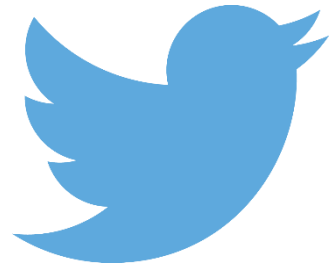


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Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref TO/JJ/00778/23

Cllr Andrea Lewis

rbailey@apse.org.uk

28 April 2023

Dear Cllr Andrea Lewis,

Thank you for your email of 27 March 2023 regarding the Welsh Public Sector Net Zero Carbon Reporting Guide and Calculation Tool.

Thank you for your analysis. The data supplied to the Welsh Government is voluntary and the number of organisations taking part is growing each year. Last year we had 69 returns from local authorities, health boards, national parks, universities, emergency services and other public bodies. The workstream is guided by the stakeholder engagement sessions Welsh Government hold each year and the guidance is reviewed and updated as part of the process.

The report by APSE Wales dates from January 2022, and uses data from 2020/2021. The data from this year was used as a learning exercise for all involved as the process was new and innovative in Wales. Since this report was released, the public sector has completed two further reporting cycles. The process has evolved and those involved have developed a deeper understanding of the data that needs to be captured. The tool for reporting has also changed to better meet stakeholder needs, confirmed by recent, positive feedback. For example, the tool now provides a greater breakdown of emissions data, and has improved ease of use and data accuracy. We will, of course, continue to learn and improve in future reporting cycles.

Yours sincerely,

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

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

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

Recommendations

- 1. Refine the Welsh Public Sector Net Zero Carbon Reporting Calculation Tool template so that core emissions are calculated that meet the 13 Reporting Principles detailed in Section 2.2 of this report. This is particularly prominent for procurement and land use;
- 2. Produce a separate reporting tool which calculates the emissions in more detail;
- 3. Produce a guide with best practise methods on how to source and record the raw data required to calculate emissions;
- 4. Each organisation should nominate individuals who should lead on collecting data and calculating carbon emissions and raw data should be readily accessible across departments;

Recommendations

- 5. Clearly define 'net zero' and 'carbon neutral' and what the reporting boundaries are;
- 6. There is a potential for duplication of effort. Welsh Government should report the summary data provided by the Welsh Reporting Tool whilst each individual local authority should make more detailed information available about its assets;
- 7. A permanent group should be established which includes representatives from each part of the public sector and Welsh Government to ensure engagement and agreement regarding the Welsh Reporting Tool and wider data collection and decarbonisation matters;

Recommendations

- 8. The tool and associated processes must be flexible enough to accommodate the variety of circumstances found across different elements of the public sector.

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