



CATHERINE WEST MP

Member of Parliament for Hornsey and Wood Green

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

21 March 2023
Our Ref: ZA16222

Dear Mr Shapps,

This week, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published its conclusion of findings by the world's scientists. Although we all understand the seriousness of the climate crisis and its destruction, this report is damning and presents a terrifying picture of our present and near-future.

I am sure you agree that the international community must work together and act now, before it is too late. And yet, global emission reduction plans are already falling short and set the world on track for warming of about 2.8C by 2100.

According to the report, *"It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land... "human influence has likely increased the chance of compound extreme events since the 1950s, including increases in the frequency of concurrent heatwaves and droughts"*. This proves that human behaviour and activity plays a big part in our changing climate. This needs to change and change comes from Government.

In my constituency of Hornsey and Wood Green, we have seen that flash flooding is becoming more common and the impact is devastating – extreme weather can damage homes, water pipes, infrastructure, community centres and cause accidents. I have consistently called on the Government to develop a proper prevention strategy to ensure London can fully defend itself against extreme weather. I would be grateful if you could confirm if such a prevention strategy can be looked into.

Our planet's reliance on fossil fuel must end and we need to look at renewable, sustainable and long-term energy security. I would like to know what you are doing to ensure the UK is energy secure and independent and when our energy will come from renewable and green resources. My constituents would also like to know how you will work to lower energy bills, a cost that is crippling many households across the country.

I would be grateful if you could respond to my concerns and indeed, the concerns of our planet.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine West
Member of Parliament for Hornsey & Wood Green