

Energy and Climate Change Committee

Committee Office House of Commons 14 Tothill Street London SW1H 9NB

Tel: 020 7219 4610 Email: ecc@parliament.uk Website: www.parliament.uk/ecc

Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place, London, SW1A 2AW

21 January 2016

Dear Amber,

RE: The inter-ministerial group on clean growth

Thank you for your letter of 15 January, following your evidence to the Committee on 16 December. I am writing now to seek further details on what you referred to as ‘the inter-ministerial group on clean growth.’ Your letter notes:

The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster chairs an inter-ministerial group on clean growth, which considers issues relating to carbon budgets and decarbonisation, where these have a cross-Departmental aspect. Its members include Ministers and officials from the relevant Departments, including my Department, Defra, DfT, and BIS.

My Committee explored this matter further during oral evidence on 19 January from Lord Bourne and Ben Golding, Head of Strategy and Finance at the Home Energy Directorate of your Department. Mr Golding explained:

[The group] is informally referred to as the inter-ministerial group on carbon...it isn't a formal Cabinet sub-committee but it is set up to support cross-departmental working, and that is something that's done regularly.

Further detailed discussions during our 19 January session are listed in our transcript at Qs194-197, Qs209-210, Q233-237, and Q268. The transcript can be found online and you may wish to refer to the exchanges listed before responding to this letter:

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/energy-and-climate-change-committee/home-energy-efficiency-and-demand-reduction/oral/27049.pdf>

My Committee has since agreed to ask for further specific details on the following points:

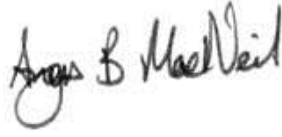
- The exact full composition of the group (Lord Bourne suggested that DCLG may also be represented)
- The group's terms of reference and powers
- How often the group is scheduled to meet (and how many meetings have taken place since the 2015 general election)
- Why it is an informal group, rather than a formal Cabinet sub-committee (and what practical differences there are as a result of not having ‘Cabinet sub-committee’ status)

Thank you again for engaging with the Committee in this manner. I would appreciate a response by Wednesday 27 January.

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Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angus B MacNeil". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Angus Brendan MacNeil

Chair, Energy and Climate Change Committee