

Net Zero Review consultation guidance

Suggestions to answers for General questions 1-7

1. How does net zero enable us to meet our economic growth target of 2.5% a year?

As a private citizen I firmly believe that the spread of green technology will produce growth and avoid a drag on long term future growth from fuel prices.

2. What challenges and obstacles have you identified to decarbonisation?

As a private individual I find it difficult to get reliable information about which products/services/behaviours are the most effective in helping me to decarbonise.

To help me I need:

Strong and consistent leadership from the Government with reliable information.

Realistic methods to help me e.g heat my home in a low carbon way, travel in a more environmentally friendly way etc.

To be helped financially to do these things – if I had a reliable dividend as explained in CCI's report <https://citizensclimatelobby.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/CCL-UK-Full-briefing-V3-81.pdf> this would be a major incentive .

3. What opportunities are there for new/amended measures to stimulate or facilitate the transition to net zero in a way that is pro-growth and/or pro-business?

The obvious measure is Climate Income as proposed by the Citizens Climate Lobby and advocated by think tanks such as Policy Exchange and The Centre for Policy Studies. This provides a market solution and so encourages innovation & growth, incentivises new domestic businesses and keeps the transition to net zero popular via the Dividend.

Note – Climate Income is the combination of a high and rising fee/tax on all carbon entering the economy at port or mine/well with the funds collected being distributed equally as a dividend to all citizens. The Fee generates the price incentive for transition to net zero throughout the economy and the Dividend keeps it politically neutral, popular with voters and fair to all, especially because the poorest will gain more than their costs will increase. If we are really going to get to net zero then huge measures are required with a lot of change, this is the only way to achieve it and keep citizens happy.

4. What more could government do to support businesses, consumers and other actors to decarbonise?

See the answer to (3). It makes decarbonising the economically advantageous thing for businesses and consumers.

5. Where and in what areas of policy focus could net zero be achieved in a more economically efficient manner?

Again, the measure outlined in (3). It is efficient because the whole economy is affected whilst supporting our legal commitment to reach net zero by 2050.

6. How should we balance our priorities to maintaining energy security with our commitments to delivering net zero by 2050?

Let's use non carbon electricity generation and move to electricity more and more for transport and heating. Let the generators know that fossil fuels will always be more expensive than alternatives even when the current crisis with Russia has passed – use the Climate Income strategy outlined above. This will incentivise investment into these technologies, which will generate economic growth.

7. What export opportunities does the transition to net zero present for the UK economy or UK businesses?

If the UK can be a leader in green technology then the innovations we develop into products and services will give us export opportunities. Climate Income will incentivise investment in these innovations.

Suggestions to answers for Questions 18-23 for the public.

18. Have you or are you planning to take personal action to reduce your carbon emissions (for example through how you travel, what you buy, how you heat your home)? If so, how?

Yes ... we each have to be personal here - ideas to add to the list above: turning down the thermostat, second hand vs new, planting trees, electricity use & supplier, travel choices etc.

19. Do you face any barriers to doing this? What are they?

My barriers are financial, I don't like how I am made to feel guilty for things like driving a petrol car or not contemplating conversion to heat pumps. A reliable dividend would help me to change and I am more than willing to do so.

20. What would help you to make greener choices?

If the carbon footprint from the choices was signalled in the price, then I would find it so easy.

If I could see strong leadership and reliable schemes e.g for small scale renewables, rather than schemes changing or being a postcode lottery.

21. What is working well about the measures being put in place to reach net zero?

The electricity sector has done well in the last decade. The awful fuel price crisis can be used for some good – by accelerating the transition to net zero electricity, this requires a certainty that future fossil fuel prices will also be high and the Climate Income policy will achieve that.

22. What is not working well about the measures being put in place to reach net zero?

There are insufficient incentives for businesses, suppliers and citizens to change to low carbon products and services. Without a strong price signal, I can't see how this can be done. Measures that force people to change will generate such a backlash it will set back the transition to net zero. Only a popular policy such as Climate Income can work.

23. Do you have any further comments on how efforts to tackle climate change are affecting you?

I wish there were more efforts to tackle climate change as I find it such a worrying problem and I can't think of any effort thus far that has affected me negatively. We need much more robust action now to achieve net zero in time and the only way to be that robust is to implement the Climate Income policy I keep mentioning.