

Insights Briefing
Sharing the UK approach to
addressing climate change

The UK Climate Change Committee (CCC) has advised the UK Government on its climate change strategy for over a decade, as the independent expert advisor created under the 2008 UK Climate Change Act. During this time the UK has achieved the largest reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by a G20 economy (30%) while the UK economy has continued to grow its GDP (13%), and has enjoyed strengthened business, political and public support for a transparent and evidence-based approach to climate policy.

To support the UK Presidency of the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26) the CCC is expanding its international engagement activities. **The CCC is looking to share learnings from the UK experience and to learn from others about theirs.** There are rich examples of excellence in addressing both climate change mitigation and adaptation around the world, and we are interested in building links and sharing experiences with Ministers, officials and advisors outside the UK.

This set of [eight briefings](#) details the approaches, reflections and lessons learned by the CCC in twelve years of advising the UK on emissions reductions and adaptation to climate change.

Key elements of the UK and CCC's approach

A comprehensive legal framework for tackling climate change. The 2008 UK Climate Change Act sets the UK's approach on climate change. It has long-term and medium-term targets for reducing emissions, and a requirement that the Government develop policies to meet them. It requires that UK climate risks are assessed and that a plan is developed to adapt to them. The framework has had continuous cross-party political support and gives clear and timely direction to policymakers, investors and citizens.

An economy-wide, long-term objective to reduce emissions in line with the UN Paris Agreement. The UK has a legally-binding target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to Net Zero by 2050. It was set based on advice from the CCC that this was an appropriate contribution to the Paris Agreement and has strong business and public support. The CCC will shortly advise on the appropriate path to the Net Zero target and the UK Government is developing policy to meet the target.

An independent organisation to provide evidence-led advice and to monitor progress. The CCC provides expert, impartial advice to Government on emissions targets and how they might be met, and on climate change risks and adaptation measures. The CCC reports to the UK Parliament on progress towards meeting its targets and makes recommendations on how policy can be strengthened. A number of countries including Chile, France, Mexico, New Zealand, and Sweden have established climate change advisory organisations along similar lines.

Further to these briefings, the UK CCC is keen to explore opportunities for meetings, workshops and collaborations with Governments, and existing and emerging national climate advisory bodies to support and learn from each other.

For more information please contact communications@theccc.org.uk or contact your local British Embassy or High Commission.