



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Erin Knight – Year 8
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Our Ref: CC4867

11 January 2021

Dear Erin,

Thank you very much for your letter. It is fantastic to read about your passion for our environment. I am a passionate environmentalist myself and improving it is one of my top priorities as East Surrey's MP, so I am very grateful for your ideas on how to do this.

I completely agree with you that climate change is one of the greatest challenges we face, and from my conversations with the Prime Minister, I can assure you that he recognises the importance and urgency of action on this issue. I am very proud that the UK was the first country to legislate to eliminate our contribution to climate change by 2050, and the fastest in the G20 to cut emissions. When we achieve net zero, the UK will have eliminated its contribution to climate change, which as of December 2019 accounted for 1.2 per cent of global emissions.

You raise some very valid points about the damages oil extraction causes. This is indeed not a sustainable method if we are to reduce carbon emissions and I am therefore pleased the Government is committed to transitioning to clean energy. The UK is providing significant investment into the development of renewables and we will no longer direct government support for the fossil fuel energy sectors abroad. I know clean energy will be something the Prime Minister will be pushing for at the United Nations Climate Change Conference this year (COP26). When the UK hosts COP26 in Glasgow this year, we will bring together world leaders, climate experts, business leaders and citizens to agree ambitious world action to tackle climate change.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me. Hopefully I will meet you in East Surrey in the future where we can talk about this more.

Very best wishes,
Claire

Member of Parliament for East Surrey