Thomas Holden
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Our Ref: CC4867                                                11 January 2021

Dear Thomas,

Thank you very much for your letter. It is fantastic to read about your passion for our environment and to hear about how useful learning this in school has been for your understanding. 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.

It is terrible to read about the impact that fossil fuel burning has had on the island of Tuvala. The use of fossil fuels is indeed not a sustainable method for the long term 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**