

# Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

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Subject: Stop Climate Chaos Scotland briefing: greenhouse gas emissions

## Ministerial Statement

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Dear all,

Today's numbers show emissions reductions at just below a quarter of the level required to comply with the new carbon budget system adopted by Parliament last year. Given the agreed carbon budget for 2036-40 is 175Mt, or an average of 35Mt/year, it is necessary to reduce annual emissions by 2Mt from the 2024 level – making the reduction rate of 0.4Mt announced today clearly insufficient for progress to be 'on track'.

These numbers are stark confirmation that action taken by Scottish Ministers to tackle climate breakdown has been nowhere near strong enough or fast enough.

Although big steps have been made to increase renewable electricity generation, progress has stalled on reducing emissions from transport, agriculture, land use and heating.

Climate change is already affecting people's health and well-being, livelihoods and financial stability in Scotland, with more frequent storms, floods, droughts and wildfires wreaking havoc across the country.

Greener transport, energy-efficient homes, low-carbon heating systems, lower-impact agriculture that benefits nature and switching away from fossil

fuels are among a raft of measures that will slash emissions while also benefitting public health, cutting bills and boosting the economy.

The clock is ticking if we want to halt the worst effects of planetary warming but there is still time. The new Scottish Government must now make climate action a priority.

Possible questions for the Scottish Government:

1. When will you introduce the long-delayed Heat in Buildings Bill, and will it be more effective than the watered-down version proposed at the end of the last session?
2. Will you review the agriculture subsidy system to support farmers shift to nature- and climate-friendly farming?
3. When will the £2 bus fare system be rolled out across the whole of Scotland, given that the pilots will tell us what we already know about how effective it is?
4. Will the private jet tax really be delayed a year after the introduction of Air Departure Tax, and if so, how can you justify under-taxing the super-rich for one more year?
5. The current Scottish Government Climate Change Plan claims that [3 million tonnes of CO2](#) can be removed every year by the end of the next decade via negative emissions technologies which don't currently exist, enough to offset the whole of Scotland's international aviation and shipping emissions. How is this realistic?
6. The First Minister, [talking today](#) about hyperscale data centres, has said "there are legitimate points to be considered about the use of energy resources, about the use of land". Scotland's peak electricity demand is about 4 gigawatts, but the vast list of proposed data centres across the country would use more power than that all by themselves if approved. How can that be compatible with meeting our climate targets?