



Department for
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Baroness Sheehan
Chair of the Lords Environment Climate Change Committee
House of Commons
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17 April 2026

Dear Baroness Sheehan,

The Climate Change Act 2008 (International Aviation and International Shipping) Regulations 2026

I am writing to inform you that the Government laid a statutory instrument this week to formally include the UK's share of international aviation and international shipping (IAIS) emissions in the Sixth Carbon Budget (2033-37), all subsequent carbon budgets, and the net zero target. This has been laid alongside a separate statutory instrument setting the level of international credits the Government can use towards the Fifth Carbon Budget (2028-32) at zero. Both statutory instruments will be debated together with the Carbon Budget Order later this session.

This instrument brings legislation into line with the Government's long-standing planning assumption that emissions from IAIS would be included in carbon budgets from the Sixth Carbon Budget onwards. It does not change the level of the UK's currently legislated climate targets, introduce new sector-specific limits, or set new policy requirements for the aviation or shipping sectors. Instead, it ensures IAIS emissions will be accounted for consistently, alongside all other major sources of emissions, as part of the UK's whole-economy approach to net zero between 2033 and 2050.

As you know, parliamentary committees, including the Lords Environment Climate Change Committee, have consistently called for IAIS emissions to be formally included in future carbon budgets. The instrument also reflects advice provided by the independent Climate Change Committee (CCC). I hope the Lords Environment Climate Change Committee will welcome the introduction of this legislation as a constructive step in strengthening the UK's climate framework in line with the CCC's advice.

Yours ever,

Katie White OBE MP
Minister for Climate