

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017

*Dear Consultant,*  
**RE: FAIR FUEL UK CAMPAIGN**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of fuel prices.

The Government recognises that fuel costs remain a significant part of business and household costs. In order to reduce living costs, and support those who are just about managing to get by, fuel duty has been frozen for a seventh successive year, something I have consistently supported the campaign for. In total, this saves the average car driver £130 a year compared to pre-2010 fuel duty escalator plans, and the average van driver £350. This is a tax cut worth £1 billion in 2017-18, and means the current fuel duty freeze is the longest for 40 years.

The Competition and Markets Authority, the body charged with monitoring competition within UK markets, investigated the fuel retail market in 2013, in order to determine whether there was anti-competitive behaviour by market participants. It found no evidence that retailers are colluding to fix pump prices.

Reduced duty rates are offered on alternative fuels as an incentive for drivers to move to cleaner fuels. Liquefied petroleum gas, compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, biomethane and aqua-methanol all benefit from reduced duty rates.

Finally, there is no legislative framework for purchase receipts, which are simply acknowledgments of payments. There is VAT legislation when an invoice must be provided, but this only states that VAT-registered businesses are obliged to provide invoices to other VAT-registered businesses. Expanding this information to cover all forms of taxes and duties, for all private motorists as well as businesses, would dramatically increase administrative burdens for retailers, and therefore their costs. I understand that the Government therefore has no plans to implement this proposal.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*With best wishes,*  
*Tom*

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**