008) [*A green new deal: joined-up policies to solve the triple crunch of the credit crisis, climate change and high oil prices*](#), London: New Economics Foundation

People, Science and Policy Ltd, (2008) [*Exploring public attitudes to climate change and travel choices: deliberative research: final report for the Department for Transport*](#), London: People, Science and Policy Ltd

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Wales, (2008) *The climate challenge: your city, your responsibility* Yr her hinsawdd: eich dinas, eich cyfrifoldeb, Cardiff: RICS Wales Please click for [English](#) [Cymraeg](#)

6.2 *Statistics*

[*The environment in your pocket 2008*](#), Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 11 December 2008

[Energy markets outlook: December 2008](#), Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, December 2008

[Waste data digest 8: key facts and trends](#), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), December 2008

6.3 Briefings by the four nations' research services

Members' Research Service Research Paper 09/001, [The Planning and Energy Act 2008](#), January 2009

Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) Briefing 09/03, [The Climate Change \(Scotland\) Bill](#), 15 January 2009

Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology, (2008) [ICT and CO2 emissions](#), POSTnote 319, December 2008

Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology, (2008) [The transition to a low carbon economy](#), POSTnote 318, December 2008

Northern Ireland Assembly Library and Research Briefing Note 106/08, [Planning for flooding and the impact of climate change](#), November 2008

Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology, (2008) [Future nuclear technologies](#), POSTnote 317, November 2008

Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) Briefing 08/63, [Climate change: world summit of regions 2008](#), 21 November 2008

Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) Briefing 08/63, [Climate change: reducing greenhouse emissions – the community approach](#), 14 November 2008

7. Official Publications

7.1 House of Commons Papers

National Audit Office, [Managing the waste PFI programme](#), 14 January 2009, HC 66 2008-2009

Business and Enterprise Select Committee, [Energy policy: future challenges](#), 15 December 2008, HC 32 2008-2009

Environmental Audit Select Committee, [Climate change and local, regional and devolved government: Government Response to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session 2007-08](#), 19 November 2008, HC 1189 2007-2008

Environmental Audit Select Committee, [Environmental Crime: Wildlife Crime: Government Response to the Committee's Twelfth Report of Session 2003-04](#), 28 November 2008, HC 1213 2007-2008

Environmental Audit Select Committee, [*Halting biodiversity loss*](#), 10 November 2008, HC 743 2007-2008

Environmental Audit Select Committee, [*Making Government Operations More Sustainable: Government Response to the Committee's Seventh Report of Session 2007-08*](#), 18 November 2008, HC 1126 2007-2008

Environmental Audit Select Committee, [*Vehicle Excise Duty as an environmental tax: Government Response to the Committee's Tenth Report of Session 2007-08*](#), 18 December 2008, HC 72 2007-2008

7.2 House of Lords Papers

Economic Affairs Select Committee, *Waste Reduction: Government Response*, 25 November 2008, 25 November 2008, HL 195 I and II 2007-2008
Volume I: [Report](#) Volume II: [Evidence](#)

European Union Select Committee, [*The revision of the EU's emission trading system*](#), 10 December 2008, HL 197 07-08

Science and Technology Select Committee, [*Waste Reduction: Government Response, 25 November 2008*](#), 25 November 2008, HL 203 2007-2008

7.3 Command Papers

[*Taking forward the marine bill: the Government response to pre-legislative scrutiny and public consultation: September 2008*](#) Cm 7422

7.4 Scottish Government Publications

SKM (Sinclair Knight Merz), (2008) [*Grid Issues Arising From Changes to the Generation Background in Scotland*](#), Newcastle: SKM

AEA, (2008) [*Mitigating against climate change in Scotland: identification and initial assessment of policy options*](#), Ayrshire: AEA

AEA, (2008) [*Scottish Energy Study Volume 5: Energy and Carbon Dioxide Projections for Scotland*](#), Ayrshire: AEA

8. Journal articles and news items

Donatantonio, Domenic, [*Nuclear sites criteria published*](#), *Planning Resource*, 27 January 2009

Donnelley, Michael, [Campaigners lose eco-town challenge](#), *Planning Resource*, 27 January 2009

Mulholland, Helene, [Councils opposing Heathrow expansion to call for new rail network around airport](#), *The Guardian Online*, 27 January 2009

[Funding for recycling left-overs](#), *BBC News Online*, 27 January 2009

Kinver, Mark, [UK gets biofuels research centre](#), *BBC News Online*, 27 January 2009

[Escaping climate disaster 'affordable', says report](#), *EurActiv*, 27 January 2009

Webster, Ben, [Organic lobby anger as Soil Association backs food by air](#), *The Times Online*, 27 January 2009

Bland, Archie, [Heavy weather: What climate change really means for Britain](#), *The Independent Online*, 26 January 2009

Hickman, Leo, [Carbon comparison site launched](#), *Guardian Online*, 26 January 2009

Jha, Alok, [Environmentalists react angrily to shortlisted projects for Severn estuary](#), *Guardian Online*, 26 January 2009

[MEPs back limits on industrial pollution](#), *EurActiv*, 23 January 2009

Donnelley, Michael, [Four sites on nuclear shortlist](#), *Planning Resource*, 23 January 2009

Pearce, Fred, [Greenwash: Time for rail to raise its game and cut emissions](#), *Guardian Online*, 22 January 2009

Howden, Daniel, [Congo rainforest given hope as deals cancelled](#), *The Independent Online*, 21 January 2009

[Will Obama outgreen Europe?](#), *EurActiv*, 19 January 2009

Savage, Michael, [Hoon accused of ignoring public with 'unpopular' Heathrow plans](#), *The Independent Online*, 21 January 2009

Grice, Andrew, [Opponents vow to fight plan for third runway](#), *The Independent Online*, 16 January 2009

[Heathrow expansion causes outcry in the UK](#), *EurActiv*, 16 January 2009

[Cities seek better energy efficiency of buildings](#), *EurActiv*, 16 January 2009

[EU environment agency outlines challenges for 2009](#), *EurActiv*, 13 January 2009

Lean, Geoffrey, [Giant plasma TVs face ban in battle to green Britain](#), *The Independent Online*, 11 January 2009

Foley, Stephen, [Oil giant comes in from the cold](#), *The Independent Online*, 10 January 2009

McCarthy, Michael, [UN Climate Conference: The countdown to Copenhagen](#), *The Independent Online*, 09 January 2009

[Assembly's green economic policy sets a world example](#), *Western Mail*, 29 December 2008

[Mixed reactions as Parliament approves EU climate deal](#), *EurActiv*, 18 December 2008

Lean, Geoffrey, [Green-basher Boris relaunches himself as an eco-warrior](#), *The Independent Online*, 23 November 2008

Grice, Andrew, [EU accused of subsidising climate change after 'watered-down' deal](#), *The Independent Online*, 13 December 2008

[Angela Merkel turns her back on green dream of EU](#), *The Times Online*, 11 December 2008

Traynor, Ian, [European leaders clash over pledges on global warming](#), *The Guardian Online*, 11 December 2008

[Giant wind farm gets the go-ahead](#), *BBC News Online*, 03 December 2008

Lean, Geoffrey, [Greenhouse gases will heat up planet 'for ever'](#), *The Independent Online*, 30 November 2008

Jowitt, Juliette, [Aviation can expand while meeting climate targets, says watchdog](#), *The Guardian Online*, 27 November 2008

[Severn reef plan is 'more green'](#), *BBC News Online*, 26 November 2008

Black, Richard, [Climate law 'could cost billions'](#), *BBC News Online*, 25 November 2008

Black, Richard, [EU condemned on tuna 'mockery'](#), *BBC News Online*, 25 November 2008

Macalister, Terry, [UK 'undermining' climate fight by keeping carbon permit cash](#), *The Guardian Online*, 19 November 2008

['One Planet' pledge for Wales](#), *BBC News Online*, 19 November 2008

Goldenburg, Suzanne, [Obama opens new green chapter for US on climate](#), *The Guardian Online*, 19 November 2008

McEwan, Ian, [The world's last chance](#), *The Guardian Online*, 18 November 2008

Randerson, James, [Geoengineering 'no substitute' for climate targets, UK minister warns](#), *The Guardian Online*, 18 November 2008

[Windfarm cranes sink in Atlantic](#), *BBC News Online*, 13 November 2008