



Department for
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Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP
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Dear George,

Thank you for your email dated 7 July to the Chancellor of Exchequer, enclosing an example piece of correspondence you have received from a number of your constituents, regarding ensuring a green recovery. Your email has been passed to this Department and I am replying as this matter falls within my Ministerial portfolio. I apologise for the delay in responding.

As the Prime Minister made clear, in recovering from COVID-19 we must build back better and greener and do that at the pace that this moment requires. The Government is putting a green recovery at the heart of its response to COVID-19, both domestically through further investment in low carbon infrastructure and by embedding action on climate change in support for recovery internationally as host of COP26.

The decisions we make today can lay the foundation for sound, sustainable and inclusive growth. The UK has shown that growing our economy and cutting emissions can be achieved at the same time. We have grown our economy by 75% while cutting emissions by 43% over the past three decades. The UK has over 460,000 jobs in low carbon businesses and their supply chains and many of the actions we need to take to reach our target of net zero emissions by 2050 will support jobs and growth in every region of the UK.

The UK is at the forefront of adopting new low-carbon initiatives such as energy storage technologies, smart electricity systems, and zero-emission vehicles. These innovations are creating new green jobs and economic opportunities while also providing cleaner air and warmer homes.

Meeting net zero and delivering the global transition to a low carbon economy will require unprecedented levels of investment in green and low carbon technologies, services, and infrastructure. The UK power sector is a success story that we want to replicate in other sectors having attracted more than £94 billion of investment since 2010.

This year alone, the Government has committed billions in spending as we increase support for our low-carbon economy and green jobs. We are taking action in every sector including: £2 billion to kickstart a cycling and walking revolution; £1 billion support for ultra-low emission vehicles; £800 million to capture carbon from power stations and industry; a £640 million Nature Climate Fund; and £100 million for

research and development into Direct Air Capture technologies. At the Chancellor's economic update on July 8, the government set out the next stage in our support for the UK's recovery from the pandemic with over £3 billion of investment to create and support up to 140,000 green jobs and upgrade homes and public buildings across the country.

We are determined to ensure that the benefits of our growing low-carbon economy are shared fairly in every region. The Prime Minister confirmed in his Economy Speech that the government will bring forward the Local Recovery and Devolution white paper detailing how the UK government will partner with places across the UK to build a sustainable economic recovery. This white paper will set out Government's place-based strategy to support economic recovery, level up the UK's regions, and expand expanding devolution across the country.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. I hope you and your constituents find this information useful.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kwasi Kwarteng', written in a cursive style.

RT HON KWASI KWARTENG MP
Minister of State for Business, Energy and Clean Growth