

ROCP 08, British Standards Institution

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith | Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee

Adolygiad o flaenoriaethau'r Pwyllgor ar gyfer y Chweched Senedd | Review of the Committee's priorities for the Sixth Senedd

Ymateb gan Sefydliad Safonau Prydeinig | Evidence from British Standards Institution

Your views

1. What are your views on the Committee's three strategic priorities: Climate Change; Sustainable Communities; and Protecting and enhancing the natural environment?

BSI welcomes these priorities. BSI is the UK national standards body and we are ready to advise the Committee on the use of standards to achieve these goals, we are indeed also having conversation and are ready to assist the Welsh Government to achieve net zero in Wales.

As the National Standards Body for all the UK and our commitment to assist Welsh Government, BSI has developed a significant suite of standards and initiatives towards net zero.

Standards provide knowledge, guidance, best practice, consistent and credible methodologies, and assessment techniques which can be used by organizations to implement and develop emissions lowering protocols and accelerate the transition to net zero. BSI has extensive experience in sustainability and energy standardization and maintains an extensive portfolio of climate-related standards including greenhouse gas management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and investment in climate positive activities.

We also maintain a broad portfolio of standards to support energy efficiency, safety, grid stability and the security of energy supply. Our standards support the delivery of government policies and help industry meet regulatory requirements. BSI's strategic, innovation-driven, standardization programmes help drive market transformation and sustainable growth. Working across the energy sector, we

deploy flexible standards development mechanisms to create best practice, keeping pace with fast-changing technology and commercial innovations.

We would ask the Committee to consider how standards can help with achieving net zero in Wales.

2. To what extent are the Committee's three strategic priorities still relevant, reflecting on social, economic and environmental developments since they were set at the start of the Sixth Senedd?

No response.

3. What are your view on the Committee's detailed priorities/outline programme of work for Years 3 to 5 of the Sixth Senedd (set out in its report, [Priorities for the Sixth Senedd?](#))

We are very interested in the overall net zero ambitions for Wales. BSI made a contribution to the Committee's work on decarbonising the Welsh PRS in 2022.

We have an interest in engaging further on net zero in Wales. BSI has a number of initiatives and roles in this, such as: -

- Collaboration – BSI is a global and national convenor on net zero and can provide advice and assistance on net zero. The BSI secretariat for the Our 2050 World collaboration convened over 1200+ organizations and individual experts from over 100+ countries to develop the ISO Net Zero Guidelines in a joint collaborative endeavour, including major net zero actors such as the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, WWF International, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), C40 Cities and others, in addition to major businesses including Google, Meta and Amazon. Within the Welsh context, we are aware the Well-being of Future Generations Act, requires the Welsh Government to consider the long-term impact to decision making. Alongside the legal net zero target by 2050 in Wales, BSI can provide information and collaboration which will be of interest to the Committee.

- Involvement - BSI is the global convenor for the Our 2050 World collaboration between ISO, the UN Race to Zero campaign and the UNFCCC Global Innovation Hub. BSI has approached the Welsh Government to participate in the Our 2050 World, enabling Welsh engagement with this global initiative seeking to address the urgent climate challenge through the convening power of standards. The Net Zero Guidelines can help engagement with the Welsh public and in procurement policy, especially with the Social Partnership and Procurement Act. A key

deliverable of Our 2050 World is the creation of the Net Zero Guidelines to reduce fragmented approaches to net zero and harmonize the net zero landscape. These Guidelines were launched at COP27 and offer the world a single core reference text for net zero to support actors and organizations at all levels, including those who develop policies, frameworks, standards or other initiatives on net zero for use by others. These guidelines can help the Welsh Government ensure its net zero guidance for Welsh businesses, NGOs and other organizations reflect global consensus on net zero credibility and support Welsh organizations and consumers to address greenwashing and confusion around what net zero guidance and standards they should use. This document can also be used to engage the Welsh public on climate change and we would be pleased to assist with this process.

· Convening: One of the newly developed initiatives at BSI is the creation of the Sustainability Standards Network. The aim is to enable greater participation of experts from the environmental and public sustainability sectors in standards development activities. BSI would welcome involvement from Welsh stakeholders in this group, as a key part of facilitating best practice which can be shared with the public. The Sustainability Standards Network brings together like-minded individuals and organizations with a common purpose, delivering the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

4. To what extent are the Committee's detailed priorities/outline programme of work still relevant, reflecting on social, economic and environmental developments since they were set at the start of the Sixth Senedd?

Very much - BSI is very interested in the future workplan on transport, charging, circular economy, river pollution (plastics).

5. Are there any other matters related to the Committee's priorities/work programme/ways of working that you would like to comment on?

We have also commenced a project on Sustainable Fashion which may be of interest to the Committee and will be a key project to raise awareness in Wales from 2024 onwards. <https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/blog/sustainability-blog/the-future-of-sustainable-fashion/>

6. Other information

No response.
