

04/12/19

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) REQUEST

Thank you for your enquiry, received on 15 November 2019. As your request relates to environmental data we have responded under the Environmental Information Regulations ('EIR').

### Specifically you requested:

In the exhibits to chapter 7 of the Net Zero report, you give a resource cost for decarbonisation of £50.8 billion in 2050.

I would like to know the resource cost for each year between 2020 and 2049 inclusive.

### Our response

We do not hold the information you have requested. The purpose of the net zero report was to establish when the UK should reduce emissions to net zero, which we recommended be legislated for 2050. The focus of our scenario analysis was therefore on whether achieving net zero emissions was feasible in 2050, and what the additional costs would be in that year.

Chapter 7 of the net zero report sets out our estimate of the annual resource cost in 2050, which is up to 1-2% of GDP. This reflects annual costs in 2050 of all abatement measures that are in place in that year. This is available to download here <https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Net-Zero-The-UKs-contribution-to-stopping-global-warming.pdf>.

As set out in Chapter 7, annual cost profiles leading up to 2050 are likely to be lower in earlier years of the transition:

- In our [fifth carbon budget](https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Committee-on-Climate-Change-Fifth-Carbon-Budget-Report.pdf) analysis we estimated total annual costs in 2030 of under 1% of GDP. This is available to download here <https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Committee-on-Climate-Change-Fifth-Carbon-Budget-Report.pdf>.
- Our fifth carbon budget scenarios are based on higher renewable and battery costs than those observed in recent years, so these costs are likely to be an over-estimate.

- However, a pathway to net-zero GHG emissions in 2050 is likely to require further decarbonisation in 2030 than our fifth carbon budget scenario, which could result in higher costs.

The full pathway for emissions and costs to 2050 consistent with net zero will be a key part of our work as we develop our advice on the level of the sixth carbon budget, which covers the period 2033-2037. We will publish this advice in September 2020.

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This concludes our response to your request.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

In keeping with our transparency policy, the information released to you will be published on [www.theccc.org.uk](http://www.theccc.org.uk). Please note that this publication will not include your personal data.

Kind regards,

**Committee on Climate Change**