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18 June 2024

2022 Scottish Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Statistics Outcome

Dear Edward,

A report has been laid in Parliament today in regard to the 2022 Scottish Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reductions Statistics Outcome and under section 33 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

The official statistics show that Scottish emissions in 2022 have reduced by 50.0 per cent since the 1990 baseline. This is a reduction of 0.1 per cent on our position in 2021. We are exactly halfway on our journey to net zero. However, we have not made the 2022 target of a 53.8 per cent reduction from the baseline.

A major part of this relates to an increase in transport emissions, resulting from a rebound following COVID-19 restrictions. In contrast with this, emissions from buildings were lower, resulting largely from a warmer winter in 2022 and the increase in fuel prices due to the war in Ukraine. The emissions changes in these two areas effectively balance each other out. The same trends were evident at the UK level, with the same level of emissions reduction recorded.

In my statement to Parliament tomorrow afternoon, I will recognise that we have missed the 2022 target. While more action is needed across the economy and wider society to continue to progress towards net zero, I will also highlight the positive action that has been taken within areas such as the renewable energy industry where power has largely been decarbonised and our successes in Heat in Buildings.

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Our forthcoming Climate Change Bill will be part of the action we must take to ensure a credible path, informed by expert scientific advice, towards our overall goal of zero by 2045 at the latest.

I hope this update is helpful.

Yours sincerely,



MAIRI MCCALLAN

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