

# WORKSTREAM 1: NET ZERO: DECARBONISATION FORWARD PROGRAMME

## CONTEXT

The UK is committed to reducing its contribution to global warming to achieve net zero by 2050. Rapid decarbonisation across all sectors is required for a net zero transition to achieve the Government's ambitious target. The way we power our lives will transition away from carbon emitting fossil fuels, to low carbon alternatives. If we are to achieve the ambitious IPCC and UK's own Climate Change Committee targets for net-zero emissions by 2050 - or sooner - we need to embed net zero plans for decarbonisation at the heart of UK policy and put them into action.

In the context of the COVID-19 crisis, Parliament is changing to meet the current challenges and as a result communications and engagements will be increasingly interactive and digital. In this unprecedented period of disruption, it will be essential for Parliament to continue to function, scrutinise and hold the Government to account. The Net Zero APPG can play an important role over the next 6 months, generating debate and policy thinking to accelerate and embed policy change to achieve a net zero transition to a low carbon future and influence COP26 in 2021.

## FORMAT

We will hold a series of "virtual" sessions adopting a Select Committee format, initially assessing Parliamentarians' respective interests in the Net Zero workstreams by undertaking a survey of MPs and officers of the Net Zero APPG. Our aim is to seek active MP engagement in each session and target key speakers and MPs to lead workstreams and participate in sessions.

The proposed sessions will be choreographed to ensure a good mix of presentation, speakers and Q&A and outline in its terms of reference the key questions to be addressed. By calling on MPs and others to submit questions and contributions in advance, the Chair will have an indication of the questions that will be addressed as well as the MPs who want to participate. In this way we can secure quality engagement in the respective debates. In addition, each session will field live chat with questions on the day and a rapporteur to write-up and review evidence collected.

All MPs will be invited to each session, but this approach will help target and secure "active" participation from MPs to lead and be involved in all the Net Zero Road Map workstreams. The outputs and policy asks which emerge from each session and workstream will seek to inform and accelerate Government thinking on how to deliver a Net Zero economic future. We will build on the support for the Vision10 Pledges and feed recommendations into COP26 and the supporting Government departments.

The Net Zero APPG is kindly sponsored by:

## WORKSTREAM 1: NET ZERO - DECARBONISATION

### PUTTING NET ZERO AT THE HEART OF FUTURE UK POLICY

Our Vision10 pledge on decarbonisation states that to make Britain zero carbon and meet the scale of the challenge, Government needs to be *'Committed to, and visibly supporting, clean growth and digital innovation to deliver decarbonised, decentralised and affordable energy, EV and infrastructure.'*

The Net Zero: Decarbonisation workstream themes outlined where to focus the debate and included:

- Accelerating the low carbon transition across the UK economy
  - Low and zero carbon housing, buildings and communities
  - Sustainable transport – land, sea and air
  - Decarbonised and decentralised energy – Power generation and heat
- Supporting Net Zero solutions; decarbonisation innovation and ambitions
- Delivering investment in established and new Net Zero technologies
- Disruption and Interference Vs Benefits and Opportunities

**We are holding 3 virtual evidence sessions in the 'Net Zero: Decarbonisation' workstream followed by a Decarbonisation Seminar:**

#### **1 Generating Net Zero Energy: Power and Industry** *Accelerating decarbonisation and transition* **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

#### **Terms of reference and key questions we are seeking evidence on:**

To seek evidence and encourage views and debate on; Disruption and Interference Vs Benefits and Opportunities of net zero decarbonisation plans.

- What does the potential 2050 Net Zero system look like?
- What policies does the Energy White Paper need to implement to accelerate the transition to net zero?
- How do we ensure we get more renewables on the system at a local & national level?
- What role will renewables and nuclear play in achieving net zero?
- How can we invest and develop new technologies such as Hydrogen and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)?
- How can we accelerate the decarbonisation of energy in the UK: what are the risks and opportunities to implementation?
- What technologies are needed to transition to net zero power?
- How can existing technologies be used to boost flexible demand?
- What long-term funding framework is needed for decarbonisation? For example, should there be a Green Gas Levy - Green gas, heat pumps and heat networks?

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## 2 Decarbonising Transport

*Accelerating net zero transition, innovation and infrastructure*

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

### Terms of reference and key questions we are seeking evidence on:

To seek evidence and encourage views and debate on Disruption and Interference Vs Benefits and Opportunities of net zero decarbonisation plans.

- How do we decarbonise transport and meet Net Zero targets?
- What policies should the Transport Decarbonisation Plan include to accelerate the transition to net zero?
- How can we accelerate modal shift to achieve net zero?
- What more needs to be done to encourage a modal shift to public and active travel?
- What are barriers to EV take-up and transition?
- How do we accelerate the net zero infrastructure needed to support the transition to low carbon and electric vehicle use?
- How can we accelerate green technology and innovation and the development of sustainable biofuels, hybrid and electric aircraft?
- What technology, systems and policies do we need to reach the 2050 target?

## 3 Building Net Zero Homes and Communities

*Accelerating net zero transition across the UK economy*

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### Terms of reference and key questions we are seeking evidence on:

To seek evidence and encourage views and debate on Disruption and Interference Vs Benefits and Opportunities of net zero decarbonisation plans.

- How can we support Net Zero solutions and decarbonise our future homes and buildings?
- What policies should the Planning White Paper include to accelerate the transition to net zero?
- How do you decarbonise housing and what does zero carbon housing look like?
- How can innovation in housing design help to achieve net zero?
- What incentives and policy change are needed to retrofit existing housing stock?
- Given the huge volume of homes that need to be built, how can we support zero carbon innovation – such as modular construction - in housing and communities?
- Is Government investing in the skills we need to create the zero carbon homes?
- How can consumer-led smart and connected homes accelerate the transition?

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