



Shropshire Climate Action
Suite 9, Old Bank Buildings
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SY1 1HU

Stuart Anderson MP
54 Broad Street
Ludlow
SY8 1GP

29th October 2025

Your Ref: SA37795

Dear Stuart,

We are writing in response to your letter to Mike Watkins on the 14th October in which you state that you support repealing the 2008 Climate Change Act.

Shropshire Climate Action which represents environmental groups across Shropshire, and the undersigned South Shropshire environment groups, strongly support the Act and are very concerned to learn that you wish to see it repealed.

We believe that the political consensus to act on climate change, and the implementation of the Climate Change Act, have enabled the UK to make significant progress over the last 17 years in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Act's robust, legally binding framework and the independent advisory body it established, The Climate Change Committee (CCC), have proven particularly effectiveⁱ.

The UK has been widely recognised for its climate leadership internationally, increasing its influence and leverage in international negotiations. This leadership was notable during the formulation of the Paris agreement and when the UK chaired COP26. Countries such as Sweden, Mexico, France, Denmark and New Zealand have followed the UK's lead by adopting similar climate legislation, modelled on the UK.

Repealing the Act would cause significant damage to the UK's reputation at home and abroad, jeopardising confidence and investment in the UK's vibrant green economy. Based on analysis by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) this sector is growing at three times the rate of the wider economyⁱⁱ.

Repealing the Act would also undermine the UK's Nationally Determined Contribution [NDC] to the Paris agreement. The CCC's 2024 report to Parliament made clear that the UK was behind on the 2030 NDC delivery date, and that the "...Government will have to act fast" if we are to get back on track to meet our commitmentsⁱⁱⁱ. The 2025 report recommends that the government accelerates action^{iv}. In the lead up to COP30 next month, The World Resources Institute has published a report on the state of climate action worldwide that also explains the urgency of accelerating action^v.

The Climate Change Committee, established in 2008 and whose Chairs have included Lords Turner and Deben, reports regularly to the Parliaments and Assemblies on the progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In 2019 the CCC recommended the adoption of a target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. On 27 June 2019 the British Parliament amended the 2008 Climate Change Act to include a commitment to net zero emissions by 2050.

Separately in December 2020, following a request for advice from the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Alok Sharma, the CCC recommended that the government adopt a commitment to reduce UK territorial carbon emissions by at least 68% from 1990 to 2030, as part of the UK's nationally determined contribution (NDC) to the UN process as specified in the Paris Agreement.

As far as we understand it, your desire to repeal the Act doesn't appear to be based on any scientific data that challenges either the Climate Change Committee's report nor the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The majority of the UK population want to see the Government taking action on Climate Change^{vi}. Any retreat from our climate commitments by political parties will carry grave consequences: Undermining our national credibility, damaging our international standing, and betraying the trust of future generations.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Deaves (Chair, Shropshire Climate Action)

Helen Fairweather, Chair, Lightfoot Enterprises
Robert Humphreys, Chair Clun Climate Environment Group
Daphne Du Cros, Project Lead, Shropshire Good Food Partnership
Mike Watkins, Coordinator, Bishop's Castle Climate Action Group
Janet Cobb, Restore Shropshire Verges project
Kath Norgrove, Paul Bolton, Sustainable Bridgnorth
David Matthews, Chair, Stretton Climate Care

ⁱ https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/2021/09/ipac-policies-in-practice_1a65968e/the-united-kingdom-s-pioneering-climate-change-act_ec8ecb65.html

ⁱⁱ <https://eciu.net/media/press-releases/2025/uk-net-zero-economy-grows-10-in-a-year-finds-new-report>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/progress-in-reducing-emissions-2024-report-to-parliament/>

^{iv} <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/progress-in-reducing-emissions-2025-report-to-parliament/>

^v <https://www.wri.org/research/state-climate-action-2025>

^{vi} <https://www.ipsos.com/en-uk/public-want-climate-action-are-government-doing-enough#:~:text=Thinking%20more%20widely%20to%20the,to%20transitioning%20to%20net%20zero.>