

April 2020

Dear Steve,

Thank you for writing to me about the Parish Council's views on the Local Electricity Bill.

As you are aware, the Local Electricity Bill was introduced in the previous session of Parliament, but fell when Parliament was dissolved for the General Election. To complete the legislative process, the Bill will need to be reintroduced. Rest assured, I will follow developments in this area closely.

Community energy is a key part of clean growth and can de-carbonise energy in local areas while bringing other economic or social benefits. That is why I welcome the introduction of the Local Energy Programme which supports community groups and local authorities to develop their own energy strategies and deliver their own energy programmes.

Since 01 January 2020 the previous Feed-in Tariff scheme has been replaced with the Smart Export Guarantee, which gives small-scale low-carbon electricity generators, such as homes with solar panels, the right to be paid by certain electricity suppliers for the renewable electricity they export to the grid.

This new scheme could provide the local grid with more clean, green energy, unlocking greater choice and control for solar households over buying and selling their electricity. It reflects the Government's continued commitment to ensuring that low carbon electricity is central to the transition to the smart and flexible energy systems of the future.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours,

Chris

Chris Heaton-Harris MP