

# UK enshrines new target in law to slash emissions by 78% by 2035

- UK government to set in law world's most ambitious climate change target, cutting emissions by 78% by 2035 compared to 1990 levels
- for the first time, UK's sixth Carbon Budget will incorporate the UK's share of international aviation and shipping emissions
- this would bring the UK more than three-quarters of the way to net zero by 2050

The UK government will set the world's most ambitious climate change target into law to reduce emissions by 78% by 2035 compared to 1990 levels, announced today (Tuesday 20 April).

In line with the recommendation from the independent Climate Change Committee, this sixth Carbon Budget limits the volume of greenhouse gases emitted over a 5-year period from 2033 to 2037, taking the UK more than three-quarters of the way to reaching net zero by 2050. The Carbon Budget will ensure Britain remains on track to end its contribution to climate change while remaining consistent with the Paris Agreement temperature goal to limit global warming to well below 2°C and pursue efforts towards 1.5°C.

For the first time, this Carbon Budget will incorporate the UK's share of international aviation and shipping emissions – an important part of the government's decarbonisation efforts that will allow for these emissions to be accounted for consistently.

This comes ahead of Prime Minister Boris Johnson addressing the opening session of the US Leaders' Summit on Climate, hosted by President Biden on Earth Day (22 April). The Prime Minister will urge countries to raise ambition on tackling climate change and join the UK in setting stretching targets for reducing emissions by 2030 to align with net zero.

The government is already working towards its commitment to reduce emissions in 2030 by at least 68% compared to 1990 levels through the UK's latest Nationally Determined Contribution – the highest reduction target made by a major economy to date. Today's world-leading announcement builds on this goal to achieve a 78% reduction by 2035.

The new target will become enshrined in law by the end of June 2021, with legislation setting out the UK government's commitments laid in Parliament tomorrow (Wednesday 21 April).

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said:

We want to continue to raise the bar on tackling climate change, and that's why we're setting the most ambitious target to cut emissions in the world.

The UK will be home to pioneering businesses, new technologies and green innovation as we make progress to net zero emissions, laying the foundations for decades of economic growth in a way that creates thousands of jobs.

We want to see world leaders follow our lead and match our ambition in the run up to the crucial climate summit COP26, as we will only build back greener and protect our planet if we come together to take action.

Business and Energy Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng said:

The UK is leading the world in tackling climate change and today's announcement means our low carbon future is now in sight. The targets we've set ourselves in the sixth Carbon Budget will see us go further and faster than any other major economy to achieve a completely carbon neutral future.

This latest target shows the world that the UK is serious about protecting the health of our planet, while also seizing the new economic opportunities it will bring and capitalising on green technologies – yet another step as we build back greener from the pandemic we lead the world towards a cleaner, more prosperous future for this generation and those to come.

The UK over-achieved against its first and second Carbon Budgets and is on track to outperform the third Carbon Budget which ends in 2022. This is due to significant cuts in greenhouse gases across the economy and industry, with the UK bringing emissions down 44% overall between 1990 and 2019, and two-thirds in the power sector.

Moreover, the UK continues to break records in renewable electricity generation, which has more than quadrupled since 2010 while low carbon electricity overall now gives us over 50% of our total generation.

Prior to enshrining its net zero commitment in law, the UK had a target of reducing emissions by 80% by 2050 – through today's sixth Carbon Budget announcement, the government is aiming to achieve almost the same level 15 years earlier.

Through its presidency of the crucial UN climate summit, COP26, which will take place in Glasgow later this year, the UK is urging countries and companies around the world to join the UK in delivering net zero globally by the middle of the century and set ambitious targets for cutting emissions by 2030.

COP26 President-Designate Alok Sharma, said:

This hugely positive step forward for the UK sets a gold standard

for ambitious Paris-aligned action that I urge others to keep pace with ahead of COP26 in Glasgow later this year. We must collectively keep 1.5 degrees of warming in reach and the next decade is the most critical period for us to change the perilous course we are currently on.

Long term targets must be backed up with credible delivery plans and setting this net zero focused sixth Carbon Budget builds on the world leading legal framework in our Climate Change Act. If we are to tackle the climate crisis and safeguard lives, livelihoods and nature for future generations, others must follow the UK's example.

The government has already laid the groundwork to end the UK's contribution to climate change by 2050, starting with ambitious strategies that support polluting industries to decarbonise while growing the economy and creating new, long-term green jobs.

This includes the publication of the [Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy](#), an ambitious blueprint for the world's first low carbon industrial sector, slashing emissions by two-thirds in just 15 years, as well as over £1 billion government funding to cut emissions from industry, schools and hospitals.

Further, the UK is the first G7 country to agree a landmark [North Sea Transition Deal](#) to support the oil and gas industry's transition to clean, green energy while supporting 40,000 jobs. Through the deal, the sector has committed to cut emissions by 50% by 2030, while the government, sector and trade unions will work together over the next decade and beyond to deliver the skills, innovation and new infrastructure required to decarbonise North Sea production.

Everyone needs to play a role in tackling climate change and bringing businesses and the public along is vital to reach the UK's climate change goals. Ahead of COP26, the government launched the campaign, [Together For Our Planet](#), calling on businesses, civil society groups, schools and the British public to take action on climate change. This UK-wide initiative contributed to [last month's milestone](#) achievement of securing pledges from a third of the UK's largest businesses to eliminate their contribution to climate change by 2050.

Each of these leading measures to tackle climate change, alongside the Prime Minister's [10 Point Plan for a green industrial revolution](#) and the government's [Energy White Paper](#), will help the UK's trajectory towards meeting the new sixth Carbon Budget.

The government will look to meet this reduction target through investing and capitalising on new green technologies and innovation, whilst maintaining people's freedom of choice, including on their diet. That is why the government's sixth Carbon Budget of 78% is based on its own analysis and does not follow each of the Climate Change Committee's specific policy recommendations.

The UK is bringing forward bold blueprints setting out its own vision for transitioning to a net zero economy and how the government can support the public in transitioning to low carbon technologies, including publishing the Heating and Building Strategy and Transport Decarbonisation Plan later this Spring.

The cross-government Net Zero Strategy will also be published ahead of COP26, with Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng currently commissioning work across Whitehall to help inform the ambitious plans across key sectors of the economy.

Moreover, government analysis finds that costs of action on climate change are outweighed by the significant benefits – reducing polluting emissions, as well as bringing fuel savings, improvements to air quality and enhancing biodiversity. The government expects the costs of meeting net zero to continue to fall as green technology advances, industries decarbonise and private sector investment grows.

Reaching net zero will also be essential to sustainable long-term growth and therefore the health of public finances, as well as open up new opportunities for the UK economy, jobs and trade – and the government's ambitious proposals are essential to seizing these opportunities.

HM Treasury will publish its Net Zero Review in the coming months setting out how government plans to maximise economic growth opportunities from the net zero transition while ensuring contributions are fair between consumers, businesses and the British taxpayer.

Chairman of the Committee on Climate Change Lord Deben said:

The UK's sixth Carbon Budget is the product of the most comprehensive examination ever undertaken of the path to a fully decarbonised economy. I am delighted that the government has accepted my Committee's recommendations in full.

CBI Chief Economist Rain Newton-Smith said:

Setting the sixth Carbon Budget in line with the Climate Change Committee recommendations puts the UK on a credible path to achieve its net-zero emissions target.

As COP26 hosts, the UK government is leading by example by setting this stretching target. Business stands ready to deliver with the latest low-carbon technologies and innovations that are driving emissions down every year. By tackling this together, we can reap the benefits of transition to a low-carbon economy.

The target emphasises the importance of the 2020s as a decade of delivery on our climate ambitions, and urgent action is needed now to make this a reality.

Executive Director of Green Alliance Shaun Spiers said:

By accepting the Climate Change Committee's recommendations for the sixth Carbon Budget, the government has sent out a resounding message, domestically and internationally, that the UK is taking its net zero emissions target seriously. The inclusion of international aviation and shipping is particularly important, showing climate leadership in the year we are hosting the Glasgow climate summit. What we need now is to ensure there is no gap between ambition and policy, so the UK has the right tools in its armoury to meet these targets.

Executive Director of the Aldersgate Group Nick Molho said:

The government should be commended for adopting the ambitious and evidence-based recommendations from the Climate Change Committee for the sixth Carbon Budget. The emission cuts set out in the Budget represent essential next steps the UK needs to take to ensure a credible, cost-effective, and timely pathway to net zero emissions by 2050. The inclusion of the UK's share of international aviation and shipping emissions is a particularly welcome addition and will help to accelerate the development of sector-specific decarbonisation plans.

Focus must now turn to strengthening the UK's policy framework to meet this new target, by putting in place a detailed and cross-departmental net zero strategy that will drive private investment in low carbon goods and services, supply chains, jobs and skills.

The UK is the first country to enter legally binding long-term carbon budgets into legislation, first introduced as part of the 2008 Climate Change Act. Since then, 5 carbon budgets have been put into law putting the UK on track to meet our ambitious goal to eliminate our contribution to climate change by 2050 and achieve net zero emissions.

- The sixth Carbon Budget will commit us in law to the fastest fall in greenhouse gas emissions of any major economy between 1990 and 2035, making it one of the most ambitious climate targets in the world
- on 9 December, the Climate Change Committee (CCC) published its advice on the level at which to set Carbon Budget 6 (CB6), covering 2033 to 2037. The CCC recommended that CB6 should be set at 965 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e, reducing emissions 78% from 1990 to 2035 (including international aviation and shipping emissions)
- the government is laying legislation on 21 April to set the budget at the level recommended by the CCC. This is a highly ambitious target for the mid-2030s – close to the UK's previous 2050 target (an 80% reduction on 1990) just 2 years ago and consistent with the Paris Agreement temperature goal to limit global warming to well below 2°C and pursue efforts towards 1.5°C

- setting CB6 is about the government's ambition to cut emissions, rather than announcing specific policies that will deliver that reduction in emissions. We will bring forward policies to meet carbon budgets, and the Net Zero Strategy, to be published before COP26, will set out our vision for transitioning to a net zero economy
- CB6 includes emissions from International Aviation and Shipping (IAS) for the first time. Previous carbon budgets have formally excluded these emissions, instead leaving 'headroom' for them. However, IAS emissions were included in the CCC's advice, and are included in our 2050 net zero target, which was set on a whole economy basis
- the CCC also recommended in December 2020 that the UK government set a Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of at least 68% (excluding International Aviation and Shipping emissions) by 2030. The government accepted this advice and [communicated its NDC](#) to the UNFCCC on 12 December. Carbon Budget 6 continues the ambitious trajectory recommended by the CCC through the 2030s
- following the CCC's recommended budget level does not mean we are following their specific policy recommendations. Our published analysis is based on the government's own assumptions and does not, for example, assume the CCC's change in people's diet. Ahead of COP26, we will be setting out our own vision for net zero, and ambitious plans across key sectors of the economy to meet carbon budgets
- following the CCC's recommended budget level does not mean the government's sixth Carbon Budget follows each of their specific policy recommendations. The government's published analysis and calculations of 78% are based on the government's own assumptions and does not, for example, assume the CCC's change in people's diet. Ahead of COP26, we will be setting out our own vision for net zero, and ambitious plans across key sectors of the economy to meet carbon budgets

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## [Charity Commission confirms registration of LGB Alliance](#)

News story

The Charity Commission has decided, after careful consideration, that the LGB Alliance (LGBA) should be entered onto the Register of Charities.



LGBA applied to register as a charity in March 2020. Its purposes are to promote equality and diversity and human rights.

The test of charity status is set out in law. A charity is an organisation with exclusively charitable purposes for the public benefit, that is subject to the jurisdiction of the High Court of England and Wales. If it meets these legal tests, it will be entered on the charity register.

It is not the Commission's role to make value judgements about the aims or ideas put forward by any organisation. Instead, its role is to decide whether an organisation's purposes fall within the legal definition of charity.

The Commission received a number of objections to the registration of LGBA as a charity. It carefully considered these as part of making its decision. In handling this application, the Commission has had regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Registered charities fall under the Commission's regulation, and their trustees must continuously meet the legal duties and responsibilities set down under charity law. A charity can promote the rights of one or more specific groups, but may not do so whilst demeaning or denigrating the rights of others, including on social media – and the Commission will consider taking regulatory action where that occurs.

The full decision, explaining the grounds for registering the organisation and the objections that were considered, can be [found on GOV.UK](#)

**Ends**

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## [Relocation of the electricity](#)

## [substation in Grenfell Tower: an update for the community](#)

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## [Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during March 2021](#)

[unable to retrieve full-text content]The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that six foreign flagged ships remained under detention in UK ports during March 2021 after failing port state control (PSC) inspection.

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## [New global partnership launched to fight future pandemics](#)

- International Pandemic Preparedness Partnership (PPP) will support PM's target to slash the time to develop vaccines for new diseases to 100 days
- Partnership will be chaired by UK Chief Scientific Adviser Sir Patrick Vallance and will report to leaders at June's G7 Summit
- New £16m funding to Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) will also support global vaccine supply and development

The Government will today (20 April) launch a new Pandemic Preparedness Partnership (PPP) to save lives from future diseases and prevent another global pandemic.

The PPP will advise the UK G7 Presidency on how to meet the Prime Minister's ambition to slash [the time to develop and deploy high quality vaccines](#) for



new diseases from 300 to 100 days, backed by additional funding to support CEPI's work on global vaccine supply. It will be chaired by the Government's Chief Scientific Adviser Sir Patrick Vallance.

The public-private partnership will bring together industry, international organisations and leading experts. They will provide recommendations for delivering ambitious targets to more quickly develop vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics through greater global co-operation on research and development, manufacturing, clinical trials and data-sharing.

The £16 million investment will fund global vaccine manufacturing capacity and critical research and development to rapidly respond to the threat of new strains, supporting the development of new variant-specific vaccines. CEPI's work to coordinate research, development and manufacturing of vaccines will aid efforts to have millions of doses of vaccine available for emergency use 100 days from a variant of concern being identified.

The PPP is meeting formally for the first time today at a two day virtual Pandemic Preparedness Partnership Conference, taking place under the UK's Presidency of the G7.

### **Speaking ahead of the Conference, Health and Social Care Secretary, Matt Hancock said:**

The Covid pandemic has shaken the world but united us in our determination to ensure no disease has such an impact in the future.

As G7 President, the UK is determined to work with our partners to build back better from coronavirus and strengthen global preparedness for future pandemics.

This new expert group will drive our efforts in the years ahead to protect people everywhere from new diseases and to save lives.

COVID-19 has shown us that it's possible to develop and deploy high-quality vaccines much faster than previously imagined. We have brought together the Pandemic Preparedness Partnership to see whether this can be accelerated even further and applied to the development of medicines and diagnostic tests.

The group of experts from across the globe will advise the UK G7 Presidency as to how we can accelerate and scale up the development of effective vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics to save lives from future diseases with pandemic potential and I look forward to progressing such vital work.

**Melinda Gates, philanthropist and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, said:**

The global response to COVID-19 has proved that we are most successful when we bring together scientists, businesses, governments, and collective action through multilateral institutions. This partnership will enable G7 governments to create a roadmap for building a safe, secure, and equitable future for everyone.

The Partnership will report to leaders at June's G7 Summit in Cornwall with a roadmap outlining the steps the G7 could take to protect people against future pandemics.

There 20 members of the PPP include WHO Vaccines Envoy Sir Andrew Witty, Professor of Medicine at the University of Oxford & member of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Scientific Advisory Committee, Sir John Bell, Managing Director of the COVAX Facility Gavi, Aurelia Nguyen, and Chief Executive Officer of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) Richard Hatchett.

Industry members include representatives from leading vaccine developers and life sciences companies such as Head of Global Drug Development and Chief Medical Officer at Novartis, John Tsai, Executive Vice President Biopharmaceuticals R&D at AstraZeneca, Sir Mene Pangalos, Chief Scientific Officer at Pfizer, Mikael Dolsten and Chief Scientific Officer at Johnson & Johnson, Paul Stoffels.

These experts will be joined by scientific advisers from our G7 partners, who will play a key role in shaping the recommendations into an actionable roadmap over the next two months through a series of meetings ahead of the June Leader's Summit.

The Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, is opening the virtual Pandemic Preparedness Partnership Conference today. The two-day event will see representatives and experts from around the world meeting to discuss the challenges and opportunities to transform pandemic preparedness and the importance of public-private and international partnerships to prevent future disease.

Melinda Gates, philanthropist and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will speak to members at the end of the conference to discuss the important role the group will play in ensuring an equitable recovery and strengthening collaboration for pandemic preparedness.

Full list of PPP Steering Group members:

- Chair – Sir Patrick Vallance – UK Government Chief Scientific Adviser
- Sir Andrew Witty – CEO, United Health Group

- Sir John Bell – Regius Professor of Medicine, University of Oxford and member of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Scientific Advisory Committee
- Martin Landray – Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, University of Oxford.
- Dame Anne Johnson – Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology UCL
- Lord Jim O’Neill – Former Chairman of Goldman Sachs Asset Management & Former Commercial Secretary to the Treasury
- Baroness Minouche Shafik – Director LSE and former Deputy Governor of the Bank of England
- Aurelia Nguyen – Managing Director Office of the COVAX Facility, Gavi
- Sir Jeremy Farrar – Director Wellcome Trust & Chair of the Scientific Advisory Group of the WHO R&D Blueprint.
- John-Arne Rottingen – Co-chair ACT-A, member of the G20 High Level Independent Panel (HLIP) on financing for pandemic preparedness and response & ambassador for Global Health, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Peter Sands – Executive Director – Global Fund
- Richard Hatchett – Chief Executive Officer CEPI
- Sergio Carmona – Acting Chief Executive Officer and Chief Medical Officer FIND
- Soumya Swaminathan – Chief Scientist WHO
- John Tsai – Head of Global Drug Development and Chief Medical Officer, Novartis
- Sir Mene Pangalos – Executive Vice President Biopharmaceuticals R&D, AstraZeneca
- Mikael Dolsten – Chief Scientific Officer, Pfizer
- Paul Stoffels – Vice Chairman and Chief Scientific Officer, J&J
- Roger Connor – President Global Vaccines, GSK
- June Raine – Chief Executive, MHRA

Notes to editors:

- The PPP Conference is a closed-door event.
- Further information on the G7 can be found at our website [g7uk.org](https://www.g7uk.org)
- Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @G7
- For any media queries please contact the G7 media team on [g7media@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:g7media@cabinetoffice.gov.uk) or call 0207 2769 797