



Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP
Leader of the Opposition

Thursday 2nd October 2025

Dear Kemi,

We are writing in response to your proposal to scrap the Climate Change Act 2008. This proposal would undermine Britain's economic strength, national security, and environmental leadership. We urge you to reconsider your position.

A risk to our economy

The Climate Change Act has given businesses and investors the certainty to back Britain's fast growing clean economy, now worth over £83 billion and employing nearly a million peopleⁱ. This sector is expanding three times faster than the rest of the economy. Scrapping the Act would rip away that certainty, costing jobs and investment at a time when economic stability is vital.

The UK has already shown that growth and emissions cuts go hand in hand. In 2024, the then Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (now Shadow) Clare Coutinho celebratedⁱⁱ the fact that the UK was the first major economy to have cut its emissions by 50 per cent between 1990 and 2022, while also growing its economy by 79 per cent. Walking away from the law that underpinned this success would create massive uncertainty.

The costs of inaction are significantly greater than the costs of acting. The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) warns that unchecked climate change could shrink the UK economy by 8 per cent by the 2070s, adding debt worth more than half of the UK's GDPⁱⁱⁱ.

A risk to our national security

Climate change is a national security threat. It multiplies risks, fuels instability, and puts pressure on our armed forces and infrastructure.

Your own government's Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy (2021)^{iv} recognised that climate change and biodiversity loss are among the most severe tests to global resilience, demanding urgent action. The Act is the framework that makes UK action credible at home and abroad. Weakening it undermines our sovereignty, national security, and our global standing.



The Act also provides certainty and investor confidence for our energy security, supporting the UK to be less reliant on volatile foreign energy markets and the associated price spikes.

A risk to climate and nature at home and abroad

The Act makes climate targets legally binding and ensures governments are held to account. Without it, climate policy becomes voluntary and subject to political convenience. The Act has also underpinned Britain's international leadership, helping to spur others into action. China, for example, now derives over 10 per cent^v of its economy from clean energy industries. China's CO2 emissions are also on track to fall across 2025 as a whole^{vi}.

Without the legal framework of the Climate Change Act sending a message to other countries the climate emergency would be even greater. This is an economic, security, and environmental necessity as well as a moral imperative to encourage others to follow our lead.

Climate change is the gravest threat to British nature with the extremes of heat and drought and rising sea temperatures threatening our animals, birds and trees and plants. We've had two of the worst harvests on record putting our food security at risk^{vii}. You can't support the British environment if you're not serious about tackling climate change.

On the wrong side of public opinion

Your proposal is also out of step with the public, who overwhelmingly want strong government action on climate change^{viii}.

The Climate Change Act is central to Britain's prosperity, security, global reputation and is crucial to the fight against both climate change and nature degradation. Repealing it would be a reckless backward step. We urge you to think again.

Yours sincerely,

Abtisam Mohamed
MP for Sheffield Central

Adrian Ramsay
MP for Waveney Valley

Afzal Khan
MP for Manchester Rusholme

Alex Ballinger
MP for Halesowen

Alex Mayer
MP for Dunstable and Leighton Buzzard

Alex Sobel
MP for Leeds Central and Headingley

Alison Bennett
MP for Mid Sussex

Allison Gardner
MP for Stoke-on-Trent South

Amanda Hack
MP for North West Leicestershire

Andrew Cooper
MP for Mid Cheshire

Andrew George
MP for St Ives

Andrew Lewin
MP for Welwyn Hatfield

Andrew Ranger
MP for Wrexham

Andy Macnae
MP for Rossendale and Darwen

Anna Dixon
MP for Shipley

Anna Sabine
MP for Frome and East Somerset

Anneliese Dodds
MP for Oxford East

Ben Coleman
MP for Chelsea and Fulham

Ben Maguire
MP for North Cornwall

Bill Esterson
MP for Sefton Central

Cameron Thomas
MP for Tewkesbury

Carla Denyer
MP for Bristol Central

Cat Eccles
MP for Stourbridge

Charlie Maynard
MP for Witney

Chris Curtis
MP for Milton Keynes North

Chris Law
MP for Dundee Central

Chris Murray
MP for Edinburgh East and Musselburgh

Claire Young
MP for Thornbury and Yate

Daniel Francis
MP for Bexleyheath and Crayford

Danny Beales
MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip

Danny Chambers
MP for Winchester

Darren Paffey
MP for Southampton Itchen

Dave Robertson
MP for Lichfield

David Baines
MP for St Helens North

David Burton-Sampson
MP for Southend West and Leigh

Dr Simon Opher
MP for Stroud

Edward Morello
MP for West Dorset

Elaine Stewart
MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock

Ellie Chowns
MP for North Herefordshire

Euan Stainbank
MP for Falkirk

Gareth Thomas
MP for Harrow West

Graham Leadbitter
MP for Moray West, Nairn and Strathspey

James Macleary
MP for Lewes

James Naish
MP for Rushcliffe

Jess Brown-Fuller
MP for Chichester

Jessica Asato
MP for Lowestoft

Jim Dickson
MP for Dartford

Johanna Baxter
MP for Paisley and Renfrewshire South

John Grady
MP for Glasgow East

John Slinger
MP for Rugby

John Whitby
MP for Derbyshire Dales

Josh Barbarinde
MP for Eastbourne

Josh Dean
MP for Hertford and Stortford

Josh Newbury
MP for Cannock Chase

Julia Buckley
MP for Shrewsbury

Kevin McKenna
MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey

Kirsteen Sullivan
MP for Bathgate and Linlithgow

Kirsty Blackman
MP for Aberdeen North

Laurence Turner
MP for Birmingham Northfield

Lee Barron
MP for Corby and East Northamptonshire

Lindsey Farnsworth
MP for Amber Valley

Lizzi Collinge
MP for Morecambe and Lunesdale

Luke Akehurst
MP for North Durham

Luke Murphy
MP for Basingstoke

Luke Myer
MP for Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland

Luke Taylor
MP for Sutton and Cheam

Manuela Perteghella
MP for Stratford-on-Avon

Martin Rhodes
MP for Glasgow North

Martin Wrigley
MP for Newton Abbot

Matthew Turmaine
MP for Watford

Michael Payne
MP for Gedling

Michelle Welsh
MP for Sherwood Forest

Olivia Blake
MP for Sheffield Hallam

Olly Glover
MP for Didcot and Wantage

Paul Foster
MP for South Ribble

Paul Kohler
MP for Wimbledon

Perran Moon
MP for Camborne and Redruth

Peter Lamb
MP for Crawley

Peter Swallow
MP for Bracknell

Phil Brickell
MP for Bolton West

Pippa Heylings
MP for South Cambridgeshire

Polly Billington
MP for East Thanet

Rachel Gilmour
MP for Tiverton and Minehead

Rachel Taylor
MP for North Warwickshire and Bedworth

Richard Foord
MP for Honiton and Sidmouth

Richard Quigley
MP for Isle of Wight West

Roz Savage
MP for South Cotswolds

Ruth Cadbury
MP for Brentford and Isleworth

Sadik Al-Hassan
MP for North Somerset

Sam Carling
MP for North West Cambridgeshire

Samantha Niblet
MP for South Derbyshire

Sarah Dyke
MP for Glastonbury and Somerton

Sarah Gibson
MP for Chippenham

Sarah Russell
MP for Congleton

Seamus Logan
MP for Aberdeenshire North and Moray East

Sean Woodcock
MP for Banbury

Sian Berry
MP for Brighton Pavilion

Stephen Gethins
MP for Arbroath and Broughty

Steve Witherden
MP for Montgomeryshire and Glyndŵr

Susan Murray
MP for Mid Dunbartonshire

Terry Jermy
MP for South West Norfolk

Toby Perkins
MP for Chesterfield

Tom Morrison
MP for Cheadle

Uma Kumaran
MP for Stratford and Bow

Victoria Collins

MP for Harpenden & Berkhamsted

Warinder Juss

MP for Wolverhampton West

Wera Hobhouse

MP for Bath

Will Forster

MP for Woking

Yuan Yang

MP for Earley and Woodley

Baron Smith of Finsbury

Baroness Bakewell

Baroness Boycott

Baroness Brown of Cambridge

Baroness Hayman

Baroness Lister of Burtersett

Baroness Northover

Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick

Baroness Sheehan

Baroness Willis of Summertown

Baroness Young of Old Scone

Earl Russell

Lord Krebs

Lord Teverson

Lord Whitty

ⁱ <https://www.cbi.org.uk/media/owxdidg1/cbi-economics-eciu-the-future-is-green-report-2025.pdf>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-first-major-economy-to-halve-emissions>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://obr.uk/frs/fiscal-risks-and-sustainability-july-2025/>

^{iv} <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/global-britain-in-a-competitive-age-the-integrated-review-of-security-defence-development-and-foreign-policy/global-britain-in-a-competitive-age-the-integrated-review-of-security-defence-development-and-foreign-policy>

^v <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-clean-energy-contributed-a-record-10-of-chinas-gdp-in-2024/>

^{vi} <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-record-solar-growth-keeps-chinas-co2-falling-in-first-half-of-2025/>

^{vii} <https://eciu.net/media/press-releases/2024/confirmed-england-has-second-worst-harvest-on-record-with-fears-mounting-for-2025>

^{viii} <https://yougov.co.uk/topics/politics/survey-results/daily/2025/03/18/c4b0f/1>