

The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution

On the 18th November 2020, the Prime Minister set out an ambitious Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution, intended to provide a blueprint for the UK's plan to meet the 2050 zero carbon target. Through the mobilisation of £12 billion of government investment, up to 250,000 green jobs are to be created.

This briefing note addresses the implications of the Ten Point Plan to ensure that new development will be ready for the 2050 net zero carbon economy.



Advancing Offshore Wind

By 2030, it is intended that 40GW of electricity will be generated via offshore wind farms. The National Grid will need to become smarter, so the use of energy management technology, such as energy storage and demand-side response systems, will become more prevalent in buildings and masterplans.



Driving the Growth of Low Carbon Hydrogen

It is intended that 5GW of low carbon hydrogen production capacity will be delivered by 2030. To facilitate this, the electric heat pump market is to be scaled-up, so new development should look to align with this, utilising electric-only and fossil fuel free systems wherever possible.



Delivering New and Advanced Nuclear Power

Large-scale new nuclear power schemes will continue to be pursued, supported by the development of a new generation of small modular reactors. Development should be prepared for the potential future integration of domestic-scale power plant technology for providing heat and electricity.



Accelerating the Shift to Zero Emission Vehicles

The ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles has been brought forward to 2030. The decarbonisation of UK vehicles will require an upgrade to the existing highways infrastructure, as well as the incorporation of electric vehicle charging facilities in all developments.



Green Public Transport, Cycling and Walking

Significant investment will be made in the enhancement of the rail network, in public transport, buses, cycling and walking. Development should look to maximise walkability, to provide cycle infrastructure, and to ensure connection via public transport to important services and facilities. This may see the rise of the 15-minute neighbourhood principles whereby all facilities and services are accessible via a 15-minute walk, cycle or public transport journey.



Jet Zero and Green Ships

The intended move towards the use of more sustainable fuels in the UK aviation and maritime sectors will need to be supported by the revitalisation of port and coastal communities, as well as the upgrading of infrastructure at UK airports to move to battery and hydrogen aircraft.



Greener Buildings

The Future Homes Standard will see the elimination of fossil fuel systems in all new-build dwellings from 2025-onward. Developers should look to deliver fossil fuel-free development as early as possible through the implementation of energy efficient building fabric and low- and zero-carbon technologies, such as heat pumps and solar panels.



Investing in Carbon Capture, Usage & Storage

Carbon Capture, Usage & Storage (CCUS) is to be established in two industrial clusters by the mid-2020s. This is intended to be delivered through the transformation of the UK's industrial regions, including the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber, the West Midlands, Wales and Scotland, with the aid of £200 million of government investment.



Protecting Our Natural Environment

As part of the upcoming Environment Bill, it will become mandatory for all development to deliver biodiversity net gain on-site, or to make contributions to off-site projects where this is not feasible. Investments will also be made in flood defences, which may aid in including new areas for development, whilst investment in the creation of new National Parks, AONB designations and Landscape Recovery projects may restrict new development.



Green Finance and Innovation

New funding will be made available to invest in the research and development of new technologies the UK will need to achieve its climate change ambitions. Stay in touch with Icenifutures to find out how emerging technology will deliver future-proofed development.