



Environmental Audit Committee

14 Tothill Street, London, SW1P 3JA

Tel 020 7219 0715 Email ecom@parliament.uk Website www.parliament.uk/ecom

Rt Hon Justine Greening MP
Secretary of State for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
20 Great Smith St
Westminster
London
SW1P 3BT

6 December 2017

Dear Justine

The Government recently responded to my Committee's report on the Sustainable Development Goals in the UK.

My Committee found that the Government "seems uninterested in raising the profile of the Goals" and "showed a marked reluctance to take this forward as a domestic agenda". In its Response, the Government acknowledges "Young people - in the UK and overseas - are vital to achieving the Goals as they are the generation most affected by the Goals, and we are working to increase their knowledge and engagement in development issues to help them become agents of change." However, the response only talks in general terms about aspects of the national curriculum that are related to the Goals. It provides no specific proposals for raising the profile of the Goals themselves, or of the benefits they are intended to bring, among young people.

As Secretary of State for International Development when the Goals were agreed you will be aware of the importance of the Goals to young people. You will also be aware that the UK Government played a key role in ensuring the Goals are universal and will benefit those in developed countries as well as developing countries. Will you include a specific aim of raising awareness of the Goals among young people within your Department's Single Departmental Plan and issue guidance to schools on how to incorporate them into the National Curriculum?

I am copying this letter to Rt Hon Lord Bates in the Department for International Development and Caroline Nokes MP in the Cabinet Office.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Creagh

Mary Creagh MP

Chair of the Environmental Audit Committee