

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/01722/22

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

18 August 2022

Dear Jack Sargeant MS,

Thank you for your letter of 3 August 2022.

Reporting by public authorities although well supported, is currently not mandatory but strongly encouraged, for example through our [Welsh Public Sector Net Zero Reporting Guide](#).

Last year, a wide range of bodies, including local authorities, worked on supplying the relevant data to help Welsh Government establish the carbon footprint of the public sector in Wales and will continue to do so this year.

The operational boundary for this new public sector reporting process was developed collaboratively during a workshop of public body representatives when developing the current reporting guide and the process continues to be developed with widespread stakeholder input and lessons learned.

In the first instance, the aim is to focus on the emissions directly under the operational control of the public sector, which meant including Scope 1 and 2, and most of Scope 3. The initial results were collated and shared as a report earlier this year [Public Sector Net Zero data and recommendations | GOV.WALES](#).

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The public sector does not have direct operational control of many of the key decisions regarding to pensions and investments. I understand there are 8 main funds across local government which have pooled most of their investments, and the pool has introduced a climate change / decarbonisation statement. The Minister for Finance and Local Government has written to and met with the chairs of these pools to encourage them to go further and faster, with some success and committed to work with the public sector to agree a strategy to decarbonise pensions by 2030, thus bringing them into line with current public sector net-zero targets. This is supported by the motion agreed by the Senedd on May 24th to work with the public sector to agree a strategy to decarbonise pensions by 2030.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julie James AS/MS

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