



REBECCA PAUL MP  
Member of Parliament for Reigate

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Thank you for your recent email regarding the Climate and Nature Bill.

As you may already be aware, the Climate and Nature Bill has been presented to the Commons before in at least six different guises and each time it has failed to make significant progress. The Bill will now return to the Commons once again as a Private Members Bill presented by Liberal Democrat Roz Savage MP.

The Bill would require the UK to achieve climate and nature targets and would require the Government to establish a Climate and Nature Assembly to advise to execute a strategy to achieve these targets. I do not downplay the importance of combating climate change but believe that these proposals and indeed the Bill itself are fundamentally unnecessary.

The previous Government's progress achieving net zero by 2050 was remarkable. Under its plans, the UK became the first major economy in the world to halve emissions. Likewise, the previous Government set some of the most ambitious carbon emission targets in the world, aiming for a 68% cut by 2030 compared to the EU's target of a 55% cut. I understand as well that the Bill would require the Government to implement a strategy to achieve climate targets. I feel it is important to point out that the previous Government has already published the Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution, the Energy White Paper, the North Sea Transition Deal, the Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy, the Net Zero Strategy, the British Energy Security Strategy, and most recently the Powering up Britain Plan. It is evident to me that a strategy to achieve the UK's climate targets is already in place and further legislation would add little at this point.

Moreover, the Bill would give duties to the Climate Change Committee (CCC) and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee regarding the strategy and targets. The CCC's role in providing independent, expert advice to the Government on climate change mitigation and adaptation is *already* seen as global best-practice. I believe that the previous Government, through its reduction in carbon emissions, put in place the right structures and targets to reduce our country's climate emissions.

I am also concerned that the Bill would establish a Climate and Nature Assembly to advise in creating a climate strategy. I strongly believe that the way in which the UK reduces carbon emissions should be left to democratically elected Members of Parliament to decide.

For all of these reasons, I cannot support the Climate and Nature Bill.

Kind regards,

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