



The Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP
Minister of State for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change

UK International Champion on Adaptation and Resilience for the COP26 Presidency

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Darren Jones MP

Chair, BEIS Select Committee;

Neil Parish MP

Chair, Environment Food and Rural Affairs Committee

Pete Wishart MP

Chair, Scottish Affairs Committee

House of Commons

London

SW1A 0AA

21 July 2021

Dear Chairs,

Thank you for your letter dated 8 July following the Scottish Affairs Select Committee appearance. Please find below some further information in response to your questions which I hope committee members will find helpful.

Estimated Costs for hosting the Conference

Budget discussions with delivery partners are ongoing, and will continue to develop in the run up to COP26. This will include provision for ensuring the health and safety of delegates and the local community, specifically in light of COVID 19. We continue to work on the package of measures, working closely with public health officials and our Scottish delivery partners.

Litigation Costs

We are working closely with Scottish Government and Police Scotland on the policing and security arrangements for COP. We do not anticipate any UK Police Officer will act in a manner that would result in liabilities being created.

Scottish Government Public Consultation

The UK Government has communicated closely with the Scottish Government on their green choices and public engagement work, and welcome the Scottish Public

Engagement Consultation. We look forward to seeing the final Public Engagement Strategy following on from this Consultation.

We are increasing our work on public engagement on climate action and our plans for net zero will take account of the importance of public engagement. We will publish a comprehensive Net Zero Strategy, which will be a key way to inform and engage the public on our approach to Net Zero. The Strategy will also set out our approach to public engagement and supporting the general public to make green choices.

As Presidency, we are committed to securing an outcome that respects and reflects the interests of all Parties, including those most impacted by climate change. We want to work with civil society to amplify the voices of those on the front line of climate change to deliver a truly 'all of society' and inclusive COP. Civil society organisations, with their links to on-the-ground communities and practitioners, are agents of change and their knowledge and leadership is necessary to deliver effective local solutions.

Through our domestic 'Together for our Planet' campaign we are building awareness and understanding of COP26 across the UK, giving people the chance to get involved in the run-up to the Summit.

You also asked for an update on MCI accommodation. Our agreement with the UN requires the Host Country to make arrangements with the accommodation sector, as soon as the city selection is made. To accomplish this, the contract was awarded to MCI.

The contract was not competed as the value of the contract was below the Public Contract Regulations 2015 threshold and, on the basis of their previous experience with COP, and similar requirements with the UN. The UK as host has secured both a fair cancellation deal and reasonable room costs compared to the open market, through our accommodation booking providers, MCI. The terms and conditions are set by the hotels themselves and are not within HMG's control to influence.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Marie Trevelyan', with a horizontal line underneath.

THE RT HON ANNE-MARIE TREVELYAN MP

Minister of State for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change

UK International Champion on Adaptation and Resilience for the COP26 Presidency

Scottish Affairs Committee

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The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP
COP26 President Designate
Cabinet Office COP26 Unit

8 July 2021

Dear Alok,

The 'Committee on COP26' was pleased to hear evidence on 23 June from the UK Government on the preparations and planning of COP26 and the Government's civil society and public engagement efforts ahead of the Conference.

Following the UK Government's offer of further details on COP26, we are writing for information on the following issues:

1. In front of the Committee, the UK Government was unable to provide an estimate for the costs involved in hosting COP26. We understand that the budget has yet to be finalised and that there is a reluctance in providing an "unrealistic" figure. However, in a session of the Scottish Affairs Committee on 25 March 2021, Police Scotland has been able to provide rough estimated costs for the policing and security for COP26. In the interests of allowing Parliament to scrutinise and seek greater clarity on the preparations of hosting COP26, please could you provide estimated costs for hosting the Conference? We appreciate that they would be provisional.
2. The Committee was reassured to hear that the UK Government is committed to supporting COP26's delivery partners by "paying for all marginal costs for the conference". However, we are concerned that the UK Government's commitment to cover costs of the COP26 will not extend beyond the Conference itself, and that any litigation following COP26 will not be covered by the UK Government. Can the UK Government give the 'Committee on COP26' and Police Scotland financial assurance that litigation costs will also be covered?
3. Public engagement is essential in achieving a successful COP26. Therefore, please could you provide further detail on how the [Scottish Government's public consultation on public engagement and a Net-Zero strategy](#) that was published in December 2020 has impacted the UK Government's approach? Have you had access to the results of this consultation? If so, how has this informed the UK Government's plans for public and civil society engagement for COP26?

We look forward to your reply.

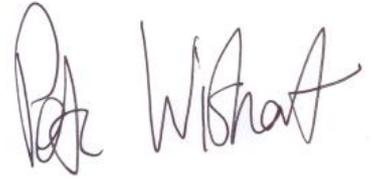
Yours sincerely,



Darren Jones MP
Chair, Business, Energy &
Industrial Strategy Committee



Neil Parish MP
Chair, Environment, Food and
Rural Affairs Committee



Pete Wishart MP
Chair, Scottish Affairs
Committee