

Climate Change, Emissions targets and the role of local authorities

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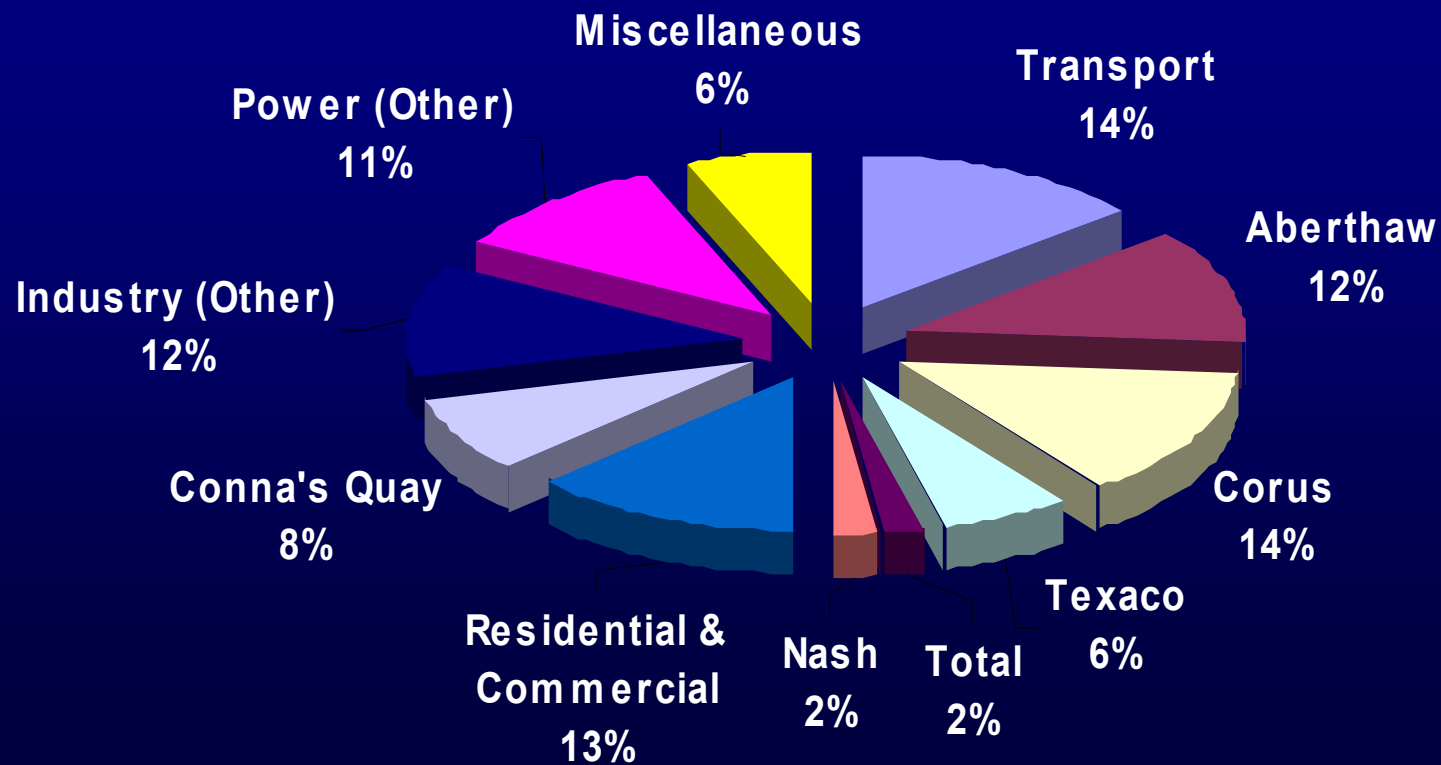
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Climate
change...host
of the new
millennium?

Rugby Cancelled



- In Wales 21% of CO₂ emissions are from housing
- Nearly 80% of our housing stock is privately owned
- 2/3 of properties that will exist in 2050 are already standing



Sources: EU Emissions Trading Scheme 2005 and DEFRA 2003

Stern Report

Global warming is due to greenhouse gas emissions

Impact of extreme weather = 5% of Global annual GDP

2-3°C rise = up to 3% decrease of Global annual GDP

5°C rise = up to 10% decrease in Global annual GDP

Stabilising at 550ppm CO₂ equivalent would cost 1% annual GDP

How can local authorities do it?

Targets, low carbon technologies, information/regulatory standards

Aims of the National Assembly Sustainability Committee

To scrutinise the Welsh Assembly Government on their contribution to the UK carbon reduction targets and their proposals for meeting the 3% reduction targets outlined in the One Wales document.

The inquiry will be broken down into the following topics:

Residential carbon reduction

Carbon reduction by transport

Carbon reduction by industry and public bodies

Carbon reduction from electricity generation (including renewable energy)

Rural land use management and carbon reduction

The role of the planning system in carbon reduction

One Wales Target:

To achieve annual carbon reduction-equivalent emissions reductions of 3% per year by 2011 in areas of devolved competence

Code for Sustainable Homes

Code level 1: 10% above current building regulations

Code level 2: 18% above current building regulations

Code level 3: 25% above current building regulations

Code level 4: 44% above current building regulations

Code level 5: 100% above current building regulations

Code level 6: zero carbon

2/3 of our existing housing stock is already standing



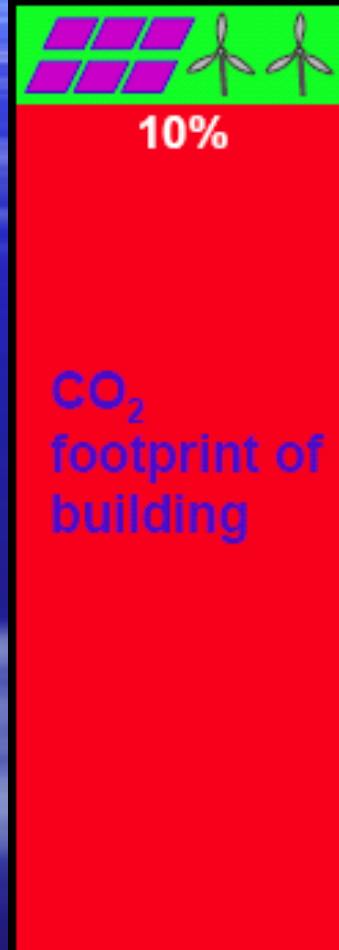
Microgeneration



Smart Meters



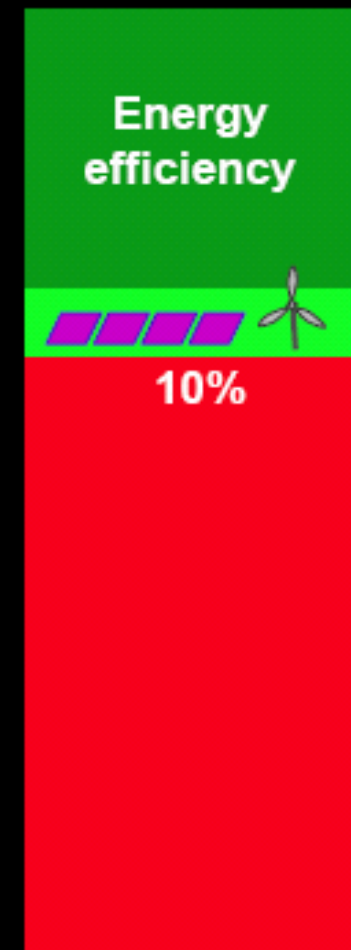
The Merton Rule



The Merton Rule is an energy efficiency policy.

The smaller the carbon footprint, the fewer renewables it takes to meet 10%

It is an incentive for developers to commission low-carbon buildings



- As well as short term solutions, the long term must be taken into account.
- Investment in research and development is crucial, to encourage new technologies for the future.
- Local community benefits must be realised.
- We must work together to build a new green economy in Wales