



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

The Rt Hon Lord Benyon
Minister of State for Climate,
Environment and Energy

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Email: fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk

Ashley Dalton MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA
ashley.dalton.mp@parliament.uk

Your ref: AD3739
Our ref: MC2023/2284

07 December 2023

Dear Ashley,

Thank you for your letter of 22 November to Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP, on behalf of your constituent, Georgia Buckley, Assistant Headteacher at St Edmunds Catholic Primary School, about the UK International Climate Finance. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

I was pleased to read about the climate actions and the COP28 campaign at St Edmunds Catholic Primary School in Skelmersdale. It is vitally important that children understand and are able to engage in these kinds of global issues. As stated in your letter, climate change presents an unprecedented global challenge. It reduces food and water security, worsens humanitarian and economic crises and erodes resilience. While the impacts are felt all over the world, it is the poorest countries that are often hit hardest.

In 2019 the UK Government committed to spending £11.6 billion on International Climate Finance (ICF) between April 2021 and March 2026. This money is designed to help developing countries tackle both the causes and the impacts of climate change. We are committed to meeting this pledge - and our programmes are making a difference. The latest ICF Results report that we published in September shows that more than a 100 million people in developing countries have been directly supported to adapt to the effects of climate change through UK International Climate Finance. In addition, almost 70 million people and over 250 institutions have been provided with improved access to clean energy. We have also reduced or avoided over 86 million tonnes of carbon dioxide being pumped into the atmosphere and we have protected over 413,000 hectares of forests and other critical ecosystems.

The Prime Minister has just announced a new UK pledge to provide up to £60 million for Loss and Damage in some of the countries most affected by climate change and, over the course of the next few days, we will be announcing many more programmes. This is a demonstration of our ongoing commitment to protecting the most vulnerable and to supporting them to respond to the causes and impacts of climate change.

I hope that you will continue to take action in your school to benefit climate and nature and that you will continue to take an interest in what your government does on your behalf to tackle these issues on the global stage.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Benyon." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

THE RT HON LORD BENYON