

Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition
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c/o Clerk to the Committee
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I refer to your letter of 1 November regarding the laying of the draft Climate Change Plan (CCP) before the Scottish Parliament, and write, with regret, to inform you that I have taken the difficult decision to delay the draft.

The UK Government's unprecedented and unexpected decision to renege or roll back on their net zero commitments, including those already announced and accounted for by the Scottish Government, have repercussions in respect of our ability to produce a draft Climate Change Plan that is just and fair by the end of November.

This, tied with the uncertain economic outlook for the UK as a whole and the constraints of devolution placed upon us, make what is already a challenging task, ever more difficult.

I intend to raise these concerns when together with representatives from the Welsh Government and the Northern Ireland Executive, I meet with counterparts in the UK Government next week as part of the regular meetings with the Net Zero Inter-Ministerial Group.

The Scottish Government are continuing to develop climate policies and are committed to bringing forward a draft of the next Climate Change Plan, covering the period 2025 to 2040, which is fair and just for everyone. Whilst it is regrettably no longer possible to do so by our own November deadline, we will continue to progress in line with statutory deadlines.

Yours sincerely,

MAIRI MCALLAN