



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

Edward Mountain MSP  
Convener of the Net Zero, Energy and  
Transport Committee  
c/o Clerk to the Committee  
Room T3.40

By e mail only—

[Email](#)

Citizen Participation and Public  
Petitions Committee  
Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
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Tel: 0131 348 5254  
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17 August 2023

Dear Edward,

### **Expected publication of the draft Climate Change Plan 2024-2040**

Thank you for your letter of 3 July about the above, in which you request that all committees collaborate on scrutiny of the Scottish Government's forthcoming Climate Change Plan (CCP).

While I support the work your committee is doing, including through the Conveners Group, to give a higher profile to climate change scrutiny this session, scrutiny of the CCP would appear to be more a matter for subject committees to deal with than committees like mine.

The core element of my committee's remit (as defined in the standing orders) is to scrutinise public petitions. As such, we have very little scope to undertake scrutiny work on our own initiative; it is petitioners who decide the topics that appear on our agenda. That may lead us to consider climate-related issues from time to time, but not as part of a general committee work programme.

In the current session, my committee's remit also includes consideration of deliberative democracy, Citizens' Assemblies and other forms of participative engagement. We have recently completed a major inquiry on this topic, during which we learned about the work of Scotland's Climate Assembly, but this was from the perspective of process rather than outcome.

Accordingly, I don't see any scope for the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions committee to contribute directly to the CCP scrutiny work outlined in your letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Carlaw', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Jackson Carlaw MSP**  
Convener