



Mr Damian Eaton
Interim Service Lead – Democratic & Electoral Services
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council
Democratic Services
Town Hall
Stockport
SK1 3XE

Our Ref: NM18685

17 January 2023

Dear Mr Eaton,

**Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council Motion
Climate & Ecological Bill**

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Council's support for the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill. You will be aware I support many aims of this Bill and welcome the increased awareness it has brought to Parliament. Furthermore, I commend the actions of Stockport Council, its officers and elected Members in passing their Motion.

Undoubtedly, we all agree that we need urgent action to avoid climate catastrophe. It is an issue that residents of Stockport feel very strongly about. I receive a large volume of correspondence from constituents and have the privilege of speaking to local groups such as Sustainable Living in the Heatons on a regular basis.

Recent reports from UN bodies and others have made clear the gravity of the situation, finding that existing emissions reductions policies put the world on course for warming of around 2.5°C, well above the 1.5°C target needed to avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change. As the UN Environmental Programme says, avoiding dangerous levels of warming now requires wide-ranging, large-scale, rapid and systematic transformation.

As the Member of Parliament for Stockport, I am however very concerned that the Government is not meeting this situation with the speed and scale of action it demands.

Accordingly, Stockport Council's Motion is significant and it essential that other local authorities up and down the country follow its direction. That said, we do have to recognise the scale of the challenges councils face as they grapple with huge budget deficits.

The Climate Change Committee's most recent annual progress report sets out that the Government is failing in its implementation of climate policies and that its current strategy will not deliver net zero emissions. Indeed, the High Court has ruled that the strategy is in breach of the Climate Change Act. Furthermore, the Government also continues to double down on fossil fuels and to block onshore wind.

I believe we need to put climate at the heart of the agenda for a fairer, greener future here in Britain and around the world. Again, therefore I acknowledge the efforts of Stockport Council in ensuring this is embedded in their policies. This is a step forward in the right direction.

Please be assured I support calls for a green prosperity plan that will safeguard nature and enable Britain to lead the world in green growth, including by delivering zero-carbon power by 2030, insulating 19 million homes and establishing a national wealth fund to help create one million green jobs. I support many of the aims set out in the CEE Bill.

The Bill, however, did not receive a debate or vote in the last parliamentary session, and is unlikely to do so if reintroduced in the House of Commons. It is instead a way of drawing attention to an issue that requires a change in the law. I will therefore continue to support other parliamentary measures that seek to implement many of the Bill's principles.

Thank you once again for contacting me. I can assure you that I will continue to push for bold action to tackle the climate and ecological emergency and look forward to working with Stockport Council to achieve this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Navendu' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Navendu Mishra MP