From: <brian.mathew.mp@parliament.uk>
Date: Thu, Jul 10, 2025 at 3:27 PM
Subject: Act Now, Change Forever (Case Ref: BM08068)
To: <katenot9@gmail.com>

Dear All,

Firstly, I want to extend thanks to everyone who wrote to me about The Climate Coalition's *"Act Now, Change Forever"* mass lobby in Westminster yesterday, and to all of you I had the pleasure of meeting in Smiths Hall. It was truly inspiring to see so many deeply engaged individuals united by a shared concern for the future of our planet and a determination to see meaningful change.

Thank you for taking time out of your busy lives to come and share your passion and personal stories with me.

Our conversation, which ranged from swift bricks and neighbourhood planning to The Climate and Nature Bill, and the ongoing threat of climate denial, was both enlightening and motivating. The depth of your knowledge and the strength of your commitment was only matched by your optimism and sincere belief in the power of collective action to make real change.

We were one of the largest groups that I saw on the day – and in my opinion, the most spirited! Your presence and passion were impossible to ignore, and it served as a powerful reminder of how important it is that voices like yours are heard in the corridors of power.

Reflecting on everything we discussed, I am reminded once again that climate change is not an isolated issue. It intersects with almost every member of public policy: energy, finance, housing, planning, education, public health and technological development. It affects our national security, our larger economy and the communities we live in. As such, it must remain front and centre in the political conversation.

We are facing a climate crisis. It is uncomfortable to say, and it is sometimes overwhelming to acknowledge the scale of the challenge we are facing. But we must be honest. Before solutions are found, we must name the problem.

Indeed, it was not lost on me that we met during a heatwave, another example of increasingly extreme weather that we are seeing.

However, amid the urgency, there was something deeply reassuring about yesterday. I was reminded that caring about the environment is part of who we are. It's embedded in our national identity and culture. We are a country of nature lovers, innovators and inventors, people who come together to protect what we value most. And that spirit was alive and well yesterday.

As one of you so powerfully put it – despite all the doom and gloom in the world "there is hope!" And I completely agree. There is still so much we can do to repair some of the damage done, and even more we can do to build a fairer and more sustainable society for the future.

Thank you again for taking the time to be there and for continuing to hold politicians like myself accountable. Your advocacy matters and is deeply appreciated. It is a crucial part of the democratic process, and it helps ensure that the climate remains where it should be; at the heart of the national conversation.

I look forward to continuing this vital work together, and to having many more discussions in the future.

With Best Wishes,

Brian

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