



Department
for Transport

From the Parliamentary
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Dear attendee,

Climate change is the most pressing environmental challenge we face, and the UK is committed to tackling it. We know we need to go much further and much faster to decarbonise this sector, and this means difficult and bold decisions will be needed. Whilst our absolute focus at this time is combatting the spread of coronavirus, it's important that work continues on our long-term priority to decarbonise transport which remains one of the key priorities for the Secretary of State for Transport and for Government as a whole.

Your input, engagement and collaboration on this important issue will be integral to producing a credible Transport Decarbonisation Plan and ensuring its implementation and delivery. Whilst we are unable to gather in person, that does not diminish the importance of these engagement sessions and I would like to thank you for your participation in helping us shape the future of a sustainable transport sector.

As you will be aware, in March this year, we published "Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge" which brought together the work that has been done to date to reduce transport emissions. We set out the scale of additional emissions reductions that will be needed to deliver the transport sector's contribution to carbon budgets and deliver net zero by 2050 and it is clear - the scale of the challenge we face is massive.

Whilst in recent weeks our steadfast focus has been on dealing with the pandemic, that has not diminished our drive to meet our decarbonisation goals. We want to capitalise and build on the new habits people have developed during the restrictions helping to ensure that as we kick start our economy, we deliver on our duty to move quickly and decisively to reduce transport emissions. In the months ahead, you will see government putting its full weight behind Net Zero as we work towards the publication of our full Transport Decarbonisation Plan.

It is no exaggeration to say this is a very important moment for the country. We have the opportunity to build back greener and champion the power of new, cleaner transport technologies as we recover from the pandemic, whilst levelling up the economy for the benefit of the people and communities that need it most.

We will build upon The Future of Transport Grand Challenge to make the UK the internationally recognised leader in sustainable technology and transport innovation, not just in the movement of people, goods and services. We will harness the UK as a global centre of expertise, utilising our world-leading scientists, business leaders and innovators to drive research & development to meet the technological advances we need to meet our net zero ambitions.

I hope you will continue sharing your expertise and engaging with us as we continue this exciting new journey together to shake-up the traditional transport sector and build a cleaner, greener and better-connected Britain. I look forward to considering your ideas and input.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Maclean', with a small dot at the end.

RACHEL MACLEAN

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT