

## ADEPT: Parliamentary monitoring July 2021

This document is tailored to provide a monthly overview of key activity, debates, questions, reports, PMQs, speeches and bills relevant to the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport.

### Key dates

22 July 2021: Summer recess

6 September 2021: House returns

24 September – 17 October 2021 Conference recess

17-20 September 2021: Liberal Democrat Party conference

25-29 September 2021: Labour Party conference

3-6 October 2021: Conservative Party conference

22-24 October 2021: Green Party conference

### Devolution deals

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
05/07/21	Press release	PACAC	<b>How should England be governed?</b> MPs hears from Metro Mayors and Councils The Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee hears from Metro Mayors Andy Burnham and Jamie Driscoll, followed by a panel of representatives for district and South East England councils. <a href="#">Here</a>
07/07/21	Oral evidence	HoL – Constitution committee	<b>English devolution - what is its purpose and future?</b> The House of Lords Constitution Committee hears evidence on the purpose and effectiveness of English devolution and what reforms may be required, as it continues its inquiry into the future governance of the United Kingdom. <a href="#">Here</a>
14/07/21	Debate	HoC	<b>Devolution for the East Midlands – Vol 699</b> <b><a href="#">Ben Bradley, Mansfield (Con)</a>:</b> I am pleased to have secured this important debate on devolution in the East Midlands region. I understand that the forthcoming levelling-up White Paper will set out the Government's plan for further rounds of local and sub- regional devolution. If so, it seems a pertinent time to examine the opportunity in the east midlands to put an ambitious levelling-up and devolution package at the heart of a sustained recovery for our region. I have had some exploratory discussions with other council leaders across the region and have been met largely with enthusiasm and a commitment to explore our options in more detail. There is a genuine will and a drive to get on with things in the east midlands. We need the Government to give us the tools to do the job at hand for UK plc. <a href="#">More here</a>

15/07/21	Press release	PACAC	<b>Metro Mayors questioned on future of English governance.</b> The Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee continues canvassing the views of Metro Mayors for its inquiry on governance in England. <a href="#">Here</a>
15/07/21	Press release	PM Office	<b>PM sets out new 'County Deals' to devolve power to local communities in Levelling Up speech.</b> Today the Prime Minister set out his vision on how the government would deliver on the central purpose of his premiership – to level up and unite the whole of the United Kingdom. <a href="#">Here</a>
15/07/21	Press release	CCN	<b>Prime Minister's levelling-up speech promises devolution to county areas.</b> The County Councils Network (CCN) has welcomed today's levelling-up speech by the Prime Minister, where he made a commitment to 'rewrite the rulebook' on devolution and offer county areas the same powers as those currently given to the major cities. <a href="#">Here</a>
20/07/21	Written answers	Cabinet office	<b>Devolution - UIN 31539</b> <b><a href="#">Stuart Anderson, Wolverhampton South West (Con)</a>:</b> To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, what the timeframe is for publishing the White Paper on Devolution in England. <b><a href="#">Chloe Smith, Norwich North (Con)</a>:</b> We will publish a landmark Levelling Up White Paper later this year, articulating how bold new policy interventions will improve opportunity and boost livelihoods across the country as we recover from the pandemic. <a href="#">Here</a>
21/07/21	Ministerial statement	MHCLG	<b>MHCLG: Local Government Update</b> <b>The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has published a written ministerial statement on Local Government Update. <a href="#">Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Robert Jenrick</a>:</b> On 12 October 2020 [HCWS502] I told the House that I had issued invitations under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 ("the 2007 Act") to principal councils in Cumbria, North Yorkshire, and Somerset, including associated existing unitary councils, to submit proposals for moving to unitary local government in those areas. <a href="#">More here</a>
21/07/21	Press release	MHCLG	<b>Next steps for new unitary councils in Cumbria, North Yorkshire and Somerset.</b> Establishing these new unitary councils will bring significant benefits to Cumbria, North

			Yorkshire, and Somerset, giving the local leaders there the tools to help level up opportunity and prosperity across their communities. <a href="#">Here</a>

### Digital – Broadband & mobile

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes

### Economic recovery & renewal

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
01/07/21	Press release	HCLG committee	<b>MHCLG &amp; BEIS Ministers face questions on supporting high streets after Covid-19.</b> <a href="#">Here</a>
02/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<b>Local Enterprise Partnerships: Economic Growth - UIN 21916</b> <a href="#">Seema Malhotra, Feltham and Heston (Lab)</a> : To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, if he will make a statement on the role of Local Enterprise Partnerships in the Plan for Growth. <a href="#">Paul Scully, Sutton and Cheam (Con)</a> : We are determined to ensure that businesses continue to have clear representation and support as we drive the recovery and build back better. We are working with LEPs and others to review their future role as we set out at the Budget and will be saying more on our plans as soon as possible. <a href="#">Here</a>
06/07/21	Oral evidence	Covid-19 Select Committee	<b>The long-term impact of the pandemic on towns and cities.</b> This inquiry will look at the long-term impact of the pandemic on large towns and smaller cities, concentrating particularly on housing and green spaces, the changing nature of employment and public transport, and the resulting impact on inequality. <a href="#">Here</a>
14/07/21	Report	Press release	<b>Green Jobs Taskforce report.</b> This independent report from the Green Jobs Taskforce brings together evidence on the skills needed for our transition to Net Zero and sets out the Taskforce's recommendations for how government, industry, the education sector alongside other stakeholders can work together to grasp the opportunities of a green industrial revolution and meet the challenges of supporting high carbon sectors, their workers and the communities they support through the transition to net zero. <a href="#">Here</a>

14/07/21	Oral answers	BEIS	<p><b>Economic Recovery from Covid-19: Climate Action - UIN 902695</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Suzanne Webb, Stourbridge (Con)</a>:</b> What steps he is taking ahead of COP26 to help ensure that climate action supports the covid-19 pandemic economic recovery.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, The Minister for Business, Energy and Clean Growth</a>:</b> The Prime Minister's 10-point plan sets out our blueprint for a green industrial revolution. The plan commits to investments in green technologies and industries, and leverages billions of pounds of private sector investment to create and support up to 250,000 green jobs across the UK. It is a clear plan to build back greener from the covid pandemic. The Government will publish their net zero strategy before COP26. <a href="#">More here</a></p>
14/07/21	Debate	HoC	<p><b>Town Deals: Covid-19 Recovery – Vol 699</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Damien Moore, Southport (Con)</a>:</b> I beg to move, that this House has considered Town Deals and covid-19 recovery. For too long, towns across the country have been in decline. Once bustling with shoppers and visitors, they have become blighted by high levels of deprivation, a lack of opportunity, and empty shops, leaving a chasm, where there was once aspiration, for entire communities, particularly across the north of England. That is why I welcome the Government's commitment to levelling up and unleashing the economic potential of towns across the country. <a href="#">More here</a></p>
15/07/21	Speech	PM Office	<p><b>Speech by Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, on levelling up. <a href="#">Here</a></b></p>
15/07/21	Written answers	MHCLG	<p><b>Finance - UIN 31412</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Steve Reed, Croydon North (Lab)</a>:</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, how much funding will be available for the (a) Towns Fund, (b) Future High Streets Fund, (c) Levelling Up Fund, (d) UK Community Renewal Fund and (e) Community Ownership Fund in financial year (i) 2021-22, (ii) 2022-23 and (iii) 2023-24.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Luke Hall, Thornbury and Yate (Con)</a>:</b> We have now offered Town Deals to all 101 places that were invited to submit proposals as part of the Towns Fund, committing over £2.4 billion. This includes the accelerated funding provided to places last year. The exact funding distributed each year is subject to agreeing spend profiles with each town. The Future High Streets Fund aims to renew and</p>

			<p>reshape town centres and high streets in a way that drives growth, improves experience and ensures future sustainability. In total, 72 places are sharing over £830 million of capital funding from the Future High Streets Fund, between January 2021 and March 2024, to deliver transformative projects which will support their towns and high streets to reopen and recover from the effects of the pandemic.</p> <p><b>At the Spending Review, the UK</b> Government committed an initial £4 billion for the Levelling Up Fund for England over the next four years (up to 2024-25) and set aside at least £800 million for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The UK Government will use the new financial assistance powers in the UKIM Act to make the Fund available to the whole of the UK, enabling all communities to receive the investment and support they need to recover from the pandemic. As such, up to £4.8 billion until 2024-25 will be available for the Fund across the UK, with at least £800 million invested in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>The Community Renewal Fund is a one year fund with a budget of £220 million. The UK Community Renewal Fund aims to support people and communities most in need across the UK to pilot programmes and new approaches and will invest in skills, community and place, local business, and supporting people into employment. The Community Ownership Fund is a £150 million fund over four years to support community groups across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to take ownership of assets which are at risk of being lost to the community. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
15/07/21	Press release	MHCLG	<p><b>Government strategy to regenerate high streets.</b> The government's long-term plan to support the evolution and regeneration of high streets has been launched today. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
16/07/21	Press release	BEIS	<p><b>New hospitality strategy to help pubs, bars and restaurants build back better from the pandemic.</b> A new strategy to ensure England's pubs, bars, restaurants and other hospitality venues can thrive long-term. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
20/07/21	Press release	EA	<p><b>Environmental inequality must not be ignored - Sir James Bevan discusses need to address environmental inequalities as</b></p>

			<b>part of the "levelling up" agenda.</b> Tackling the stark inequalities in exposure to pollution, climate shocks and access to green and blue space in cities should form an integral part of the "levelling up" agenda, Environment Agency Chief Executive Sir James Bevan will urge the government today. <a href="#">Here</a>
22/07/21	Press release	BEIS committee	<b>Government's levelling up agenda risks becoming an 'everything and nothing policy', say Business Committee.</b> A lack of clarity on what the Government means by 'levelling up' and how it translates into coherent and specific initiatives risks relegating the Government's flagship agenda to an 'everything and nothing policy', says the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Committee in a report published today. <a href="#">Here</a>
22/07/21	Report	BEIS committee	<b>Post pandemic growth: Levelling up <a href="#">Report here</a></b>
22/07/21	Debate	BEIS committee	<b>Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee - Select Committee Statement <a href="#">Darren Jones, Bristol North West (Lab)</a>:</b> I am grateful for the opportunity to make a statement on the third report of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee 's inquiry into post- pandemic economic growth. The report focuses on levelling up. <a href="#">More here</a>

#### Climate change – Air quality

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
06/07/21	Oral evidence	EFRA committee	<b>Oral evidence: Air quality: follow-up, HC 509. <a href="#">Here</a></b>
13/07/21	Written answers	Dft	<b>Urban Areas: Air Pollution - UIN 28964 <a href="#">Mr Barry Sheerman, Huddersfield (Lab)</a>:</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what steps he is taking to improve air quality in urban areas. <b><a href="#">Rachel Maclean, Redditch (BEIS)</a>:</b> The government's Clean Air Strategy sets out an ambitious programme of action to reduce air pollution from a wide range of sources. We have also put in place a £3.8 billion plan to tackle roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations. The government's Environment Bill makes a clear commitment to set a legally binding target to reduce fine particulate matter and enables local authorities to take more effective action to tackle air pollution in their areas. The Bill completed its passage through the House of Commons on 26 May and is now

			<p>proceeding through the various Parliamentary stages in the Lords, with Royal Assent expected in the Autumn. In the meantime, key work on implementing the Bill's measures is continuing at pace, including the work to set legally binding air quality targets. These measures will help to clean up air faster and more effectively in our towns and cities. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
16/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Air Pollution: Children - UIN 28951</b>  <b><a href="#">Mr Barry Sheerman, Huddersfield (Lab)</a>:</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps he is taking to minimise the impact of air pollution on children's development.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a>:</b> We know air pollution is a particular threat to vulnerable groups, including the elderly, the very young and those with existing health conditions such as asthma. Our Clean Air Strategy sets out an ambitious programme of action to reduce air pollution from a wide range of sources. The Environment Bill will establish a duty to set two legally binding targets on PM 2.5: a minimum concentration limit and a new population exposure reduction target. We will consult on these targets in early 2022. These two targets will drive action at the local level, as well as nationally, to improve air quality for everyone.</p> <p>In addition, we have committed to reviewing the National Air Quality Strategy (including the Local Air Quality Management Framework) with a key objective of promoting and supporting greater local action to identify and address air pollution inequalities, targeting action at vulnerable groups and communities. The Government is also committed to improving public awareness of air pollution and to improve the provision of air quality data and information on the UK Air website. We have started a comprehensive review of the Daily Air Quality Index, to enhance the advice when pollution levels are elevated.</p> <p>The Department of Health and Social Care continues to engage with organisations such as Health Education England and the Royal Colleges to ensure that healthcare professionals are equipped to provide information and advice to those vulnerable to the health impacts of air pollution. This</p>

			<p>will allow patients and their carers to take steps to reduce their exposure to air pollution and give them greater power to manage their condition. The Chief Medical Officer has also discussed this matter with the Royal Colleges. Furthermore, the NHS has a Long Term Plan to improve asthma outcomes for children and young people. The Children and Young People's Transformation Programme has asked local systems to prioritise local improvements in asthma care. This will include supporting clinicians to discuss the short- and long-term adverse effects of air pollution on children with asthma and any mitigation strategies. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
28/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Air Pollution - UIN 36808</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Jane Hunt, Loughborough (Con)</a>:</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what assessment his Department has made of the potential merits of introducing a 24 hour (a) mean or (b) exceedance level for fine particulate matter 2.5.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a>:</b> The Government recognises that short-term exposure to elevated levels of PM2.5 can impact health, particularly for vulnerable groups. This is why we provide alerts and advice during air pollution episodes to ensure people can access the information and health advice they need in order to minimise impacts. We are also taking action to increase public awareness about air pollution, including through an expanded £8 million funding pot which will be made available to local authorities through the Air Quality Grant scheme.</p> <p>Under the Environment Bill, the Government will have a duty to bring forward a target for PM2.5 by October 2022. In setting our air quality targets, we have sought advice from the Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants (COMEAP) on whether the priority aim should be long-term exposure rather than short-term. COMEAP advised that a focus on long-term average concentrations of PM2.5 is most appropriate to deliver public health benefits. This advice has been published and can be accessed via this link: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fine-particulate-air-pollution-pm25-setting-targets">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fine-particulate-air-pollution-pm25-setting-targets</a>.</p>



			The two air quality targets that we plan to set will focus on reducing the long-term exposure to PM2.5 and its associated health impacts, actions taken to achieve these targets will contribute to reducing average daily concentrations of PM2.5. <a href="#">Here</a>

### Climate change & net zero – Build back better/infrastructure

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
06/07/21	Oral answers	BEIS	<b>Net Zero Strategy: Publication – Vol 698</b> <a href="#">Stephen Hammond, Wimbledon (Con)</a> : If his Department will publish its net zero strategy before the 2021 summer recess. <a href="#">The Minister for Business, Energy and Clean Growth (Anne-Marie Trevelyan)</a> : We will publish our comprehensive net zero strategy ahead of COP26. It will set out the Government's vision and how we will meet our ambitious goals as we transition to net zero emissions by 2050. <a href="#">More here</a>
06/07/21	Oral answers	BEIS	<b>Net Zero Emissions Target - UIN 902276</b> <a href="#">Catherine West, Hornsey and Wood Green (Lab)</a> : What steps the Government are taking to achieve the net zero emissions target. <a href="#">The Minister for Business, Energy and Clean Growth (Anne-Marie Trevelyan)</a> : I will pass on your displeasure, Mr Speaker. I had some very interesting answers to share with my hon. Friends, so I am as disappointed as you. Our 10-point plan lays the foundation for the transition to net zero, with key commitments and action including in offshore wind, zero-emission vehicles and building our green economy. Ahead of COP26, we will also publish a comprehensive net zero strategy. It will set out the Government's vision for transitioning to a net zero economy, making the most of new growth and employment opportunities across the UK. <a href="#">More here</a>
06/07/21	Speech	MHCLG	<b>Speech by <a href="#">Local Government Secretary, Robert Jenrick</a>, at the Local Government Association's annual conference 2021 (6 July 2021).</b> <a href="#">Here</a>
08/07/21	Press release	BEIS committee	<b>Climate change: Net zero transition must be fair, say MPs.</b> The Government should follow the principles set out by Climate Assembly UK and ensure fairness underpins the transition to net zero, says the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

			Committee in a report published today. <a href="#">Here</a>
12/07/21	Written answers	HM Treasury	<p><b>Net Zero Review - UIN 28165</b>  <a href="#">Mr Steve Baker, Wycombe (Con)</a>: To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether an independent estimate of the economic cost of the Net Zero policy is being prepared as part of the Net Zero Review; if he will publish the underlying assumptions and calculations of that estimate; and if he will make a statement.</p> <p><a href="#">Kemi Badenoch, Saffron Walden (Con)</a>: The Net Zero Review is an analytical review that uses existing data to explore the key issues and trade-offs as the UK decarbonises. Against a backdrop of significant uncertainty on technology and costs, as well as changes to the economy over the next 30 years, it focuses on the potential exposure of households and sectors to the transition, and highlights factors to be taken into account in designing policy that will allocate costs over this time horizon. The final report will follow on from the interim report published in December 2020 and set out the key findings from the research and analysis carried out as part of the Net Zero Review. The Net Zero Review final report will be published in due course, and in advance of COP26. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
15/07/21	Oral evidence session	EAC	<p><b>How can the homes and buildings of the future complement the UK's net zero goals?</b>  Marking its first evidence session of the Sustainability of the Built Environment inquiry, the Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) will be hearing from witnesses including Lord Deben from the Climate Change Committee, the UK Green Building Council and RIBA. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
23/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<p><b>Renewable Energy - UIN 33902</b>  <a href="#">Peter Aldous, Waveney (Con)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, whether the Government plans to issue a call for evidence or consult on community energy and local supply in advance of the publication of the Net Zero Strategy to inform its proposals.</p> <p><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a>: The Government has ongoing discussions with Community Energy England and other community and local energy groups, and the views and evidence provided are being taken into account as we consider future plans for</p>

			community energy in the Net Zero Strategy. <a href="#">Here</a>
28/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<p><b>Infrastructure: Greenhouse Gas Emissions - UIN 36730</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Sarah Jones, Croydon Central (Lab)</a>:</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, with reference to the Green Alliance's report entitled Getting the building blocks right Infrastructure priorities for a green recovery, published on 11 November 2020, whether the Government has made an assessment of whether there is an investment gap as cited in that report in helping the Government to reach its net-zero target; and if he will make a statement.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a>:</b> Delivering net zero requires the deep decarbonisation of all sectors – with the CCC estimating that low carbon investment should reach £50 billion a year by 2050. Financial services will be a critical enabler of green investment at the pace and scale required – and that is why green finance is a key priority for this Government. Our approach has seen the UK power sector attract over £93billion of green investment since 2010.</p> <p>Spanning clean energy, buildings, transport, nature and innovative technologies, the 10 Point Plan has committed £12billion of government investment and will unlock three times as much from the private sector by 2030. The Government has also recently launched a new infrastructure bank for the UK which will co-invest alongside private sector investors and accelerate our ambitions for tackling climate change and levelling up. The UK Infrastructure Bank will have an initial £12billion of capital to deploy and will be able to issue £10billion of government guarantees, helping to unlock more than £40billion of overall investment. This year the Government will also issue its first Sovereign Green Bond - subject to market conditions – helping to finance projects that will tackle climate change. <a href="#">Here</a></p>

#### Climate change & net zero - Housing

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
12/07/21	Oral evidence	HCLG committee	<b>Climate change and net-zero – HCLG Committee questions housing, building &amp;</b>

			<b>energy sectors.</b> This will look at issues such as the energy efficiency of new homes and the role of local government in helping to reduce the UK's carbon emissions. <a href="#">Here</a>

### Climate change & net zero – Planning

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes

### Climate change & net zero – Transport

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
01/07/21	Written answers	Dft	<p><b>Roads: Capital Investment - UIN 23094</b>  <a href="#">Kerry McCarthy, Bristol East (Lab):</a> To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what proportion of the £27 billion the Government announced for the Road Investment Strategy 2 programme is being allocated to (a) ongoing road construction projects, (b) new road construction projects, (c) road maintenance for existing roads, (d) research and development into low carbon road building materials and <a href="#">techniques and (e) other spending.</a>  <a href="#">Rachel Maclean, Redditch (Con):</a> The Government has made £27.504 billion available to Highways England from 2020 to 2025 for the Strategic Road Network (SRN) for Road Investment Strategy 2. This includes £14.264 billion for capital enhancements, covering ongoing and new schemes and £5.825 billion for the capital cost of operations, maintenance, renewals and business costs. How this is allocated into further sub-categories of spend is a matter for Highways England and is reported by them in their published delivery plan and annual updates. The remainder of the total is for operational resource costs, designated funds and preparing for Road Investment Strategy 3.  <a href="#">Here</a></p>
05/07/21	Written answers	Dft	<p><b>Electric Vehicles: Charging Points - UIN 25181</b>  <a href="#">Virginia Crosbie, Ynys Môn (Con):</a> To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what steps he is taking to increase the number of electric vehicle public charging points across the UK to help meet the Climate Change Committee's recommendation of 150,000 points by 2025.  <a href="#">Rachel Maclean, Redditch (Con):</a> Government is investing £1.3 billion in</p>

			<p>accelerating the roll out of charging infrastructure over the next four years, targeting support on rapid chargepoints on motorways and major roads, and installing more on-street chargepoints near homes and workplaces to make charging as easy as refuelling a petrol or diesel car. Our grant schemes and the £400 million Charging Infrastructure Investment Fund will see thousands more electric vehicle charge-points installed across the UK. We have set ambitious targets for chargepoints on our strategic road network in England to support long distance journeys. By 2023, we aim to have at least 6 high powered, open access chargepoints (150 - 350 kilowatt capable) at all motorway service areas and by 2030, we are planning for there to be around 2,500 high powered chargepoints across England 's motorways and major A roads. However, we have not set an overall target for the number of chargepoints. Having a "target" number risks assuming technology stands still and creating a uniform approach to charging mixes and needs across the country.</p> <p>Government and industry have supported the installation of almost 25,000 publicly available charging devices. This includes more than 4,500 rapid devices. To ensure the private sector can continue to expand the charging network at pace in the 2020s, the Government will invest £950 million in future proofing grid capacity along the Strategic Road Network and launching a £90 million Local EV Infrastructure Fund to support the roll out of large on-street schemes and potentially rapid charging hubs in England. Later this year we will publish an EV Infrastructure Strategy to set out the vision and action plan for charging infrastructure rollout needed to achieve the 2030/35 phase out successfully. This will set expected roles for different stakeholders and how government will intervene to address the gaps between the current market status and our vision. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
Racheal0 6/07/21	Written answers	DfT	<p><b>Electric Vehicles - UIN 24333</b>  <b>Simon Fell, Barrow and Furness (Con):</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, whether he has made an assessment of the effect of increased numbers of electric cars on the grid capacity of the (a) UK and b) North West.</p>

			<p><b><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a>:</b> The Government is working with the energy industry to plan for electric vehicle uptake, and the market is already set up to bring forward investment in new generation capacity; for example, the Contracts for Difference scheme supports investment in new low carbon generation, and additional demand can be managed through adjustments to the amount of capacity secured through the Capacity Market auctions.</p> <p>Ensuring the adequacy of the electricity network is the responsibility of electricity network companies, and they are incentivised to do so through the regulatory framework set out by Ofgem, the independent regulator. Electricity distribution network operators (DNOs) submitted their draft business plans for the next price control (RIIO ED2), which will run from 2023-28, on 1 July. As part of this, DNOs, including Electricity North West, will include forecasts for electric vehicle uptake and how they plan to ready the network for these technologies. As well as creating significant new demand, the transition to electric vehicles offers opportunities for flexible management of the electricity system. Smart charging during off-peak periods, when demand is low, can reduce peak demand and avoid triggering unnecessary network reinforcement. It can also maximise use of renewable electricity and can benefit consumers with cheaper electricity. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
12/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<p><b>Electric Vehicles: Charging Points - UIN 29167</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Virginia Crosbie, Ynys Môn (Con)</a>:</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what recent discussions he has had with the Secretary of State for Transport on increasing the number of electric vehicle public charging points across the UK to meet the Climate Change Committee's recommendation of 150,000 points by 2025.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a>:</b> The Department regularly engages with the Department for Transport on tackling climate change and delivering our net zero commitments. The Government is investing £1.3 billion in accelerating the roll out of charging infrastructure over the next four years,</p>

			<p>targeting support on rapid chargepoints on motorways and major roads, and installing more on-street chargepoints near homes and workplaces to make charging as easy as refuelling a petrol or diesel car. Our grant schemes and the £400 million Charging Infrastructure Investment Fund will see thousands more electric vehicle charge-points installed across the UK.</p> <p>Government and industry have supported the installation of almost 25,000 publicly available charging devices. This includes more than 4,500 rapid devices. In order to ensure the private sector can continue to expand the charging network at pace in the 2020s, the Government will invest £950 million in future proofing grid capacity along the Strategic Road Network and launching a £90 million Local EV Infrastructure Fund to support the roll out of large on-street schemes and potentially rapid charging hubs in England.</p> <p>However, we have not set an overall target for the number of chargepoints. Having a “target” number risks assuming technology stands still and creating a uniform approach to charging mixes and needs across the country. Later this year we will publish an EV Infrastructure Strategy to set out the vision and action plan for charging infrastructure rollout needed to achieve the 2030/35 phase out successfully. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
13/07/21	Debate	HoC	<p><b>Electric Vehicle Charging Points (New Buildings) - Vol 699</b>  <a href="#">Felicity Buchan, Kensington (Con)</a>: I beg to move, that leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about electric vehicle charging points in new buildings; and for connected purposes. The UK is one of the leaders in combating climate change and I am rightly proud of that record. Since 1990, the UK has decarbonised at the fastest rate of any G20 country and of course, we were the first to legislate for net zero by 2050. Last December, we went one step further and said that we would have an interim target of a 68% reduction by 2030. That is rightly an ambitious target and I am glad about that. However, if we are to achieve it, we need to focus on our transport sector. <a href="#">More here</a></p>
13/07/21	Correspondence	DfT	<p><b>Correspondence from Secretary of State for Transport, relating to Decarbonising transport: a better, greener Britain.</b> <a href="#">The</a></p>

			<a href="#">Secretary of State for Transport, Grant Shapps</a> , has written to the chair of the Transport Committee, <a href="#">Huw Merriman</a> , about the publication of the Transport Decarbonisation Plan. <a href="#">Here</a>
14/07/21	Press release	DfT	<b>Government publishes world's first 'greenprint' to decarbonise all modes of domestic transport by 2050.</b> Transport decarbonisation plan for cleaner air, healthier communities and tens of thousands of new green jobs. <a href="#">Here</a>
14/07/21	Written statement	DfT	<b>The Department for Transport has published a written ministerial statement on Transport Decarbonisation.</b> <a href="#">Here</a>
14/07/21	Debate	HoC/DfT	<b>Transport Decarbonisation – Vol 699 <a href="#">Grant Shapps, (The Secretary of State for Transport)</a>:</b> Transport decarbonisation is a dull way of describing something much more exciting and far-reaching, because transport is not just about how we get around. It is much more fundamental, as it shapes our towns and cities and our countryside. Today we are publishing our transport decarbonisation plan, the first in the world, a comprehensive yet urgent strategy to end transport's contribution to climate change within the next three decades, showing global leadership as we prepare to host COP26 in November. <a href="#">More here</a>
19/07/21	Debate	HoL	<b>Transport Decarbonisation - Vol 814</b> The following Statement was made in the House of Commons on Wednesday 14 July: "Transport decarbonisation is a dull way of describing something much more exciting and far-reaching, because transport is not just about how we get around. It is much more fundamental, as it shapes our towns and cities and our countryside. Today we are publishing our transport decarbonisation plan, the first in the world, a comprehensive yet urgent strategy to end transport's contribution to climate change within the next three decades, showing global leadership as we prepare to host COP 26 in November. <a href="#">More here</a>
20/07/21	Press release	EAC	<b>EAC launches new inquiry on aviation and shipping's voyage to net zero.</b> The Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) has today announced that it is to look at how the aviation and shipping sectors can best achieve net zero emissions. <a href="#">Here</a>
23/07/21	Written answers	DfT	<b>Aviation: Climate Change – UIN 35743 <a href="#">Jeff Smith, Manchester, Withington (Lab)</a>:</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, whether he plans to incorporate in the



			<p>Government's forthcoming Aviation Plan the Climate Change Committee (CCC) recommendations of December 2020 to (a) limit the growth in air passenger numbers to 25 per cent or less by 2050, in line with the CCC 's recommended Balanced Net Zero Pathway and (b) introduce a moratorium on airport expansions unless or until the aviation sector has developed low-carbon technologies that are compatible with achieving the Government's net zero emissions target.</p> <p><b><u>Robert Courts, Witney (Con):</u></b> The Government recognises the critical role that the aviation sector must play in delivering the UK's net zero commitment. Last week, we published the Transport Decarbonisation Plan and the Jet Zero Consultation which set out our vision for the aviation sector to reach net zero by 2050. Our consultation includes scenarios that achieve our net zero target with a similar level of residual aviation emissions in 2050 as within the CCC 's Balanced Pathway, and do so by focussing on new fuels and technology rather than seeking to limit demand for a crucial industry. The Government is clear that the expansion of any airport must meet our climate change obligations. We are proposing to review our Jet Zero Strategy every five years to ensure the aviation sector is on track to achieve net zero by 2050. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
23/07/21	Written answers	DfT	<p><b>Railways: Environment Protection - UIN 35855</b></p> <p><b><u>Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi, Slough (Lab):</u></b> To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what assessment the Government has made of the potential merits of adding rail as an eleventh point to the ten point Green Industrial Plan.</p> <p><b><u>Rachel Maclean, Redditch (DfT):</u></b> Rail plays a key role in the Prime Minister 's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution. In the section on 'Green Public Transport, Cycling and Walking', the plan included commitments to: invest tens of billions of pounds in enhancements and renewals of the rail network ; electrify more railway lines; end the complicated franchising model and create a simpler, more effective system; expand rail routes around our big regional cities; restore many of the rail links removed in the Beeching era; and progress the Midlands Rail Hub scheme in</p>

			Birmingham and improvements in Manchester and Leeds, alongside Northern Powerhouse Rail to improve east-west links across the Pennines. <a href="#">Here</a>
23/07/21	Written answers	Dft	<p><b>Electric Vehicles: Charging Points - UIN 35812</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Catherine West, Hornsey and Wood Green (Lab)</a></b>: To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, if he will make it his policy to increase the number of charging points for electric cars to help meet the Climate Change Committee's recommendation of 150,000 such points to be introduced by 2025.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rachel Maclean, Redditch (Con)</a></b>: The UK has been a global front-runner in supporting provision of charging infrastructure along with private sector investment. Our vision is to have one of the best infrastructure networks in the world for electric vehicles (EVs), and we want chargepoints to be accessible, affordable and secure.</p> <p>We will invest £1.3 billion in accelerating the roll out of charging infrastructure over the next four years, targeting support on rapid chargepoints on motorways and major roads, and installing more on-street chargepoints near homes and workplaces, to make charging as easy as refuelling a petrol or diesel car. Later this year, we will introduce new regulations under the Automated Electric Vehicles Act (2018) to improve the consumer experience of public charging. We will also be publishing an EV Infrastructure Strategy to set out the vision and action plan for charging infrastructure rollout needed to achieve the 2030/35 phase out successfully. This will set expected roles for different stakeholders and how government will intervene to address the gaps between the current market status and our vision.</p> <p>The Government has not set an overall target for the number of chargepoints because doing so risks assuming technology stands still and creating a uniform approach to charging mixes and needs across the country. We keep all our policies under review. <a href="#">Here</a></p>

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
01/07/21	Written statement	HMT	<p><b>HM Treasury has published a written ministerial statement on Publication of 'UK Government Green Financing Framework'. <a href="#">Here</a></b></p>
01/07/21	Written question	BEIS	<p><b>Renewable Energy - UIN 23289</b>  <a href="#">Sarah Olney, Richmond Park (LD)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what steps his Department is taking to increase the development of renewable energy to support a green economic recovery following the covid-19 outbreak.</p> <p><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (BEIS)</a>: Through my Rt. Hon. Friend the Prime Minister 's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution and our Energy White Paper we have set out concrete steps to build back greener from the pandemic and reach net zero emissions by 2050. The Ten Point Plan announced our ambitious target to quadruple the capacity of our offshore wind to deliver 40GW, including 1GW of floating offshore wind by 2030. To help deliver this, we announced in March that two new ports on the Humber and on Teesside will build the next generation of offshore wind projects –part of an up to £95 million investment to boost the UK's world-leading industry and create 6,000 new jobs in the North. Alongside this, UK Government also launched the Offshore Wind Investment Programme on 22 February to support the delivery of manufacturing investment in the offshore wind supply chain across the whole of the UK.</p> <p>We have also announced that our next Contracts for Difference scheme to support the deployment of renewable energy will be held in December this year and will be our biggest auction to date – including a pot for established renewable technologies to ensure technologies such as onshore wind and solar can play their full role in meeting net zero.</p> <p>Meanwhile, we are investing £320m to accelerate the growth of the UK heat networks market through the Heat Networks Investment Project and are preparing to launch the Green Heat Network Fund in April 2022. A new Clean Heat grant scheme will also support the deployment of heat pumps and, in limited</p>

			<p>circumstances, biomass boilers. Further information will be set out in the Government response to the consultation later this year and the scheme is due to open in April 2022. The Green Gas Support Scheme is due to launch in autumn this year and aims to increase the proportion of green gas in the grid. The Green Gas Support Scheme will be funded by the Green Gas Levy and will provide tariff-support for new biomethane produced via anaerobic digestion and injected into the gas grid. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
01/07/21	Debate	HoC	<p><b>Enabling Community Energy - Summary</b>  <a href="#">Liberal Democrat shadow leader of the House, Wera Hobhouse (Bath)</a>, moved that the House had considered enabling community energy. She told members that the two big challenges facing householders were heating and transport. She said that a change of this scale could "be achieved only through the active involvement of people, because they will have to pay for it through their energy bills, the products they buy, and the taxes they pay." <a href="#">More here</a></p>
02/07/21	Press release	MHCLG	<p><b>Minister Eddie Hughes thanks councils for efforts in tackling climate change.</b> Minister recognises vital work of councils to mobilise their efforts to combat climate change and meet our ambitious net zero targets. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
06/07/21	Oral answers	HoL	<p><b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Tax Strategy - UIN</b>  <a href="#">Lord Oates</a>: To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the benefits of implementing a tax strategy that aligns with the United Kingdom 's net zero greenhouse gas emissions target.  <a href="#">Baroness Penn</a>: My Lords, this Government are committed to net zero and take their legally binding climate commitments very seriously. The UK emissions trading scheme and a wide range of taxes, including the climate change levy and vehicle excise duty, are designed to encourage businesses and consumers to make greener choices. The Government's net-zero strategy will be published later this year. Any tax changes in future will be considered and announced by the Chancellor. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
12/07/21	Oral evidence session	HCLG Committee	<p><b>Oral evidence: Local government and the path to Net Zero.</b> <a href="#">Here</a></p>
13/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Climate Change - UIN 27354</b></p>

			<p><a href="#"><u>Navendu Mishra, Stockport (Lab)</u></a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps his Department plans to take to support the UK to meet its climate change targets in response to the recent finding by the Climate Change Committee that the UK is not keeping pace with other countries in meeting its climate change targets.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</u></a>: Tackling climate change and delivering our world-leading Net Zero target is a key priority for the Government. As the CCC recognise, we have made huge progress in cutting our emissions while growing the economy and we will continue this work. Defra are considering a wide range of measures for how to reduce emissions from our sectors and increase the amount of carbon captured by the land. For example, our future Environmental Land Management schemes will play an important role in achieving net zero, including through supporting large scale tree planting, paying for actions that can help to reduce emissions from farming, and by encouraging the adoption of sustainable soil management practices that will enable soils to sequester more carbon.</p> <p>In addition, on 18th May we launched our England Tree and Peat Action Plans, supported by the £640m Nature for Climate Fund. This fund will expand and enhance woodland cover and ensure that more peatland is restored, protected and better managed. Further to this, we are seeking to make the UK a world leader in using resources efficiently and reducing the amount of waste we create as a society. We want to prolong the lives of the materials and goods that we use and move society away from the inefficient linear economic model of 'take, make, use, throw' to a more circular one. A more detailed overview of our departmental plans to help the UK meet its climate targets will be set out in the Net Zero strategy, to be published ahead of COP26.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Here</u></a></p>
13/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<p><b>UN Climate Conference 2021: Local Government - UIN 29856</b></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Helen Hayes, Dulwich and West Norwood (Lab)</u></a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy,</p>

			<p>what recent assessment he has made of the role of local authorities in delivering the policy objectives of COP26.</p> <p><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a>: The Government recognises that local authorities can, and do, play an essential role in meeting national net zero ambitions. The Government has held Together for Our Planet round tables with Local Authorities and Community groups to receive their input in advance of COP26. BEIS's Local Energy Programme continues to support Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), local authorities and communities in England to play a leading role in decarbonisation and clean growth. Further details of how we intend to work with local government to reach net zero will be set out in the Net Zero Strategy. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
14/07/21	Press release	EA	<p><b>Innovative nature projects awarded funding to drive private investment.</b> Projects to restore kelp forests, create new woodland, deliver natural flood risk management, and improve water quality are among an initial 27 schemes to benefit from a pioneering new fund to drive private investment in nature and tackle climate change, Defra, the Environment Agency &amp; Natural England have announced today. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
14/07/21	Oral answers	COP26	<p><b>Geothermal Energy: Net Zero Target - UIN 902690</b></p> <p><a href="#">Steve Double, St Austell and Newquay (Con)</a>: What recent assessment the Climate Action Implementation Cabinet Committee has made of the role of geothermal energy in the UK reaching net zero.</p> <p><a href="#">Alok Sharma, The COP26 President</a>: The Committee that I chair has been working with Departments across Whitehall to develop our plans to deliver on our carbon budgets and, indeed, our net zero commitments. The Government consider geothermal energy a low-carbon technology that is within the scope of our new £270 million green heat network fund, which supports the commercialisation of low-carbon heat network projects and opened for applications earlier this month. <a href="#">More here</a></p>
16/07/21	Press release	NAO	<p><b>Local government and net zero in England</b></p> <p>Today's report from the National Audit Office (NAO) finds that central government has not provided local authorities with clarity about their roles in achieving net</p>

			zero by 2050, and its approach to funding their net zero work is piecemeal. <a href="#">Here</a>
16/07/21	Report	NAO	<b>Local government and net zero in England</b> Today's report from the National Audit Office (NAO) finds that central government has not provided local authorities with clarity about their roles in achieving net zero by 2050, and its approach to funding their net zero work is piecemeal. <a href="#">Report here</a>
16/07/21	Report	Treasury select committee	<b>The House of Commons Treasury Select Committee has published the Government response to the committee's report on Net Zero and the Future of Green Finance.</b> <a href="#">Report here</a>
16/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<b>Climate Change - UIN 29170</b> <a href="#">Christian Wakeford, Bury South (Con):</a> To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to progress implementation of nature-based climate solutions with the (a) speed and (b) ambition needed to deliver the UK's nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement. <a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con):</a> The UK is committed to taking ambitious, far-reaching action to tackle climate change and meet our commitments under the Paris agreement. We have announced a series of ambitious plans since committing to net zero emissions in law, including through our target to reduce emissions by at least 68% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels - the highest reduction target made by a major economy to date. Ahead of COP26, we will set out plans across key sectors of the economy through our Net Zero Strategy, to meet our carbon budgets and net zero commitment, and nature-based solutions will be a part of these plans.  We are exploring a range of potential Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) including; restoring degraded peatlands; appropriately establishing multi-purpose woodlands and protecting them; and restoring or recreating wetland and coastal habitats. We have already published our England Peat and Trees Action Plans this May which provide an ambitious framework to improve the management of peatlands, and our planting and management of woodlands and trees. This is underpinned by our £640 million Nature for Climate Fund over the course of this

			<p>Parliament which will support a trebling of tree planting across England by the end of this Parliament and help to restore 35,000ha of peatland over the next 5 years.</p> <p>We are also exploring options for incentivising private investment to further develop the nascent market in NbS. This includes enabling this market to scale up by developing robust, long term policy and regulatory frameworks to facilitate high quality investment. By making nature, including NbS to climate change, a key focus of COP26, we hope to demonstrate that NbS can deliver multiple benefits for climate, biodiversity, and people, and can therefore play a critical role in tackling these interrelated crises in an integrated way. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
16/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<p><b>Carbon Emissions - UIN 29770</b>  <a href="#">Caroline Lucas, Brighton, Pavilion (Green):</a>  To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what assessment his Department has made of the merits of Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions in order to (a) complement and (b) support the delivery of the UK's Nationally Determined Contributions to reduce at least 68 per cent by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.</p> <p><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con):</a> Under the Paris Agreement, parties should communicate nationally determined contributions that represent their highest possible ambition. In line with best practice approach for developed countries, the UK communicated a single economy wide absolute emission reduction commitment which covers all UK regions and local authorities. This is then reflected in our national Carbon Budgets.</p> <p>The Government recognises that local and regional government can, and do, play an essential role in meeting national net zero ambitions and are delivering significant programmes to support national ambition. Through our local Energy programme, we support Local Enterprise Partnerships, Local Authorities, and communities to play a leading role in decarbonisation and clean growth. Further details of how we intend to work with local government to reach net zero will be set out in the Net Zero Strategy. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
20/07/21	Press release	BEIS	<p><b>Smart technologies and data to future-proof UK energy</b></p>



			Unleashing the full potential of smart systems and flexibility in our energy sector could reduce the costs of managing the system by up to £10 billion a year by 2050, as well as generate up to 10,000 jobs. <a href="#">Here</a>
20/07/21	Written answers	HM Treasury	<p><b>Carbon Emissions - UIN 33842</b>  <a href="#">Geraint Davies, Swansea West (Lab)</a>: To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pursuant to the Answer of 15 July 2021 to Question 902805 on carbon tax in the transition to net zero, what other potential measures the Government is assessing to mitigate the risk of carbon leakage.</p> <p><a href="#">Kemi Badenoch, Saffron Walden (Con)</a>: As discussed in the Net Zero Review Interim Report and the Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy, a range of approaches could be used to help address the risk of carbon leakage. Currently, the UK addresses carbon leakage risk primarily through the provision of free UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UK ETS) allowances. Our approach to the provision of free allowances is being reviewed and we aim to consult later this year to ensure the system continues to be fair, equitable and to incentivise decarbonisation. In addition, there are further relief schemes to reduce the cumulative impact of some energy and climate change policies on industrial electricity prices for eligible energy intensive industries (EIs), on which a separate consultation is currently open. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
21/07/21	Written answers	COP26	<p><b>UN Climate Conference 2021: Local Government - UIN 29769</b>  <a href="#">Caroline Lucas, Brighton, Pavilion (Green)</a>: To ask the President of COP26, with reference to the Local Government Association motion on Local Government contributions towards national climate action in the year of COP26, published on 7 July 2021, what steps he is taking to ensure the adequate representation of local government at COP26 in order to highlight the progress being made on climate change at a local level.</p> <p><a href="#">Alok Sharma, Reading West (Con)</a>: In the run up to COP26, we are continuing to engage with local authorities and leaders across the UK through the UK Mayors and Regions Advisory Council. We also work closely with a number of non-state actor organisations such as the C40 Cities, ICLEI and UK100 to help further engage with local authorities. BEIS has contributed</p>

			towards a locally led campaign delivered through the local energy hubs, to highlight work on net zero by Local Authorities, communities and businesses across the UK. This will include running regional Electric Vehicle roadshow events in the run up to COP and hosting events in each region during the COP itself. <a href="#">Here</a>
21/07/21	Press release	Forestry Commission	<b>Forestry Commission launches new Tree Production Innovation Fund</b> New fund to ensure the quantity, quality and diversity of domestic planting stock available for tree planting in England. <a href="#">Here</a>
21/07/21	Evidence session	EAC	<b>How can all corners of Government come together to pave the way to net zero?</b> Hearing from experts Institute for Government and the Climate Change Committee, followed by a panel with two Government ministers, the Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) will be holding a one-off evidence session on what steps can be taken to actually achieve net zero emissions by 2050 and adapt to climate change. <a href="#">Here</a>
22/07/21	Written answers	HoL/Defra	<b>Climate Change: Public Consultation - UIN HL1912</b> <a href="#">Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick:</a> To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have for public engagement on climate change mitigations ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow in October–November. <a href="#">Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park:</a> Ahead of COP26 we have launched the Together for our Planet campaign to engage the public in the run-up to COP26 and celebrate the work people across the UK are doing to combat climate change. The campaign aims to drive awareness and create opportunities for people across the UK to participate in the run-up to COP26. The Together for our Planet campaign is building momentum in the lead up to COP26 by showcasing how people across the UK are going One Step Greener to tackle climate change. Our One Step Greener 'Climate Leaders' will show how much inspirational action on climate change is already taking place.  As Presidency, we are committed to securing an outcome that respects and reflects the interests of all Parties, including those most impacted by climate change. We want to work with civil society to amplify the voices of those on the front line

			of climate change to deliver a truly 'all of society' and inclusive COP. Civil society organisations, with their links to on-the-ground communities and practitioners, are agents of change and their knowledge and leadership is necessary to deliver effective local solutions. <a href="#">Here</a>
26/07/21	Consultation outcome	BEIS	<b>The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has published a consultation outcome on enabling a high renewable, net zero electricity system: call for evidence.</b> <a href="#">Here</a>
26/07/21	Speech	COP26	<b>Speech by <a href="#">COP26 President, Alok Sharma</a>, at press conference following two day ministerial meeting in London.</b> <a href="#">Here</a>
26/07/21	Press release	ECCC	<b>Boost action and diplomacy to protect nature, Committee tell government</b> The Environment and Climate Change Committee have published a letter to Environment Secretary George Eustice setting out what they believe the Government should do to make COP15 – the United Nations Biodiversity Conference due to be hosted by China in October - a success and to combat the loss of biodiversity. <a href="#">Here</a>
27/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions - UIN 35847</b> <a href="#">Sarah Jones, Croydon Central (Lab)</a> : To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, with reference to the G7 Climate and Environment: Ministers' Communiqué, published on 21 May 2021, when the long-term strategy for the UK's pathway to zero greenhouse emissions by 2050 will be published. <a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a> : The Net Zero Strategy will be published before COP26, and will build on my Rt. Hon. Friend the Prime Minister 's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution. This will be our Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in our information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding that accompanied the UK's new nationally determined contribution back in December. A number of sector strategies are also being published this year, as well as the Net Zero Strategy, including the Heat and Buildings Strategy and the Hydrogen Strategy. We have also recently published the Transport Decarbonisation Plan – the first such Plan in the world – setting transport on the path to net zero by 2050. <a href="#">Here</a>

27/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<p><b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions - UIN 35848</b>  <u><a href="#">Sarah Jones, Croydon Central (Lab)</a></u>: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what policies his Department (a) has proposed and (b) plans to propose to help the Government meet the 2050 net zero target.</p> <p><u><a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a></u>: My Rt. Hon. Friend the Prime Minister has set out his Ten Point Plan for the UK to lead the world into a Green Industrial Revolution. This innovative programme sets out ambitious policies and £12 billion government investment to support up to 250,000 green jobs, accelerate our path to reaching net zero by 2050 and lay the foundations for our green recovery by building back greener from COVID-19. The Energy White Paper sets out our plans for the transformation of our energy system, including actions to fully decarbonise electricity generation by 2050. This drives forward the Ten Point Plan commitments, reaffirming how clean energy means jobs and economic growth for the whole country, moving on from COVID-19 to build back better, support green jobs, and accelerate our path to net zero.</p> <p>In March this year we published the Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy, the first by a major economy which sets out how industry can decarbonise in line with net zero while remaining competitive and without pushing emissions abroad. The strategy includes ambitions and expectations such as emissions in industry needing to fall by around two thirds by 2035, as well as policy priorities for the next ten years and seeks to provide industry with the long-term certainty it needs to invest in decarbonisation. We also recently published the Transport Decarbonisation Plan – the first such Plan in the world – setting transport on the path to net zero by 2050.</p> <p>Through the above plans, we have set out the concrete steps that we will take to build back greener from the pandemic and reach net zero emissions by 2050. Ahead of COP26, we will bring forward further bold proposals, including a Net Zero Strategy, to cut emissions and create new jobs and industries across the whole country. We are also publishing a number</p>
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			of sector strategies this year, as well as the Net Zero Strategy, including the Heat and Buildings Strategy and a Hydrogen Strategy. <a href="#">Here</a>
27/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<b>Carbon Emissions - UIN 35968</b> <a href="#">Alexander Stafford, Rother Valley (Lab)</a> : To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, if he will introduce a framework to support local authorities to deliver on net zero in the upcoming Net Zero Strategy. <a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a> : We will set out our future plans in the Net Zero Strategy which is currently under development. <a href="#">Here</a>
28/07/21	Written answers	BEIS	<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions - UIN 36707</b> <a href="#">Helen Hayes, Dulwich and West Norwood (Lab)</a> : To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what assessment he has made of the feasibility that UK reaches net zero emissions sooner than 2050. <a href="#">Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Con)</a> : The UK was the first major economy to legislate for a net zero target. This target was set in line with advice from our independent expert advisers, the Climate Change Committee (CCC), that 2050 was the earliest feasible date for achieving this. The CCC made clear in their advice on the 6th Carbon Budget, published in December 2020, that net zero in 2050 remains the right target for the UK. <a href="#">Here</a>

## 25 year Environment Bill/OEP

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
01/07/21	Press release	EAC	<b>MPs scrutinise progress made to establish new environmental watchdog.</b> With the new Interim Office for Environmental Protection (OEP) set to be established in non-statutory form from today, the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee and Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee will hold a hearing with its Chair-designate, Dame Glenys Stacey. <a href="#">Here</a>
07/07/21	Oral evidence	EAC	<b>Oral evidence: Work of the Interim Office for Environmental Protection, HC 496.</b> <a href="#">Here</a>
16/07/21	Bill	HoL	<b>Environment Bill</b> The House of Lords has published the Environment Bill as amended in Committee. <a href="#">Here</a>

26/07/21	Written answers	HoL/Defra	<p><b>Nature Conservation - UIN HL1913</b>  <a href="#">Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick:</a> To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to amend the Environment Bill to introduce a legally binding target to halt and reverse the decline of nature.</p> <p><a href="#">Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park:</a> As a core part of our commitment to leave the environment in a better state than we found it, we have amended the Environment Bill to require a new, historic legally binding target for species abundance for 2030 to be set, aiming to halt the decline of nature. Tackling the long-term decline of nature will be challenging but through this new target we are committing ourselves to that objective. A domestic 2030 species target will not only benefit our species but the actions necessary will also help to drive wider environmental improvements.</p> <p>Our focus is now on the detailed work to develop a fully evidenced target. We are developing the scientific and economic evidence to underpin this target. The duty to set this target is in addition to the existing requirement to set at least one long-term legally binding biodiversity target. Interventions should not be made, or targets set, in isolation. We are taking a system-based approach to the setting of targets, as far as possible, so that we consider the targets collectively and understand their interdependencies. We will continue to work with stakeholders and independent experts to ensure policy action furthers the objective of halting a decline of species.</p> <p>We will refine the 2030 species target following the agreement of global targets expected to be agreed at the Convention on Biological Diversity's COP15. The details of the 2030 target will be set in secondary legislation, in the same manner as the other long-term targets. We expect to publish a public consultation in early 2022 on all proposed legally binding targets. This would include a rationale for the proposed targets and a summary of the evidence used to inform targets. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
26/07/21	Written answers	HoL/Defra	<p><b>Nappies: Waste Disposal - UIN HL1976</b>  <a href="#">Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick:</a> To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they plan to take to reduce single-use nappy waste</p>

			<p>as far as possible by 2042, under the 25 Year Environment Plan.</p> <p><b><u>Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park:</u></b> In line with the 25 Year Environment Plan, and our Resources and Waste Strategy, we are considering the best approach to minimise the environmental impact of a range of products, including nappies, taking on board the environmental and social impacts of the options available. Potential additional policy measures include standards, consumer information and encouraging voluntary action by business. We are seeking powers, through the Environment Bill, that will enable us to, where appropriate and subject to consultation, introduce ecodesign and consumer information requirements. This could include labelling schemes that provide accurate information to consumers, to drive the market towards more sustainable products. We are also seeking powers through the Bill to enable us to put in place extended producer responsibility schemes, where required, that relate to the efficient use of resources for a wide range of products, which could include nappies.</p> <p>We are also funding an environmental assessment of disposable and washable absorbent hygiene products with the primary focus on nappies. This is looking at the waste and energy impacts of washable and disposable products, disposal to landfill or incineration, and recycling options. The research will be published later this year, following peer review, and will help inform possible future action on nappies by the Government and industry, including any work with local authorities. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
28/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Climate Change and Ecology - UIN 36765</b></p> <p><b><u>Luke Pollard, Plymouth, Sutton and Devonport (Lab):</u></b> To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, whether his Department has declared a climate and ecological emergency.</p> <p><b><u>Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con):</u></b> The UK has adopted some of the most ambitious climate change and environment policies and commitments in the world. Our Nationally Determined Contribution to cut emissions by 78% by 2035 is the most ambitious in the world. We became the first major economy to set a</p>

			<p>net zero target in law in 2019. We have doubled our International Climate Finance, and are investing nearly a third of it in nature-based solutions to climate change. We are leading coalitions of ambitious countries to protect at least 30% of the world's land and water by 2030, to redirect land use subsidies globally to support sustainability and renewal, and to breaking the link between commodity production and illegal deforestation. Among numerous world-first interventions, the Environment Bill is being amended to create a duty to set a historic target on species abundance for 2030, aiming to halt the decline in nature.</p> <p><a href="#">Here</a></p>

## Environment – Waste

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
07/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Fly-tipping: Crime Prevention and Sentencing - UIN 24184</b></p> <p><a href="#">Andrew Bridgen, North West Leicestershire (Con)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps his Department is taking to prevent fly-tipping on private land; and whether the Government plans to review sentencing guidelines for perpetrators of fly-tipping.</p> <p><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a>: We appreciate the difficulty and cost that fly-tipping poses to landowners and we are working with a wide range of interested parties through the National Fly-Tipping Prevention Group, including the National Farmers' Union (NFU) and the Country Land and Business Association (CLA), to promote and disseminate good practice. Our 2018 Resources and Waste Strategy set out our strategic approach to prevent, detect and deter waste crime. This included a commitment to develop a fly-tipping toolkit. The toolkit will be a web-based tool to help local authorities and others work in partnership to tackle fly-tipping. Budget 2020 allocated up to £2 million to support innovative solutions to tackle fly-tipping. In April 2021 we commissioned a research project considering the drivers, deterrents and impacts of fly-tipping. This research project is due to be completed before the end of this year and will support informed policy making. We are exploring</p>



			<p>additional funding opportunities, including the role of digital solutions.</p> <p>We are also preparing a number of legislative reforms to tackle waste crime, which should help to tackle fly-tipping. We are taking forward the commitment in the Resources and Waste Strategy to develop proposals for the reform of the waste carrier, broker, and dealer regime. We are working with industry and the regulator and we intend to consult later this year. We also intend to consult on the introduction of mandatory electronic waste tracking. Digital records of waste movements will allow regulators to detect when waste doesn't reach the next stage, which may indicate illegal activity including fly-tipping.</p> <p>We are bringing forward several measures in the Environment Bill to ensure agencies and authorities can work more effectively to combat waste crime through better access to evidence and improved powers of entry. These new powers will help ensure waste criminals, such as illegitimate waste operators reliant on fly-tipping for income, are held accountable for their actions. Sentencing guidelines are issued by the independent Sentencing Council for England and Wales, which decides its own work plan for developing/revising sentencing guidelines. The Sentencing Council has issued guidelines for environmental offences, which cover fly-tipping and other waste crimes. The Resources and Waste Strategy includes a commitment to work with the Sentencing Council to support any updates to the Environmental Offences Definitive Guideline should a review be undertaken.</p> <p>In recent years we have bolstered local authorities' powers to tackle fly-tipping. We have introduced the power to issue fixed penalty notices of up to £400 to both fly-tippers and householders who pass their waste to an unlicensed waste carrier. We have also increased local authorities' powers to stop, search and seize vehicles of suspected fly-tippers. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
07/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Nappies: Recycling - UIN 24372</b>  <a href="#">Selaine Saxby, North Devon (Con)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, whether his</p>

			<p>Department has made an assessment of the implications for its policies of the recommendations of the UN Environment Programme's Life Cycle Initiative's report on single-use nappies and their alternatives, published March 2021.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a>:</b> In line with the 25 Year Environment Plan, and our Resources and Waste Strategy, we are considering the best approach to minimise the environmental impact of a range of products, including nappies, taking on board the environmental and social impacts of the options available. Potential additional policy measures include standards, consumer information and encouraging voluntary action by business. Through the Environment Bill, we are seeking powers that will enable us to, where appropriate and subject to consultation, introduce eco-design and consumer information requirements. This could include labelling schemes that provide accurate information to consumers, to drive the market towards more sustainable products. The Environment Bill will also enable us to put in place extended producer responsibility schemes as well as design and labelling requirements, that relate to the efficient use of resources, for a wide range of products, including potentially nappies.</p> <p>We are aware of the UN Environment Programme's report which references a number of life cycle analyses on nappies from around the world, including the work carried out by the Environment Agency in the UK in 2005 and 2008. We are also funding our own environmental assessment of disposable and washable absorbent hygiene products, with the primary focus on nappies, to bring the research for the UK up to date. The work will be published later this year, following peer review, and the sources of the information used will be included in the final report. Any future action on nappies by Government and industry will take this and any other relevant information into account. <b><a href="#">Here</a></b></p>
09/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Domestic Waste: Recycling - UIN 24969</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Jim Shannon, Strangford (DUP)</a>:</b> To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, if he will make an assessment of the potential merits of</p>

			<p>providing additional funding to local councils for the purposes of improving waste and recycling services for household waste.</p> <p><b><u>Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con):</u></b> As part of the Government's Resource and Waste Strategy, published in 2019, Defra launched consultations on introducing major changes to recycling services through a suite of collection and packaging reforms. These reforms include introducing consistency in recycling; Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging; and a Deposit Return Scheme.</p> <p>The reform on consistency in recycling aims to help reduce confusion, and thereby improve the quantity and quality of what we recycle both at home and at work.</p> <p>Following support for the proposals in our 2019 consultation on 'Consistency in Household and Business Recycling Collections in England,' we have introduced legislation through the Environment Bill that requires all local authorities in England to make arrangements for a core set of materials to be collected for recycling from households. This core set includes: paper and card; plastic; glass; metal; food waste and garden waste.</p> <p>On 7 May we published a second consultation on recycling consistency. The consultation is seeking further views on recycling consistency, including the materials in scope, exemptions and statutory guidance. We intend to provide further detail on the requirements outlined in the Environment Bill in secondary legislation. Even though these regulations will have effect in England only, as a matter of good practice we will inform Devolved Administrations of our regulations once they are drafted. Any new financial burdens introduced through new statutory duties on local authorities will be assessed and the net additional cost covered by the Government. We are working to assess net additional costs to local authorities and will continue to engage with local authorities on the cost estimates, as well as the appropriate</p>
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			<p>timing for funding to be provided to authorities, to enable sufficient lead-in time ahead of the introduction of recycling consistency reforms. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
13/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Recycling: Paper - UIN 27321</b>  <a href="#">Daisy Cooper, St Albans (LD)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, with reference to the announcement of 7 May 2021, New plans unveiled to boost recycling, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of introducing guidance for all local authorities on the acceptance of recycling paper gift wrap that bears the recyclable logo.</p> <p><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a>: As part of Government's Resources and Waste Strategy, published in 2019, we are introducing new measures through the Environment Bill to increase the quantity and quality of recycling. These measures will require local authorities to collect the following dry recyclable waste streams from all households in England: plastic, glass, metal, paper and card. The Bill includes powers to specify which materials local authorities should be required to collect in each of the recyclable waste streams (including paper and card). We intend to specify these materials in secondary legislation and may provide further detail in statutory guidance. Wrapping paper is generally accepted for kerbside collection, however, it can often become unrecyclable due to contamination with sticky tape. Wrapping paper which contain foil or glitter are not recyclable. Recycle Now which is a part of the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), has produced guidance on the recycling of wrapping paper here: <a href="https://www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/wrapping-paper-1">https://www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/wrapping-paper-1</a>. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
16/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Plastics - UIN 29109</b>  <a href="#">Helen Hayes, Dulwich and West Norwood (Lab)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps he is taking to reduce the use of single use plastics; and what assessment his Department has made of the benefits of a target of 50 per cent reduction by 2025.</p> <p><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a>: The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan sets out our ambition to eliminate all</p>

			<p>avoidable plastic waste by the end of 2042, including from single-use plastics. We are making great strides to tackle plastic pollution across the country. In December 2018 we published the Resources and Waste Strategy, which sets out how we want to achieve this and move towards a circular economy and keep resources in the system for as long as possible.</p> <p>We have made significant progress on reducing single-use plastic products. In October 2020, we introduced measures to restrict the supply of plastic straws, plastic drink stirrers, and plastic-stemmed cotton buds. The single-use carrier bag charge, which has led to a 95% reduction in the use of single-use carrier bags by the main supermarkets, has been increased to 10p and extended to all retailers to encourage customers to bring their own bags to carry shopping and reduce the volumes of single-use plastic being used. We will continue to review the latest evidence on problematic products and materials to take a systematic approach to reducing the use of unnecessary single-use plastic products, including problematic packaging materials. However, we must think carefully about introducing bans and other policy solutions to avoid unintended consequences, such as a switch to another single-use material.</p> <p>Our Environment Bill will enable us to significantly change the way we manage waste and take forward a number of proposals from the Resources and Waste Strategy. The Bill will include powers to create Extended Producer Responsibility schemes, introduce Deposit Return Schemes, and give us the power to set new charges for other single-use plastic items. Our consultations on an EPR scheme for packaging and a DRS for drinks containers closed on 4 June. From April 2022, we will introduce a new tax on plastic packaging, set at £200 per tonne for packaging that does not contain at least 30% recycled content. The tax is estimated to lead to around 40% more recycled plastic being used in packaging in 2022/23, saving nearly 200,000 tonnes of CO2. In effect a tonne of recycled plastic</p>
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			<p>will be over £600 more valuable. This will create a market for recycled content, which we expect to drive investment in further capacity in the UK.</p> <p>The Government has put together a package of over £100 million for research and innovation to tackle the issues that arise from plastic waste. £38 million was set aside through the Plastics Research and Innovation Fund, the last funding competition of which opened in June 2020. The Resource Action Fund included £10 million specifically to pioneer innovative approaches to boosting recycling and reducing litter. The Government has also announced £60million of funding through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, alongside a £150 million investment from industry, towards the development of smart, sustainable plastic packaging (SSPP), which will aim to make the UK a world leader in sustainable packaging for consumer products. Two SSPP funding opportunities have been open for bids in 2021: the SSPP Demonstrator Round 2 and the SSPP business-led research and development competition.</p> <p>The Department has not made an assessment of the impact of a target to reduce single-use plastics by 50% by 2025. However, the Environment Bill includes a requirement for the Government to set at least one long-term target on resource efficiency and waste reduction. Work is already underway on developing these targets, in order to help guide the government the Resources and Waste Targets Expert Group has been formed. More information can be found at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/resources-and-waste-targets-expert-group">https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/resources-and-waste-targets-expert-group</a>. Moreover, the Government is exploring packaging recycling targets under our proposals for extended producer responsibility for packaging. The consultation on our more detailed proposals closed on 4 June 2021. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
19/07/21	Written answers	DIT	<p><b>Trade Negotiations: Polluter Pays Principle - UIN 33970</b></p> <p><a href="#">Rachael Maskell, York Central (Lab)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for International Trade, what polluter pays clauses have</p>

			<p>been inserted into each of the new trade deals.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Mr Ranil Jayawardenam, North East Hampshire (Con)</a></b>: We are committed to a high level of protection of the environment in all new trade agreements, including provisions to support HM Government's ambition on climate change. In our trade agreements with the EU and the European Economic Area (EEA), we agreed the principle of preventative action, as well as the principle that the polluter should pay for damage caused to the environment. The precise details of ongoing negotiations are a matter for formal negotiations. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
20/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Plastics: Waste - UIN 31464</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Rachael Maskell, York Central (Lab)</a></b>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what recent discussions he has had with (a) manufacturers and (b) supermarkets and their supply chains on reducing plastic waste.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a></b>: The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan sets out our ambition to eliminate all avoidable plastic waste, and in December 2018 we published the Resources and Waste Strategy which sets out how we want to achieve this and move towards a circular economy which aims to keep resources in the system for as long as possible. Our Environment Bill will enable us to change significantly the way that we manage our waste and take forward a number of the proposals from the Resources and Waste Strategy. The Bill will include powers to create extended producer responsibility schemes; introduce deposit return schemes; establish greater consistency in the recycling system; better control the export of plastic waste; and give us the power to set new charges for other single-use plastic items. Further information can be found at: <a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/news/stronger-protections-for-the-environment-move-closer-as-landmark-bill-takes-shape">www.gov.uk/government/news/stronger-protections-for-the-environment-move-closer-as-landmark-bill-takes-shape</a>.</p> <p>We have recently consulted on a deposit return scheme for drinks containers, extended producer responsibility for packaging and our reforms to household and business waste collection. Alongside</p>

			<p>these public consultations, within Government the Resources and Waste Strategy division (RWS) conducts regular meetings with key stakeholders across the supply chain to discuss our policy development and ambitions. For example, the RWS Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) meets quarterly, and the members invited cover a broad range of areas within the resources and waste sector, including representatives of manufacturers, supermarkets and their supply chains.</p> <p>The Government also works closely with the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP). In April 2018, WRAP launched the UK Plastics Pact (UKPP) in association with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation (EMF). The UK Plastics Pact is a collaborative initiative to create a circular system that keeps plastic in the economy and out of the natural environment. The Pact's members include over 95% of the UK grocery market by market share in 2019. By 2025 members have agreed to meeting the following targets: eliminate problematic / unnecessary single-use plastic packaging; 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable, recyclable, or compostable; 70% of plastic packaging to be effectively recycled or composted; and finally, 30% average recycled content across all plastic packaging. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
20/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Plastics: Waste - UIN 31463</b>  <a href="#">Rachael Maskell, York Central (Lab)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what estimate he has made of the volume of plastic waste produced in (a) England and (b) the UK in each of the last five years.</p> <p><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a>: The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan sets out our ambition to eliminate all avoidable plastic waste and we are making great strides to tackle plastic pollution across the country. In December 2018 we published the Resources and Waste Strategy, which sets out how we want to achieve this, move towards a circular economy and keep resources in the system for as long as possible.</p> <p>Our Environment Bill will enable us to significantly change the way that we manage our waste and take forward a</p>



			<p>number of the proposals from the Resources and Waste Strategy. The Bill will include powers to create Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes; introduce Deposit Return Schemes (DRS); establish greater consistency in the recycling system; better control the export of plastic waste; and give us the power to set new charges for other single-use plastic items. These measures will help us reduce the amount of plastic waste generated and keep resources in the system for as long as possible to extract maximum value from them.</p> <p>In their plastic market situation report the Waste and Resource Action Programme (WRAP) estimate that 2.36Mt of plastic packaging and 2.5Mt of non-packaging plastic waste was generated in the UK in 2017. A recent plastic flow report by Valpak's suggested that the amount of plastic packaging generated in the UK fell to 2.29Mt in 2019. We do publish figures on the amount of plastic packaging generated and recycled and these can be found in our published dataset here: ENV23 - UK statistics on waste - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). The latest figures cover 2017 and we are due to publish figures for 2018, 2019 and 2020 on the 15 July.</p> <p>Regarding the total volume of plastic waste generated, figures for some separately identifiable plastics are available, however there are significant tonnages of mixed waste categories, which will contain plastic, for which we do not have robust composition estimates. Therefore, we cannot provide a figure on the total volume of plastic waste generated/ produced for England or the UK. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
22/07/21	Written Ministerial statement	Defra	<p><b>Contingencies Fund Advance – Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility.</b> The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has published a written ministerial statement on Contingencies Fund Advance – Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
23/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Waste: Recycling - UIN 33362</b>  <a href="#">Alicia Kearns, Rutland and Melton (Con):</a>  To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, if he will commit to setting a target for a 68 per</p>

			<p>cent recycling rate by 2030 covering all wastes in England in line with the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con):</a></b> The Government has committed to recycle 65% of municipal waste by 2035, with less than 10% municipal waste going to landfill. We set out measures to achieve this target in our 2019 Resources and Waste Strategy and the Environment Bill. From the combined impacts of consistent recycling collection, Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging and a Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers, we estimate that we will meet this commitment. These three reforms are estimated to deliver over 30 million tonnes of CO2 emissions savings between 2023-2035. We have also published plans for monitoring and evaluating progress on the Resources and Waste Strategy and will publish annual statistics of recycling as now. <b><a href="#">Here</a></b></p>
23/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Waste: Landfill - UIN 33360</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Alicia Kearns, Rutland and Melton (Con):</a></b> To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, if he will bring forward to 2025 the ban on biodegradable waste being sent to landfill in line with the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con):</a></b> As set out in our Resources and Waste Strategy, we will continue to explore policies to work towards eliminating all biodegradable waste to landfill by 2030. Climate Change Committee advice is taken into account in policy development. We are also continuing to analyse expected future levels of municipal residual waste and infrastructure needs. Our measures to introduce consistency in household and business recycling collections includes a requirement to collect separately food and garden waste from households that will, once implemented, help to achieve a reduction in the amount of biodegradable waste that is sent for disposal in landfill. <b><a href="#">Here</a></b></p>
23/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Waste: Exports - UIN 33361</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Alicia Kearns, Rutland and Melton (Con):</a></b> To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps he is taking to phase out exports of</p>

			<p>waste by 2030 in line with the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee.</p> <p><b><u><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con):</a></u></b>  Defra is working with the Department for International Trade on supporting the development of more recycling infrastructure within the UK to reduce the need to export wastes to other countries.</p> <p>Our Environment Bill will enable us to significantly change the way that we manage our waste. We have recently concluded consultations on using powers in the Bill such as for a Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers, an Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme for packaging, and proposals for greater consistency in household and business recycling. These measures will increase the quality and quantity of wastes collected for recycling, drive up demand for recycled materials and provide an incentive for industry to invest in UK reprocessing infrastructure.</p> <p>We are also taking action to reduce the volume of waste generated in the first place. Our approach is focused on encouraging greater uptake of reusable alternatives and increasing supply and demand for secondary materials to be recycled in the UK. The Resources and Waste Strategy also sets out the Government's plans to reduce, reuse, and recycle more than we do now. Where the UK cannot currently recycle materials economically, exports can help ensure those materials are recycled rather than landfilled. Recycling one tonne of plastics reduces emissions by 1.1 - 3.0 tonnes of CO2e, compared to producing the same tonne of plastics from virgin fossil feedstock.</p> <p>The UK Government is committed to banning the export of plastic waste for recycling or disposal to countries that are not members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). We currently plan to consult before the end of 2022 on options to deliver the proposed ban. <b><u><a href="#">Here</a></u></b></p>
26/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Food: Waste - UIN 33363</b>  <b><u><a href="#">Alicia Kearns, Rutland and Melton (Con):</a></u></b>  To ask the Secretary of State for</p>

			<p>Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, if he will introduce mandatory business food waste reporting by 2022 in line with the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a></b>: We will consult this year on introducing regulations to make the public reporting of food waste volumes mandatory for certain businesses of an appropriate size. By ensuring businesses are measuring and publicly reporting their food waste, we expect to drive action to reduce it.</p> <p>Due to the ongoing impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on food and drink businesses, we postponed the launch of this consultation. Some businesses will require time to embed measurement techniques and build confidence in their data. This needs to be balanced alongside the need to continue reducing our food waste, increasing redistribution of surplus and measuring more accurately to understand the scale of the problem. We therefore propose that reporting starts at least one year after regulations are passed. This will offer businesses time to seek guidance and implement measurement techniques within their operations.</p> <p>Subject to the consultation responses we therefore would be requiring businesses to report food waste in 2024, for food waste measured in the 2023/2024 financial year. This will ensure data is readily available which in turn will allow for comparison and assessment against our national and international targets. <b><a href="#">Here</a></b></p>
27/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Waste Disposal - UIN 35802</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Helen Hayes, Dulwich and West Norwood (Lab)</a></b>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what assessment the Government has made of the potential merits of giving local authorities increased powers to direct waste producers, including property managers for properties with shared services, to sort waste appropriately.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a></b>: In respect of household waste, local authorities already have powers under section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA) to serve a notice requiring an occupier to put their waste for</p>

			<p>collection in a specified kind and number of receptacles. Clause 57(5) of the Environment Bill amends section 46(2) of the EPA so that, subject to it being reasonable, an English waste collection authority (WCA) may require separate receptacles or compartments of receptacles to be used for the purposes of complying with its duties under new section 45A or 45AZA. This would mean that an English WCA can require different recyclable waste streams to be put in different receptacles.</p> <p>A person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any requirements imposed by section 46 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale. An authorised officer may issue a fixed penalty notice under section 47ZA of the EPA to enable a person to discharge any liability to conviction for the offence. If a person has failed to comply with a section 46 requirement, WCAs can also give a written notice under section 46A of the EPA if the failure has caused or is or was likely to cause a nuisance or has been or is or was likely to be detrimental to any amenities of the locality. If a written warning gets ignored, they can issue a financial penalty under section 46B. They also are not required to collect the waste if it is put out in contravention of a section 46 requirement.</p> <p>Regarding household waste from non-domestic premises and relevant waste (which is commercial and industrial waste, which is similar in nature and composition to household waste), the Environment Bill requires that the person that presents waste for collection under the arrangements must present it separated in accordance with the arrangements (which must comply with the requirements in the Environment Bill). This would therefore include the waste producer but also a property manager if they were presenting the waste on behalf of a number of properties.</p> <p>Under section 47 of the Environmental Protection Act, a WCA may already serve a notice against a business if their waste is not stored in receptacles of a particular</p>
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			<p>kind and it is likely to cause a nuisance or to be detrimental to the amenities of the locality. Clause 57(6) of the Environment Bill amends s47(3) of the EPA so that WCAs can require separate receptacles or compartments to be used for the purposes of complying with the requirements in new s45AZB. We are not currently planning on amending this legislation to change the powers that local authorities have. Our consultation on 'Consistency in Household and Business Recycling,' recently closed and we are considering responses to our proposals on the detail around enforcement. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
27/07/21	Written answers	Defra	<p><b>Waste Management - UIN 35801</b>  <a href="#">Helen Hayes, Dulwich and West Norwood (Lab)</a>: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to ensure that changes to waste management reflect differing local contexts including (a) availability of space for waste storage, (b) differing collection frequency needs and (c) difficulties in separating food waste in areas where residents predominantly live in flats; and what steps his Department is taking to ensure that local authorities are empowered to make adjustments in accordance with those contexts.</p> <p><a href="#">Rebecca Pow, Taunton Deane (Con)</a>: We want to make recycling easier and ensure that there is a comprehensive, consistent service across England. The Environment Bill stipulates that all local authorities in England must make arrangements for a core set of materials to be collected for recycling from households. This core set includes paper and card; plastic; glass; metal; food waste and garden waste.</p> <p>Local authorities can still decide to collect the recyclable waste streams co-mingled (ie. multiple waste streams collected together) in cases where it is not technically or economically practicable to collect the recyclable waste streams separately from each other, or there is no significant environmental benefit in doing so, subject to completing a written assessment. The only exception to this is that food and garden waste must always be collected separately from the dry recyclable waste streams. Local authorities may apply these exceptions in</p>

			<p>circumstances where there is a lack of available storage space to collect recycling streams separately – including blocks of flats. We have recently consulted on plans to develop further guidance on written exemptions and best practice for local authorities. This guidance will take into consideration views provided by stakeholders during our recent public consultation.</p> <p>Local authorities will also maintain the ability to decide the frequency of recyclable waste collections, except for food waste which will need to be separately collected on a weekly basis. Finally, local authorities will be provided with new burdens funding to support adjustments to their waste collection services necessitated by our reforms. We are working to assess the net additional costs of our reforms as provided in the Impact Assessment accompanying our second public consultation on recycling consistency. As part of this process, we will engage with local authorities to consider the appropriate nature and timing of funding. <a href="#">Here</a></p>
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### Industrial strategy & local industrial strategies

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes

### Planning

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
15/07/21	Debate	HoC	<p><b>Planning – Vol 699</b>  <b><a href="#">Bob Seely, Isle of Wight (Con)</a>:</b> I beg to move, that this House has considered the future of the planning system and the upcoming Planning Bill... I will reiterate some concerns and, significantly, suggest as many solutions as I can; some have been made by me and some by near 100 Members on the WhatsApp group. I sent those ideas to the Prime Minister and to the Housing Department a few weeks ago for thought, and I look forward to a response. I put forward an approach to planning based on three principles: that it should be community led, levelling-up led and environment led. I commend those to</p>

			Ministers. First, however, I will outline some concerns. <a href="#">More here</a>
19/07/21	Oral answers	MHCLG	<p><b>Planning System Modernisation – Vol 699</b>  <a href="#">Laura Trott, Sevenoaks (Con):</a>  What steps he is taking to modernise the planning system in England.</p> <p><a href="#">Robert Jenrick, The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government:</a> We will modernise the planning system, ensuring a simpler, faster and more predictable system that delivers more homes, more infrastructure, such as schools and hospitals, and honours our commitment to net zero and the environment. Our reforms will also make the planning system more accessible through digital plan making, ensuring more local people—more than the 1% who currently engage with the planning system—can get involved. We are taking power out of the hands of the big developers and giving it back to local communities and small builders so that, together, we can build back better. <a href="#">More here</a></p>

#### Transport – Sub-national Transport Boards (STBs) – (eg TfN, TfSE)

Date	Type	Organisation	Notes
02/07/21	Press release	TfN	<b>Decarbonisation Strategy sets out ambitious targets for near-zero surface transport carbon by 2045.</b> People in the North of England are encouraged to have their say on the region's Decarbonisation Strategy at a series of online public consultation events next month. <a href="#">Here</a>
15/07/21	Press release	TfN	<b>Transport Decarbonisation Strategy needs to translate aims into actions.</b> The Government has published its Transport Decarbonisation Strategy, which focuses on the priorities needed to decarbonise all domestic transport by 2050. <a href="#">Here</a>
22/07/21	Written answers	HoL/DfT	<p><b>Transport for London: Finance - UIN HL1925</b>  <a href="#">Lord Taylor of Warwick:</a> To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to introduce a long-term funding deal for Transport for London to support a return to work in London.</p> <p><a href="#">Baroness Vere of Norbiton:</a> The third extraordinary funding package has been agreed with Transport for London (TfL) covering the period to 11 December 2021, to give time to better understand future demand. The Government is supporting TfL as they deliver on the conditions attached</p>



			to this funding package and as we work towards a possible longer-term funding agreement which all sides could support. <a href="#">Here</a>
26/07/21	Press release		<b>TfL publishes revised budget showing progress towards financial sustainability – but more Government support required.</b> <a href="#">Here</a>