



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

September 2020

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill; a Bill that has been developed by campaign members of Extinction Rebellion, Big Ask and Power for the People.

Tackling climate change is a priority for this Government. The UK was the first G7 country to legislate to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. Aiming for zero emissions by 2030 is almost certainly impossible, hugely disruptive and risks undermining consensus. Climate change is an emotive issue, but a cross-community consensus will be required to ensure the UK achieves a transition that works for all.

I note that the Bill seeks to examine the UK's global carbon footprint, such as indirect UK emissions in our supply chain which may affect developing countries. The UK remains committed to environmentally sustainable development as set out in the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals. In September 2019, the Prime Minister committed to doubling the UK's International Climate Finance over the next five years which will enable the UK to play an active part in protecting the environment and reversing biodiversity loss.

The UK is also on course to protect over half of our waters. We now have 357 Marine Protected Areas of different types and no activities deemed damaging to designated features will be allowed to take place in these areas.

I do not believe a citizens' assembly is a sensible idea. Previous experiences in Canada, for instance, included citizens in different ways in the decision-making process, but they failed to produce impactful or long-lasting results – and this idea tends only to be promoted by those who fail to achieve majorities using our existing democratic processes.

Given the above, I shall not be supporting this Bill.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.



Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Chris".

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**