

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

29<sup>th</sup> June 2020

*Dear Conifer,*

**RE: GREEN ECONOMIC RECOVERY.**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of the need for a green economic recovery, following the Coronavirus emergency; your comments upon which I have read with great interest. As we all recognise, these are incredibly difficult times for our country and while it is paramount to protect jobs and the economy, questions are also understandably being asked about the way the country does business from an environmental perspective.

Last year, more than 12,000 people lobbied the Government as part of the 'Time is Now' campaign to raise their concerns about climate change and I certainly welcome the increased awareness and discussion on this issue.

I know that this year a virtual lobby is to be held tomorrow, the 30<sup>th</sup> June, but unfortunately, owing to my role as a Government Whip, I have immovable commitments all day in the House taking through the *Counter-Terrorism & Sentencing Bill* and the *Immigration & Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill*, which means I am unable to take part in a video call with climate activists from Corby & East Northamptonshire tomorrow. However, I have organised for an equivalent call to take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> July at 11:30am for half-an-hour - if you would like to join it, please email my office on [pursglovet@parliament.uk](mailto:pursglovet@parliament.uk) and we will provide you with the login details.

On the wider issue, I agree that as we recover from COVID-19, the Government needs to deliver an economy which is stronger, greener, more sustainable and more resilient. I was therefore pleased that, on the 8<sup>th</sup> June, the Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy announced a Green Recovery Working Group - one of five new 'recovery roundtables' bringing together businesses, business representative groups and leading academics, to unleash Britain's growth potential and help the economy recover from the pandemic. This group will explore how to most effectively capture the economic growth opportunities from the shift to net-zero emissions.

The UK has also played a world-leading role in tackling climate change and ensuring the transition to 'Clean Growth', by being the first country to legislate to eliminate our contribution to climate change by 2050, and the fastest in the G20 to cut emissions. Since 1990, the UK has cut emissions by more than 40 percent while growing the economy by more than two thirds, and we are a world-leader in offshore wind.



At the same time, the *Environment Bill* is being introduced to protect and improve the environment for future generations, enshrining in law environmental principles and legally-binding targets, and the first progress report on the Government's ambitious *25-Year Environment Plan* found that 90 percent of the priority actions have been delivered, or are on track for delivery.

You can be assured that carbon emissions and tackling climate change will continue to be priorities for me and my ministerial colleagues and I look forward to engaging with local people about this on Wednesday morning.

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,*

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

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