

Kemi Badenoch MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

11 July 2022

Dear Ms Badenoch,

I was interested to read the interview with you by Edward Malnick in 'The Sunday Telegraph' on 10 July 2022 in which you laid out your ambitions if you become Prime Minister.

However, I was very surprised to read the following paragraph in the article:

"Mrs Badenoch also expressed concerns that the Online Harms Bill risks criminalising factual statements about biology and sex, described herself as an "aid sceptic" and said the "arbitrary" net zero target was ill-thought through, adding that there is "a better way of going about these things"."

As you know, the Climate Change Act requires the United Kingdom to reduce its territorial emissions to net zero by 2050. This net zero target was passed by MPs, including you, in 2019, following expert advice from the statutory Climate Change Committee. The Committee's advice was based on the latest findings from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other scientific sources about the action necessary to avoid dangerous climate change.

Furthermore, I note that the 2019 Conservative Manifesto on which you campaigned during the General Election in 2019 states on page 2 that Boris Johnson would guarantee "reaching Net Zero by 2050 with investment in clean energy solutions and green infrastructure to reduce carbon emissions and pollution". It also states on page 55: "We will lead the global fight against climate change by delivering on our world-leading target of Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, as advised by the independent Committee on Climate Change."

I would be very grateful if you could explain why you consider the net zero target to be "arbitrary" and "ill-thought through" when it is clearly based on more scientific evidence than most other legislation, and describe the "better way" of avoiding dangerous climate change.

LSE
Houghton Street
London WC2A 2AE

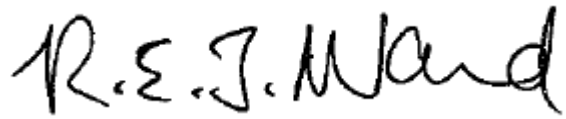
+44 (0)20 7107 5027
+44 (0)20 7107 5440

gri@lse.ac.uk

**[lse.ac.uk/
granthaminstitute](http://lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute)**

Chair:
**Professor Lord Stern
of Brentford**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R.E.J. Ward". The letters are connected and written in a cursive style.

Bob Ward
Policy and Communications Director

Tel: 07811-320346
Email: r.e.ward@lse.ac.uk