



# Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

**Rt Hon Graham Stuart MP**  
Minister of State for Energy Security and Net  
Zero

**Department for Energy Security & Net  
Zero**  
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[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

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Paula McMahon  
Women's Engineering Society  
Futures Place  
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Stevenage  
SG1 2UA

2 October 2023

Dear Ms McMahon,

Thank you for your letter of 3 August regarding the Government's response to climate change.

I am proud of the fact that this Conservative government was, in 2019, the first of any major global economy to legislate for net zero. Our legally binding net zero target is a Government priority and I believe the transition will provide huge opportunities for jobs, investment, innovation, and exports. We are determined to transition to net zero in the most efficient, low cost, business friendly and least disruptive manner possible, as set out by the Prime Minister. The UK is leading the world on tackling climate change: between 1990 and 2021, we cut emissions by 48% while growing our economy by 65%, decarbonising faster than any other major economy.

In March 2023 I presented the Powering Up Britain package to the House of Commons, outlining the Government's plans to secure our energy system by ensuring resilient and reliable supply, increasing our energy efficiency, and bringing down bills. We are investing over £6.6 billion this Parliament towards improving energy efficiency and installing low-carbon heating.

The Department for Transport has plans to adapt transport infrastructure to address the risks of climate change. The Department is developing a transport adaption strategy for consultation, which they will seek to publish at the end of this year. It will set the ambition and mobilise the sector to ensure adaptation becomes part of business as usual. Their strategy will consider a range of issues and we encourage the Women's Engineering Society Climate Emergency Group to respond to their consultation once published later this year.

Our biggest challenge, however, is not domestic but international. We need the rest of the world – and the biggest emitters in particular – to follow our example and cut emissions now. I will be leading UK negotiators at COP28 as we seek to persuade them to do exactly that.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours ever,

**Rt Hon Graham Stuart MP**  
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