



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

July 2018

*Dear Constituent,*

Thank you for contacting me about the APPG Inquiry into Alternative Ways to Lower Vehicle Emissions.

It is important that we strike a fair and sustainable balance between keeping the cost of living as low as possible for ordinary hardworking people whilst meeting our obligations towards environmental protection.

Despite significant improvements in air quality over recent decades, air pollution is still having an impact on people's health. Air quality is the largest environmental risk to public health in the UK and we also have challenging legal obligations in relation to NO<sub>2</sub> limits.

Thus, Ministers have directed sixty-one local authorities to develop local plans likely to achieve compliance. It is for local authorities to determine the measures that will enable them to comply with legal NO<sub>2</sub> limits in the shortest possible time and charging is just one possible measure. Local authorities are also able to bid for additional money from a £220 million fund to minimise the impact of local plans on individuals and businesses.

At the same time a lot of innovation is taking place in the vehicle industry which will result in clean, affordable technology coming forward. Ministers have set out a clear mission to put the UK at the forefront of the design and manufacturing of zero emission vehicles and for all new cars and vans to be effectively zero emission by 2040.

It is worth noting fuel duty in 2018 will remain frozen for an eighth successive year which will save the typical driver £160 a year on average, which shows our commitment to help hardworking people as we transition towards a clean economy.



Thank you again for taking the time to contact me. Unfortunately, due to parliamentary business, I am unable to attend the APPG Inquiry's meetings but I will be following this issue closely.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**