



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

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Councillor David Rouane  
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[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Our ref: MCB2024/18680

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12 December 2024

Dear Councillor Rouane,

Thank you for your letter of 14 November to the Secretary of State regarding the role of local authorities in our mission for clean power by 2030 and accelerating to net zero. I am responding as this matter falls under my Ministerial portfolio.

I appreciate you writing to share your concerns and for your support for our clean energy ambitions. The Government is committed to delivering clean energy and recognises the importance of local areas and projects in driving action to help realise our national net zero targets. Great British Energy's Local Power Plan will put local authorities and communities at the heart of the energy transition, giving them a stake in the shift to net zero. This could include opportunities to become owners and partners in clean energy projects.

As you will be aware, central Government provides support to local areas to deliver net zero – this includes funding the Local Net Zero Accelerator pilot programme, which tests how to support local places to leverage in commercial investment at scale to accelerate the move to net zero. The Government also funds five Local Net Zero Hubs which support local authorities to develop net zero projects and attract commercial investment.

The Government is also looking to devolution to support economic growth and the transition to net zero, which includes testing new approaches to the devolution of net zero funding through the trailblazer devolution deals with Greater Manchester and West Midlands.

Please be assured that Government engages regularly with the Local Government Association (LGA) and is aware of the issues raised in the Local Government White Paper, including the issue of statutory duties in this area. We are currently reviewing our approach to engagement with local Government on net zero and will set out plans in due course.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely,

**KERRY MCCARTHY MP**  
Minister for Climate