

Gregory Barker MP

Minister of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change

3 Whitehall Place

London

SW1A 2AW

www.decc.gov.uk

Lord Turner
Chairman
Committee on Climate Change
7 Holbein Place
London
SW1W 8NR

25 October 2011

Dear Adair

Thank you for your letter dated 28 September in which you describe how the Committee on Climate Change would be able to help DECC's work on supporting local authorities to cut carbon emissions.

I confirm my agreement to the scope of the work you propose, with one clarification. You say that the CCC report would provide "Consideration of high level approaches for local authorities to drive emissions reductions". I would be grateful if this could include consideration of the *local factors and circumstances* that local authorities might wish to take into account when deciding on the approaches to adopt. This was a point made by officials at CLG and one with which I agree.

As I mentioned when we met on 13 September, it is important that we receive, in a report suitable for publication, the output from this work by the end of April 2012. This is to ensure it can be fed into the permissive guidance for local authorities that CLG is producing.

Unfortunately, it is not going to be possible for DECC to second to the CCC an Assistant Economist or Fast Streamer to assist with this work. This is because we currently have a high number of Assistant Economist vacancies and all our Fast Streamers are currently deployed to other priority projects across the Department. However, DECC would be willing to cover the reasonable costs of the CCC securing the necessary expertise for this work and perhaps David Kennedy could discuss this further with Peter Barton-Wood in DECC.

On co-operation with the Local Government Group, this is something I would be delighted to facilitate and again may I suggest David speaks with my officials over how I can best help.

I know the CCC is currently undertaking other work for the Department, in particular the most important advice on the inclusion of international aviation and shipping in carbon budgets by March 2012. I am most grateful that you are able to complete the local authority work while meeting this other important commitment.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Barker', with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

GREGORY BARKER