



# CLIMATE CHANGE:

## Scottish Government Update on Policy Landscape in 2009

Jenny Hamilton, Climate Change Division



# Early and significant action required



Nicholas Stern, Jan 2009 - risks and potential costs greater than originally recognised

The Met Office report, Dec 2008 - climate change more dangerous than expected

# Introduction

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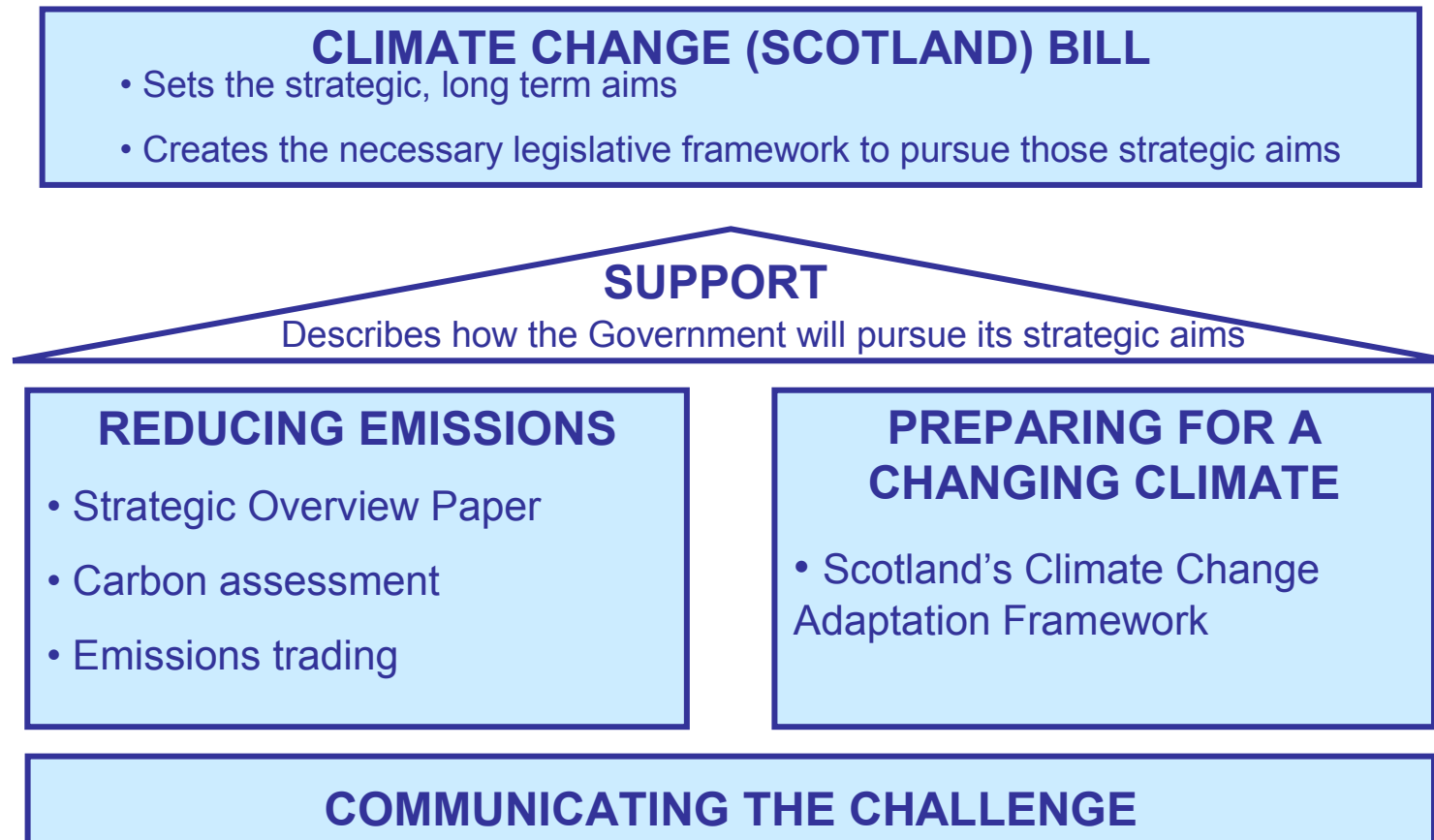
## **The Climate Change Division agenda 2009**

- Scottish Climate Change Bill
- Scottish contribution to the UK Climate Change Act
- Mitigation – delivering the 80% target, carbon assessment, emissions trading
- Adaptation
- Communicating the challenge

## **Working with local government 2009**

- Key areas of engagement
- Opportunities for local authority input to Climate Change Division agenda

# Scottish Government climate change policy landscape



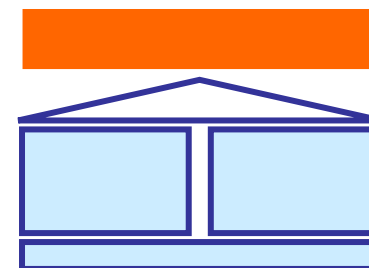


# Climate Change (Scotland) Bill

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## Key points

- 80% emissions reduction target in 2050
- Interim 50% target in 2030
- Statutory framework based on annual targets
  - Set at least 12 years in advance
  - Based on expert advice from CCC
- Covers all GHGs
- Targets will include international aviation and shipping
- Enabling powers: public bodies, muirburn, forestry, energy efficiency, renewable heat, waste



## Implication for local authorities

Contribute towards targets. Enabling powers (Section 36-39) allow Scottish Ministers to impose public sector duties to take action on climate change – both to reduce emissions and to prepare for the unavoidable impacts of a changing climate.

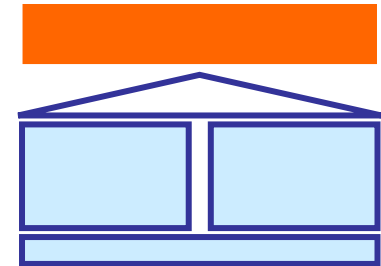


# UK Climate Change Act

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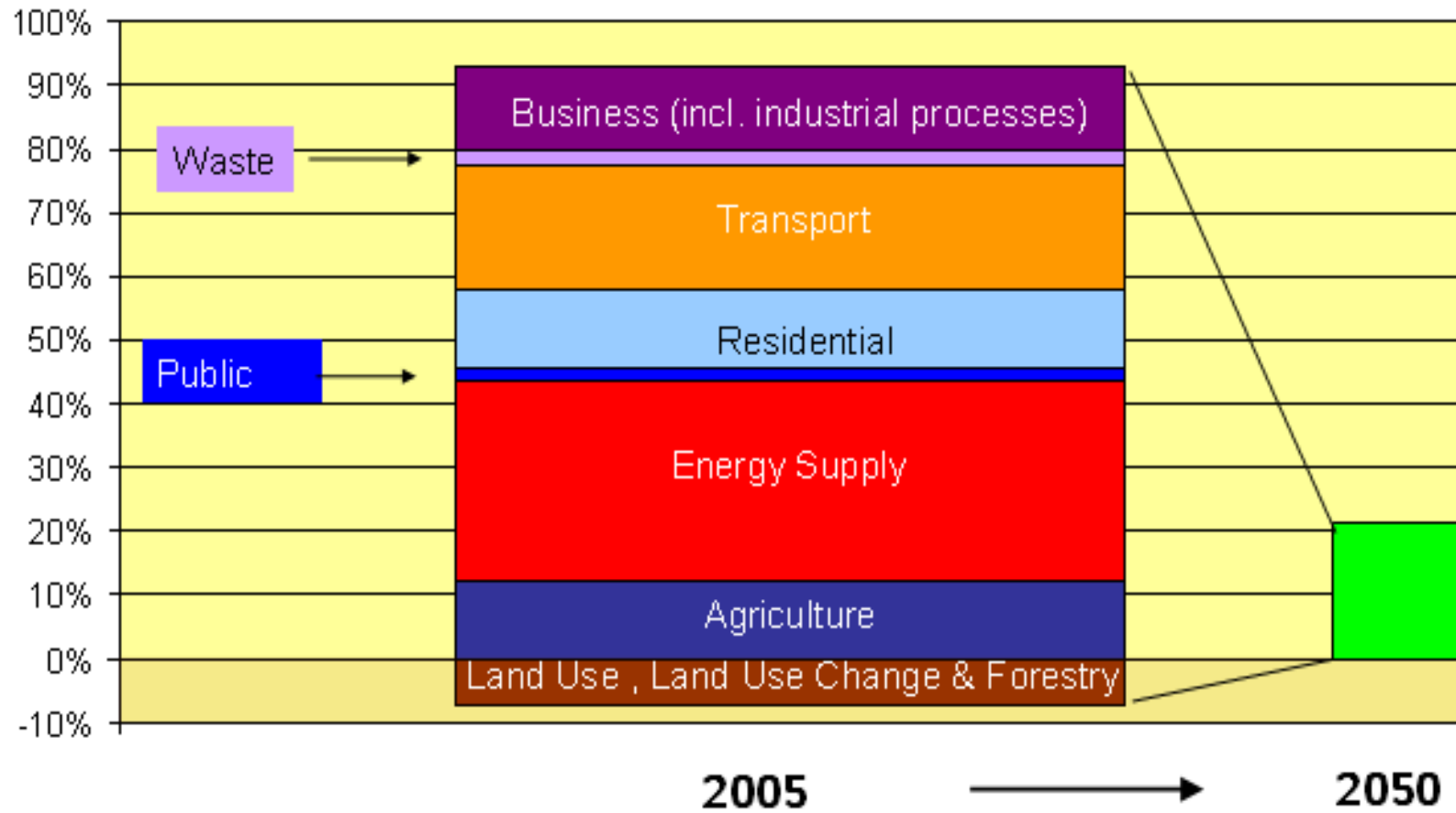
Received Royal Assent in November 2008

- 80% reduction in GHGs by 2050
- 5 year carbon budgets
- Requires UK wide assessment of climate change risks
- Establishes Committee on Climate Change
- First report from CCC advises on level of 1<sup>st</sup> 3 carbon budgets from 2008-2022
  
- UK Government will set level of 1<sup>st</sup> 3 carbon budgets in March 2009, alongside Chancellor's Budget
- Produce UK report of policies and programmes to deliver budgets in June 2009
  
- Scottish Government a partner to the UK Act – provides framework for joint efforts
- UK Act does not set carbon budget for Scotland or dictate policy response





# Achieving 80% - the size of the challenge



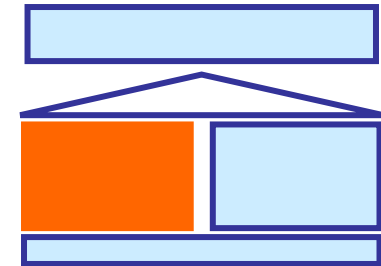
# Delivering emissions reductions: Strategic Overview Discussion Paper



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## Delivering a high level discussion document for publication in the first half of 2009

- Key sectors for abatement - electricity, heat, transport, housing, land use
- High level policy options - abatement potential and cost
- Short (2012), medium (2020) and long term (2030 and 2050)
- Releasing the potential abatement - milestones, barriers to implementation, actions



## Stakeholder engagement during summer 2009 Stepping stone to report in 2010 on policies to deliver Scottish targets

### Implication for local authorities

Won't feature directly in Strategic Overview. BUT important role in delivering emission reductions through their direct operations and wider reach – planning, transport, regulations, procurement, etc. Likely to feature in 2010 report.

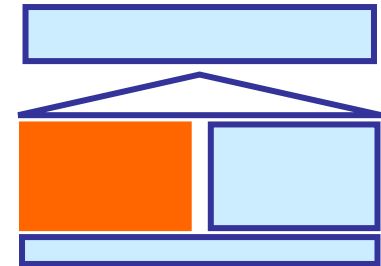


# Inputs to the delivery work

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## Committee on Climate Change (Dec 2008)

- Energy efficiency improvements in buildings and industry
- Decarbonisation of the power sector
- Transport sector decarbonisation
- Heat sector decarbonisations
- Decarbonisation of industry



## AEA Mitigation Report (Nov 2008)

- Assumes delivery of existing and planned policies
- Improved vehicle technologies and Smarter Choices
- CCS for energy generation and industry
- Increased forest area
- Renewable heat
- Building energy efficiency

**Ongoing work with policy and analytical colleagues across Government in key policy areas**

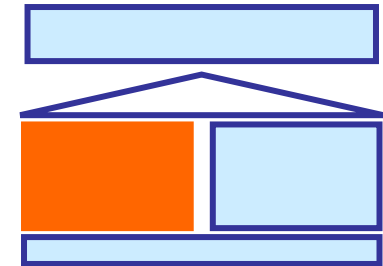
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# Delivering emissions reductions: Carbon Assessment Project



## Carbon Assessment Project – embedding carbon in government decision-making

- High level assessment of the carbon impact of total Government spend ~£33bn pa (around 1/3<sup>rd</sup> to LAs)
- Assess carbon impact of individual policies, programmes and projects
- Develop mechanisms to use information to drive down emissions



## Early stage of development, complex work

### Implication for local authorities

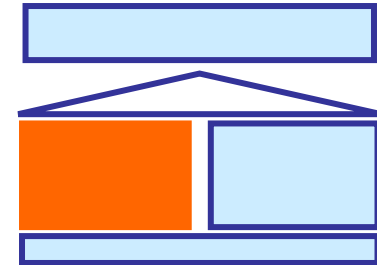
Local government representation on High Level Steering Group for the project. Recognise good work by local authorities in this area – Inventory, REAP. SG wants to work closely to shape thinking as project develops.

# Delivering emissions reductions: Emissions trading



## EU ETS - targets largest emitters

- Around 50% of Scotland's emissions covered
- 3<sup>rd</sup> phase from 2013 to 2020
- Central cap to reduce emissions by 1.74% a year
- Includes international aviation



## Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) - targets next largest emitters

- New UK Emissions Trading Scheme starting in April 2010
- Qualification threshold based on 2008 electricity use – likely to include 2/3rds of Scottish local authorities
- Revenue neutral, recycled to participants

## Implication for local authorities

Consultation on legislation launches in March. Scottish Government planning an Information Day in March/April. Registration packs sent to potential participants in July.



# Preparing for a changing climate

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## Building resilience to the consequences of a changing climate

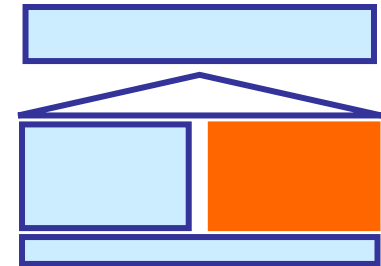
- Scotland's climate is already changing (see LCLIPs)
- Preparing now will lessen our vulnerability to the negative impacts and allow us to capitalise on any opportunities

**Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Framework** will seek to increase the resilience of Scotland's human population and the natural and economic systems on which they depend to the impacts of climate change.

- Adaptation needs to be integrated into all levels of decision making – local authorities will be central to an effective adaptation response

## Implication for local authorities

Local authorities are often in the forefront of dealing with the consequences of a changing climate and have a crucial role to play in building Scotland's resilience to future change.





# UK and international policy developments

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## UK Developments – UK Climate Change Act

### EU Developments

- Agreed Climate and Energy Package for 2020
  - cut GHG emissions by at least 20% and ready to scale this up to 30% if international agreement reached
  - 20% share of renewable energy, improve energy efficiency by 20%
- Climate Change Adaptation White Paper in 2009

### United Nations

- UNFCCC Conference in Copenhagen in December aiming to agree post-Kyoto treaty for 2012 onwards
- States and Regions Alliance, The Climate Group, UNDP

### Implication for local authorities

Scottish Government aims to demonstrate leadership and develop constructive international networks. Scottish local authorities might have similar ambition.

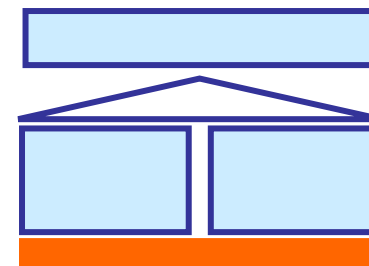


# Supporting others to take action

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## Communicating the challenge and supporting action

- Go Greener Campaign [www.infoscotland.com/gogreener](http://www.infoscotland.com/gogreener)
- Climate Challenge Fund
- Climate Change Business Development Group
- Climate Change communication campaign on adaptation
- Scottish Climate Change Impact Partnership [www.sccip.org.uk](http://www.sccip.org.uk)



[www.scotland.gov.uk/climatechange](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/climatechange)



# Working with local government

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**The Scottish Government is working with local government to support its climate change objectives**

- Single Outcome Agreements
- Scotland's Climate Change Declaration
- Developing supporting data
- Carbon Reduction Commitment
- Public Sector Leadership Group
- COSLA Climate Change Task Group and Officials Support Group

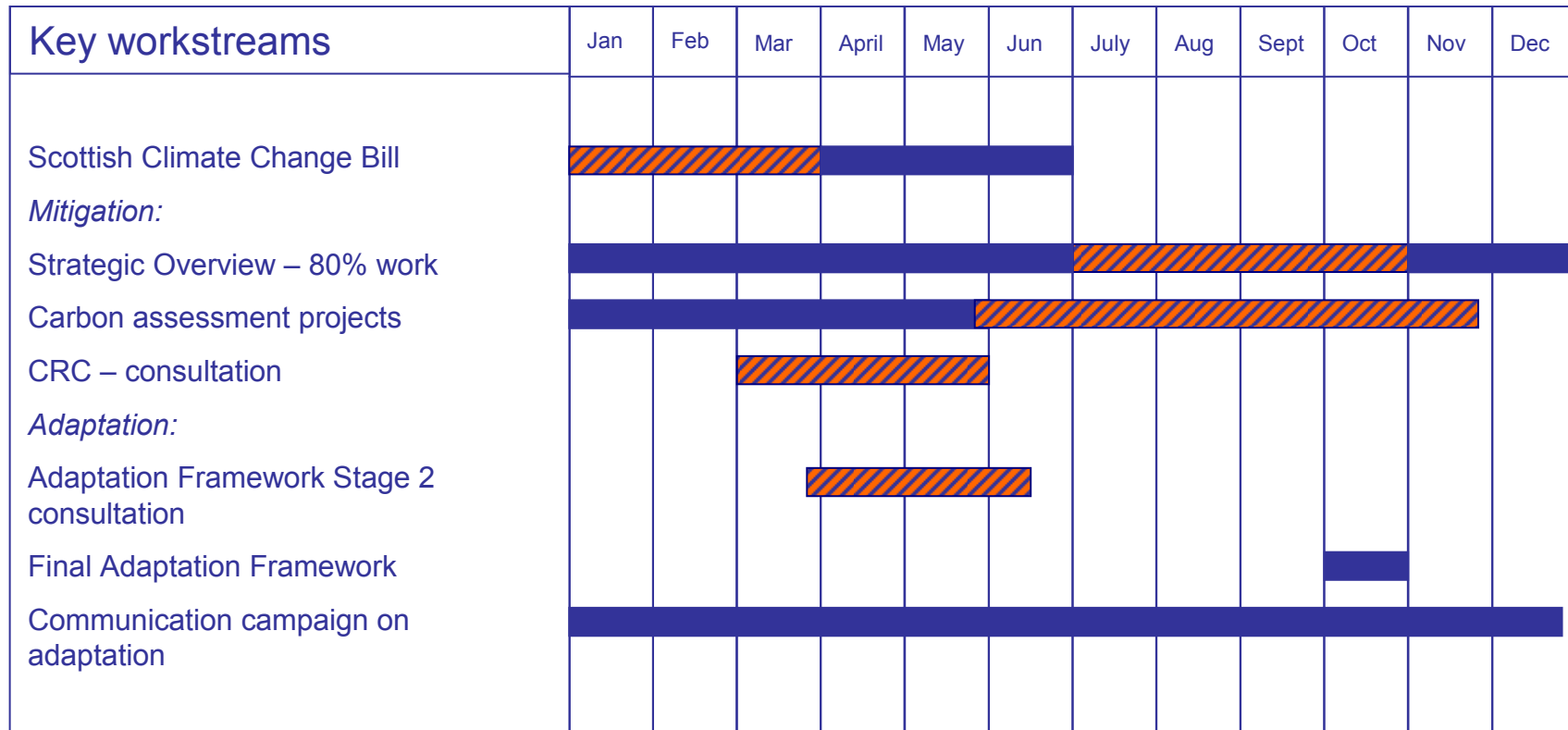
**Align action by local authorities on climate change with that of Scottish Government...**

**Emission reductions** from local authority itself and the local authority area

**Preparing for a changing climate** whereby the impacts of climate change for local authorities and their communities are better understood and addressed

**Communicating the challenge** and showing leadership - improving partnership working, community understanding and community action

# Climate change policy developments 2009



Climate Change Division policy developments

Opportunity for local authorities to input

**PLEASE NOTE: This slide is intended to provide a GENERAL INDICATION ONLY of the time scales involved.**