



WHAT IS NET ZERO?

Many human activities, such as energy generation, building heating, transport, manufacturing and agriculture, release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

These gases are building up at an excessive rate and causing our planet to warm.

Plants and natural environments absorb carbon dioxide and store carbon, one of the main greenhouse gases, taking it out of the atmosphere and reducing the warming effect.

Net zero means reaching a point where human caused carbon emissions are equal to the emissions being absorbed and stored by plants and habitats.

Some human emissions are unavoidable or very difficult to reduce. So, we need to maximise the amount of carbon storing habitats, known as 'carbon sinks', to reach net zero. We need to create new carbon sinks but also protect and repair existing ones.

However, there isn't enough space on Earth for enough plants to absorb all our current emissions, so we need to reduce the ones we can to reach the balance point - net zero!

The Isle of Man has a legal target to reach net zero by 2050