

By email

31 October 2024

Dear Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee members,

We have seen recent suggested amendments to the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) Bill. We have noticed some suggested amendments (amendments 28, 29, and 30) related to the advice provided by the Climate Change Committee.

The suggested amendments cause us some concern. The Climate Change Committee is an advisory body, not a decision-maker. While we are glad to see the importance placed on our advice, our strong suggestion would be that final decision-making powers should sit with the Scottish Government. That would ensure democratic accountability and allow the Scottish Government to take account of issues outside the remit of the Committee that may be relevant. The language in the Bill as originally introduced did this successfully.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Piers Forster
Interim Chair, Climate Change Committee