



THE RT HON MARK HARPER MP
Working for Gloucestershire West of the Severn

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA



Primrose Hill C of E Primary Academy
School Crescent
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5TA

28th February 2022

Dear Year 6 at Primrose Hill C of E Primary Academy,

Thank you for contacting me about climate change.

I think it is fantastic that at such a young age you are so interested about the issues facing our planet. I take the issue of climate change very seriously, and so do my colleagues in Government, and to tackle climate change we need governments, businesses and individuals to work together.

Climate change has visible consequences and a recent report has found that the world is warming faster than previously expected. Unless immediate action is taken, the world will continue to get hotter which will result in loss of habitats, ice melting, flooding, draughts and heatwaves. We simply cannot let that happen, the cost is far too high. Climate change is already affecting every region of the planet.

The Prime Minister hosted world leaders, scientists, business leaders and others in Glasgow in November 2021 for COP26, a climate conference which aimed to increase global climate ambition. The Glasgow Climate Pact, the agreement that was signed at the end of the conference, was the first ever global agreement in which every country has signed up to phase down coal – the dirtiest fossil fuel.

Setting net zero targets, and making plans on how to achieve net zero, is an example of one way a country can show they are committed to tackling climate change. Net zero is when a country is no longer emitting more carbon emissions than it is taking out of the air, for example from trees or peatlands which absorb carbon emissions.

I am proud that the UK was the first major economy to put a net zero target in law. The UK's net zero target is 2050 and when we achieve net zero we will have stopped our contribution to climate change. However, other countries need to follow suit, particularly those which emit more harmful emissions than us.

Global momentum is growing to cut emissions and reach net zero, and I am encouraged that 90 per cent of the global economy has set their own net zero targets.

I am also aware that it is tremendously important to protect the world's rainforests, so I am pleased action is being taken to stop deforestation around the globe. For example, at COP 26, over 130 countries, home to more than 90 per cent of the world's forests, signed up to halt and reverse deforestation by 2030. In addition, the UK has spent over £800 million on projects aiming to reduce deforestation in Brazil, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Indonesia.

Constituency Office: 01594 823482
mark.harper.mp@parliament.uk www.markharper.org
@Mark_J_Harper facebook.com/mark.harper.fod



In the UK, lots will have to change to enable us to reach net zero, including our method of transport from petrol or diesel cars to electric cars, our heating from gas boilers to green alternatives such as heat pumps, and our energy mix from fossil fuels to nuclear and renewables, to name just a few changes. The Prime Minister has laid out his plan for a Green Industrial Revolution and I look forward to supporting further climate action.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark'.

The Rt Hon Mark Harper MP