



# Science and Technology Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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From Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP, Chair

Chris Stark  
Chief Executive, Committee on Climate Change  
7 Holbein Place  
London. SW1W 8NR

25 February 2019

*Dear Chris,*

## **Lord Deben's interests**

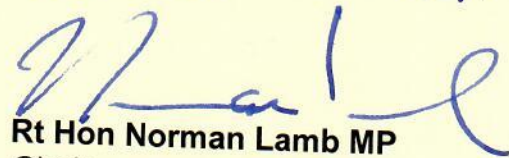
Following the oral evidence that you and Lord Deben gave to the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee on 15 January 2019, concern has been raised in the press about the nature of Lord Deben's interests and his consultancy's clients. I note that his Chairmanship of Sancroft International Ltd is declared in the Lords Register and that transparency data is published by the Committee on Climate Change. However, there is concern about whether his interests are appropriate and/or whether there should be greater transparency regarding the clients of his consultancy and their interests relating to climate change, given the position that Lord Deben holds in advising the Government. Specific concerns were subsequently raised at a private Science and Technology Committee meeting about whether or not Lord Deben's interests could undermine the evidence that he provided.

In light of these concerns I would be grateful if you could set out the procedures that are in place at the Committee on Climate Change to ensure that:

- Lord Deben's advice to Government and decisions at the Committee on Climate Change, including in outputs such as Reports, are not influenced by his financial interests;
- there is sufficient transparency regarding the clients of Sancroft International Ltd and any potential conflicts of interest arising between Lord Deben's chairmanship of both this and the Committee on Climate Change; and
- Lord Deben does not obtain information in his role at the Committee on Climate Change that could give his company's clients a competitive advantage.

In light of the concerns raised, I would also be grateful if you could confirm the Committee on Climate Change's support for the oral evidence provided to us by Lord Deben, and let me know whether you or Lord Deben wish to amend or supplement your oral evidence.

If possible, it would be helpful if we could have your reply no later than Tuesday 12 March.

*Yours sincerely,*  
  
Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP  
Chair