

## Call for evidence – Carbon Connect Inquiry

### *Next steps towards a net zero delivery architecture*

Carbon Connect is gathering written evidence for its inquiry ‘Next steps towards a net zero delivery architecture’.

## Background

In October 2019, Carbon Connect recommended a central delivery body be set up to manage the transition to low-carbon heating. This was published in the third report of the Future Gas Series, [Uncomfortable Home Truths](#), as well as the 2020 impact report, [Pipeline to 2050](#).

The case for a central delivery architecture has been successfully and comprehensively made by a number of individuals and organisations over the course of recent years. What many proposals have in common is the desire to address current gaps in the UK’s governance framework to ensure a successful and effective transition to net zero.

## Inquiry

To successfully deliver net zero by 2050, wide-scale action is required in order to decarbonise heat, energy and transport throughout society and the economy. Coordination across different layers of government, ministerial departments, political parties and parliamentary cycles will be paramount to achieve the UK’s climate ambitions. This inquiry assesses the requirements for a governance framework to deliver net zero, by considering four central themes:

1. Governance and place
2. Skills and standards
3. Public engagement
4. New and existing business models

We are gathering written evidence into the four subject areas and are asking for submissions that address any or all of the questions you or your organisation are able to answer.

## Questions

### 1. GOVERNANCE AND PLACE

- A. How can net zero policies be delivered effectively across the UK, taking into consideration the respective roles for central government, and local and combined authorities?
- B. Is an adequate delivery architecture in place to drive through net zero policies into implementation on the ground? What role, if any, is there for an independent body to help deliver the government’s net zero strategies? How would it help address potential issues related to working across ministerial departments, political parties, parliamentary cycles and layers of government?
- C. What other governance frameworks might be considered for net zero delivery and an effective and adequate allocation of resources?

## 2. SKILLS AND STANDARDS

- A. How should incentives and fiscal measures be used to ensure a comprehensive build-up of net zero skills and jobs, both in the public and private sectors?
- B. How should any delivery architecture consider the skills and standards required for net zero in its planning and operations? What mechanisms should be considered for the effective delivery and dissemination of net zero skills in the immediate and longer terms?
- C. What are the gaps in training standards and qualifications to assist in reskilling the existing workforce and creating new jobs to ensure effective delivery of net zero? How do we ensure that the enough people choose a career path that provides the right skills at the right time to deliver net zero?

## 3. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- A. How can institutions engage with the public to foster support for decarbonisation strategies and ensure people are part of net zero solutions?
- B. Is there a need for increased trust in institutions to ensure effective rollout of net zero solutions? How could a delivery architecture build public trust in national decarbonisation strategies and which institutions should it work with to this end?
- C. How can a delivery architecture help to minimise disruption to people's lives and convince households of the benefits that net zero measures will bring? Will the use of potential mandatory measures be required for the successful delivery of net zero strategies?

## 4. BUSINESS MODELS

- A. How are markets and business models changing as a result of decarbonisation, and how will they need to change further on the road to 2050?
- B. How can a delivery architecture engage with business, industry, local authorities and enterprises to put the right structures and incentives in place for change?
- C. What is the relative role of the private sector vs public funding in delivering net zero in your area of expertise? Where should delivery of net zero be driven by the market, and where does Government funding and regulation need to support delivery?

## Submissions

Please submit your evidence to Carbon Connect by **30 June 2021**. You can send your answers, as well as any questions you may have, to Rein de Loor, [rein.deloor@policyconnect.org.uk](mailto:rein.deloor@policyconnect.org.uk); 07784 353819.