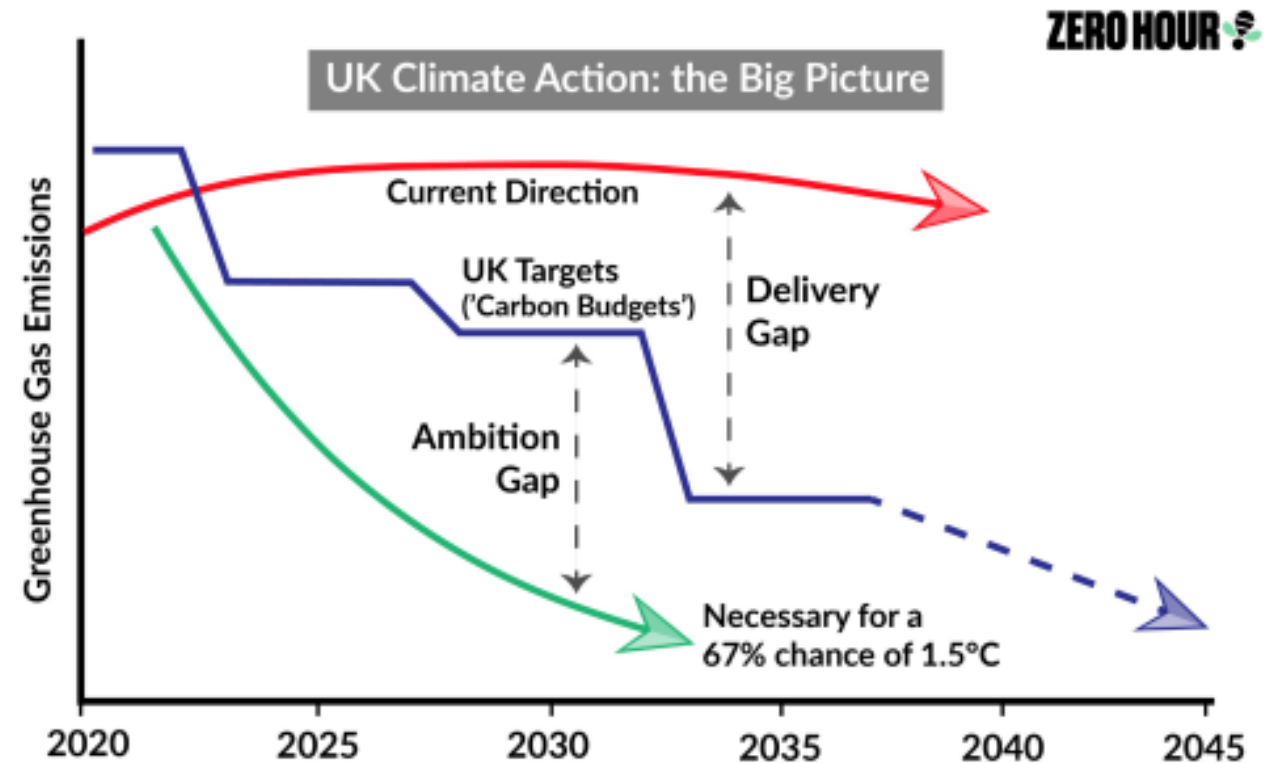


Climate and Ecology Bill

Overview of the Private Members Bill

- Proposes a joined-up plan considering both climate and nature
- Proposes that policy and action on the climate and nature crisis should be science-led and people-orientated
- Proposes that current national legislation is in line with science-led targets for:
 - Climate
 - Ecology



Climate proposals

Update and strengthen current UK targets:

- Bill proposes to update targets to reflect updated scientific evidence (over last 10 years)
- Seeks an immediate focus on international aviation, shipping, and 'blue carbon' from activities such as industrial fishing
- Proposes consideration of all UK 'imported emissions'

Targets for other greenhouse gases:

Proposes specific targets for methane and other non-CO2 warming gases

Increasing focus on reducing emissions now:

- Current strategy is centred around the 2050 Net Zero date
- Bill proposes that the concept of a 'finite carbon budget' is embedded into law

Ecology proposals

Create a joined-up approach:

- Climate change and nature are intertwined – one accelerates the loss of the other and vice versa
- Bill seeks to address both elements in an integrated approach

Halt and reverse decline of nature:

- Bill proposes a nature target that aligns with UK's international commitment to halt and reverse the destruction of nature by 2030; signed up to target at UN Biodiversity Summit (COP 15)
- Bill proposes enforcing this agreement by placing it in national legislation

Prioritises the protection of nature:

- Bill seeks to introduce a '*Mitigation and Conservation Hierarchy*' so that when appropriate, any development or activity would use this framework to prioritise the protection of nature
- *Mitigation Conservation Hierarchy* has four main principles:
 - 1) avoid
 - 2) minimise
 - 3) restore
 - 4) offset

Proposed Bill - further measures

- The Bill looks to increase the level of both Emissions and Ecological footprint reporting
- Contains measures to ensure that people are supported in the transition to a green economy
- Particular focus on ensuring a positive and fair impact on local communities with high levels of deprivation
- If the Bill is passed, then a Climate and Nature Assembly would be formed made up of citizens from across the UK to help inform the development of a Strategy
- The Strategy would set out how the UK would meet the policy targets set out in the Bill

Proposed Bill - Progress and Support

Support:

- The Bill is being supported by a campaign called Zero Hour who currently have 1,267 supporters made up of different organisations, politicians (131 MPs), and scientists
- Around 250 Local Authorities have already passed motions in support of the Climate and Ecology Bill

Progress:

- The Bill has been presented to parliament for debate on several occasions between 2020/21 and 2022/23
- It has not yet progressed past a second reading in the House of Commons