

lain Stewart MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA Rt Hon Graham Stuart MP

Minister of State at the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

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www.gov.uk

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5 October 2023

Dear Iain Stewart,

Thank you for your email of 27 September, on behalf of your constituent, regarding Climate Change.

The UK leads the world on tackling climate change. It has decarbonised more than any other major nation since 1990, halving emissions while growing its economy by two thirds. Since 2010 renewables have gone from less than 7% of our electricity supply to almost 48% in the first quarter of this year. Coal provided almost 40% of electricity in 2012 and will provide none in 2024.

The Prime Minister has reiterated that net zero is a priority for this Government. More than ever, we are determined to adopt a fair and pragmatic approach to net zero that minimises the burdens on working people. The measures announced by the Prime Minister will help avoid imposing significant costs on families.

We will transition to net zero in the most efficient, low cost, business friendly and least disruptive manner possible. The UK has overperformed on every target to cut emissions so far and has cut emissions faster than any other major economy, but we have to take a more measured approach to reach net zero, while still meeting our international commitments. Our targets remain unchanged.

We will be moving back the ban on the sale of petrol and diesel cars to 2035. The Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) mandate for the next seven years is still in place, which will require manufacturers to sell an increasing share of zero emission vehicles each year, and help chargepoint and car manufacturers develop their business plans. We will be introducing an exemption to the fossil fuel boiler phase out so that those households who cannot make the switch no longer need to. We have also increased the grants available for air source heat pumps to £7,500, providing additional support to families to upgrade their heating systems.

As we make these policy changes, we remain completely committed to our net zero commitments.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours ever,

Rt Hon Graham Stuart MP

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