

Baroness Parminter
Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

The Rt Hon Claire Coutinho MP
Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
55 Whitehall
London
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24 January 2024

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing to you with regard to the appointment of a permanent Chair of the Climate Change Committee (CCC), the independent advisory body to Government on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for and adapting to the impacts of climate change.

We note that there has been considerable delay in the appointment of a permanent successor to the CCC's former Chair, Lord Deben, who announced his intention to step down from the role in July 2022. An interim Chair was appointed in June 2023, but we note the current Chief Executive is also now due to depart in April 2024. Yet the process for recruiting a new permanent Chair is still ongoing. I hope you agree that providing strategic leadership, direction and outreach is critical for this body to help deliver the necessary cuts in greenhouse gas emissions.

The Environment and Climate Change Committee would be grateful for an explanation of the reasons for the delay in the appointment of a new Chair.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Baroness Parminter
Chair, Environment and Climate Change Committee