

## Environment Committee to Investigate Climate Change

March 2009



The Northern Ireland Assembly Committee for the Environment has issued Terms of Reference for an Inquiry into climate change. The Inquiry will look at ways in which Northern Ireland can contribute to meeting climate change targets.

The Committee has set out a number of terms of reference for the Inquiry, including identifying the initial commitments that Northern Ireland can make to ensure it plays “a fair and proportionate role as part of the United Kingdom in meeting climate change targets.”

Chairperson of the Committee, Patsy McGlone MLA has said that “the Committee recognises the threat from climate change and is aware of the urgency of this problem. We all have a responsibility to safeguard the environment for future generations as well as ourselves.”

“All sectors in Northern Ireland, from transport right through to the public sector, have an important role to play in reducing carbon emissions.”

“The Committee will identify costs associated with contributing to the UK carbon reduction targets but these need to be compared with the costs that will be incurred if we don’t take urgent action.”

In addition to identifying those areas where Northern Ireland can play its part in meeting climate change targets, the Committee also intends to produce a substantive report by September 2009. This report will set out the Committee’s findings and recommendations on the implications of climate change for Northern Ireland and the actions that should be taken.

For further information please contact Karen Blair ([k.blair@cfrlaw.co.uk](mailto:k.blair@cfrlaw.co.uk)) or Maria O’Loan ([m.o’loan@cfrlaw.co.uk](mailto:m.o’loan@cfrlaw.co.uk)) on (028) 9024 3141.

*Please note: The content of this article is for information purposes only and further advice should be sought from a professional advisor before any action is taken.*