



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Rt Hon Graham Stuart MP
Minister of State for Energy Security and Net
Zero

**Department for Energy Security & Net
Zero**
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Cllr David Rouane
Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council

Our ref: MCB2023/24987

10 January 2024

Dear Cllr Rouane,

Thank you for your letter of 27 November regarding the Government's net zero policy.

I would like to commend South Oxfordshire District Council on their target to reach net zero by 2030. The Government recognises that local authorities can, and do, play an essential role in driving local climate action, with significant influence in many of the national priorities across energy, housing, and transport, which will be needed to achieve net zero.

The Government remains committed to our existing targets, which keep us on track to meet net zero in 2050, compatible with the Paris Agreement ambition to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees. Achieving net zero will also capitalise on the opportunities of green growth and the low carbon transition, creating jobs and investment across the UK whilst reducing emissions.

Our package of proposals and policies must adapt to changing circumstances, to utilise technological developments and address emerging challenges. The UK over-achieved against the first and second carbon budgets, and the latest projections show that we are on track to meet the third. We are able to quantify the vast majority of carbon savings in the 2030s, more than a decade away, which is certainly more than most countries can say.

The Climate Change Committee analysis shows there is no material difference in our progress to cut emissions by 2030 since their last report in June. The Committee's assessment of the level of risk in Government's plans is that 'credible plans' for 2028-32 have increased from 25% in June to 28% now.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Graham Stuart MP
Minister of State for Energy Security and Net Zero