



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP
Secretary of State

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& Net Zero
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The Rt Hon. The Baroness Sheehan
Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee
House of Lords
London
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4 July 2025

Dear Lady Sheehan,

Preferred candidate for the Chair of the Climate Change Committee

Following my previous correspondence of 3 March, I am writing to inform you that the appointing ministers of the devolved administrations and I have agreed to Nigel Topping CMG as our preferred candidate for the permanent role of Chair of the Climate Change Committee (CCC).

This decision follows an open, fair, and merit-based recruitment process conducted in line with the Governance Code for Public Appointments. Nigel Topping brings a wealth of experience to the Chair role, having served as a member of the CCC since 2023, as Climate Non-Executive Director at the National Wealth Fund and in his previous role as a UN Climate Change High Level Champion for COP26.

We intend to publicly announce our preferred candidate later today. As you will be aware, the appointment remains subject to scrutiny by the Energy Security and Net Zero and the Environmental Audit committees. The pre-appointment hearing is scheduled for 16 July.

I look forward to receiving and considering the Committee's report following the pre-appointment hearing. Thank you for your continued interest in the appointment of a permanent CCC Chair.

Yours ever,

RT HON ED MILIBAND MP
Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero