



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Cllr Phil Glover
Wem Town Council
Edinburgh House
New Street
Wem
Shropshire SY4 5DB

5th September 2019

Phil Glover

Further to my letter dated 6th August, I attach a copy of the response that I have received from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. I hope that this is helpful. If there is anything further I can do to be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Yours sincerely,

Owen Paterson

The Rt Hon Owen Paterson MP



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

The Rt Hon Owen Paterson MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP
Minister of State for Business, Energy and
Clean Growth.

Department for Business, Energy &
Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000
E enquiries@beis.gov.uk
W www.gov.uk

Our ref: MCB2019/16697

Owen Paterson

3 September 2019

Thank you for your letter dated 6 August to the Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP, enclosing correspondence from your constituent, Cllr Phil Glover, Mayor of Wem, Wem Town Council, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem SY4 5DB, regarding climate change. I am replying as this matter falls within my Ministerial portfolio.

I am grateful to you for taking the time to write, outlining Cllr Glover's concerns. We are the first major economy in the world to legislate for a net zero target, which will bring to an end our contribution to climate change. It is now time to rise to the challenge we have set ourselves. Delivering a net zero target must be a joint endeavour encompassing all parts of society, and we are pleased that Wem Town Council recognises the importance of local action and is looking at how to save carbon.

We have shown our commitment to maximising the opportunities of the global shift to clean growth by placing clean growth at the heart of our Industrial Strategy and making it one of four Grand Challenges. The Clean Growth Strategy sets out how the Government is investing over £3 billion to support low-carbon innovation from 2015 to 2021. Since the Strategy was published, the Government has continued to invest in low-carbon innovation, such as through the latest wave of the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund.

As our economy changes we must make sure that this growth benefits people right across the UK, supporting workers as industries change and that costs are shared fairly, protecting consumers and businesses. That is why we are also announcing that HM Treasury will be taking forward a review on how to achieve this transition in a way that works for households, businesses and public finances.

We also recognise that local places have an important role to play in this agenda and we agree, as in Cllr Glover's letter, that reducing and changing local energy use has many benefits, including improvements to air quality, minimising fuel poverty and boosting the local economy. We have established the BEIS Local Energy Programme, as part of which we have funded Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) to produce an energy strategy for their area, identifying energy-saving opportunities and a pipeline of low-carbon projects. Alongside this, we have also established five regional Local Energy Hubs which aim to support the development of these low-carbon projects in local areas by working with local authorities and LEPs and providing commercial, technical and project management support.

Wem falls within the Midlands Local Energy Hub area, which is currently hosted by Nottingham City Council. The Hubs also run the re-launched Rural Community Energy Fund, which provides funding for rural communities to develop renewable energy projects.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. I hope you and Cllr Glover find this information useful.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kwasi Kwarteng', written in a cursive style.

RT HON KWASI KWARTENG MP
Minister of State for Business, Energy and Clean Growth