



Department
for Transport

From the Parliamentary
Under Secretary of State
Rachel Maclean MP

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Rt. Hon. Philip Dunne MP
Chair of the Environmental Audit Select Committee

18 August 2021

Dear Philip,

At the Environmental Audit Select Committee meeting on Wednesday 21 July, I agreed to write to the Committee to outline the cross-government net zero governance structures. Please find an explanation below; this information is publicly available on gov.uk.

The Prime Minister chairs the **Climate Action Strategy Committee (CAS)**, which considers matters relating to the delivery of the UK's domestic and international climate strategy. The list of standing members is annexed for ease of reference (Annex A, page 6) and is available on gov.uk. Other Ministers attend the Committee as required according to the agenda.

The COP President Designate, the Rt. Hon. Alok Sharma MP, chairs the **Climate Action Implementation Committee (CAI)**, which considers matters relating to the delivery of COP26, net zero and building the UK's resilience to climate impacts. The list of standing members is also annexed (Annex A, page 15). The Transport Secretary is a standing member of the CAI.

It is a long-established precedent that information about the discussions that have taken place in Cabinet and its Committees, and how often they have met, is not normally shared publicly.

I hope you find this reply helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Maclean', with a small dot at the end.

RACHEL MACLEAN

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT

Annex A

National Security Council

Prime Minister (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs and First

Secretary of State

Secretary of State for the Home Department

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office

Secretary of State for Defence

Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Secretary of State for International Trade

Attorney General

Terms of Reference

To consider matters relating to national security, foreign policy, defence, international relations and development, resilience, energy and resource security.

National Security Council Sub-Committee: Nuclear Deterrence and Security

Prime Minister (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, and First

Secretary of State

Secretary of State for the Home Department

Secretary of State for Defence

Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Terms of Reference

To consider issues relating to nuclear deterrence and security.

Covid-19 Strategy

Prime Minister (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, and First Secretary of State

Secretary of State for the Home Department

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Secretary of State for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy

Terms of Reference

To drive the Government's strategic response to Covid-19, considering the impact of both the virus and the response to it, and setting the direction for the recovery strategy.

EU Exit Strategy

Prime Minister (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, and First Secretary of State

Secretary of State for the Home Department

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office

Secretary of State for International Trade

Attorney General

Terms of Reference

To consider matters relating to the UK's trade priorities, including Free Trade Agreements, the multilateral trade system, and interlinkages with the domestic economy.

Domestic and Economic Strategy

Prime Minister (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office

Other Cabinet Ministers will be invited to attend according to the agenda.

Terms of Reference

To consider matters relating to the Government's domestic and economic strategy and strengthening the union of the United Kingdom.

Climate Action Strategy

Prime Minister (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, and First Secretary of State

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office

Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Minister of State (Minister for Pacific and the Environment)

Terms of Reference

To consider matters relating to the delivery of the UK's domestic and international climate strategy.

Crime and Justice Task Force

Prime Minister (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for the Home Department (Deputy Chair)

Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice

Attorney General

Minister of State (Minister for Crime and Policing)

Terms of Reference

To consider matters relating to the prevention of crime and the effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System.

Covid-19 Operations

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office (Chair)
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Other Cabinet Ministers will be invited according to the agenda

Terms of Reference

To deliver the policy and operational response to Covid-19.

EU Exit Operations

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office (Chair)
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, and First
Secretary of State
Secretary of State for the Home Department
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Secretary of State for Transport
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Terms of Reference

To implement the Withdrawal Agreement, and deliver the policy and operational transition to new international relationships.

Economic Operations Committee

Chancellor of the Exchequer (Chair)

Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Other Cabinet Ministers will be invited to attend according to the agenda.

Terms of Reference

To deliver the Government's economic priorities across the whole of the United Kingdom.

Domestic and Economy Implementation

Chancellor of the Exchequer (Chair)
Secretary of State for the Home Department
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office
Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice
Secretary of State for Defence
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Secretary of State for International Trade, and President of the Board of Trade
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions
Secretary of State for Education
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
Secretary of State for Transport
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
Secretary of State for Scotland
Secretary of State for Wales
Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
Minister Without Portfolio (and Conservative Party Chair)
Chief Secretary to the Treasury
Attorney General

Terms of Reference

To support collective agreement of matters relating to the implementation and delivery of domestic and economic policy.

Union Policy Implementation

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

Secretary of State for Scotland

Secretary of State for Wales

Terms of Reference

To support the delivery of the Government's priorities in relation to the Union of the United Kingdom.

Parliamentary Business and Legislation

Lord President of the Council, and Leader of the House of Commons (Chair)

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

Secretary of State for Scotland

Secretary of State for Wales

Lord Privy Seal, and Leader of the House of Lords

Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury (Chief Whip)

Attorney General

Advocate General for Scotland

Lords Chief Whip (Captain of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms)

Minister of State (Cabinet Office)

Terms of Reference

To consider matters relating to the Government's parliamentary business and delivery of its legislative programme.

National Space Council

Prime Minister (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, and First

Secretary of State (Deputy Chair)

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office

Secretary of State for Defence

Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Secretary of State for Transport

Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Terms of Reference

To consider issues concerning prosperity, diplomacy and national security in, through and from Space, as part of coordinating overall Government policy.

Climate Action Implementation Committee

Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (Chair)

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, and First Secretary of State

Secretary of State for International Trade, and President of the Board of Trade

Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

Secretary of State for Transport

Secretary of State for Scotland

Minister of State (Minister for Pacific and the Environment)

Minister of State (Minister for Business, Energy and Clean Growth)

Terms of Reference

To consider matters relating to the delivery of COP26, net zero and building the UK's resilience to climate impacts.