ADEPT
Association of Directors of
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

The Rt Hon Miatta Fahnbulleh MP
Secretary of State
Department for Energy Security & Net Zero
3–8 Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2EG

By email:
miatta.fahnbulleh.mp@parliament.uk

Katie Stewart
ADEPT President 2026/27
Executive Director of Environment
City of London Corporation
Guildhall
PO Box 270
London
EC2P 2EJ

Copies to:
Patrick Allcorn (Head of Local Net Zero Demonstration and Delivery, DESNZ)
patrick.allcorn@energysecurity.gov.uk

15 October 2026

Dear Secretary of State

On behalf of the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport, I would like to congratulate you on your appointment. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your officials on the role that local government can play in delivering clean growth, net zero and resilient places.

As you know from our previous engagement, ADEPT is the voice of local authority place directors and their teams. Our members are responsible for transport, planning, economic development, climate, waste, highways and other vital local services across the country. They are at the forefront of delivering many of the government's ambitions for growth, energy and infrastructure.

We appreciated meeting with you on 10th February 2025 to discuss our concerns regarding the Home Upgrade Grant programme. We were particularly grateful that you subsequently joined the ADEPT Energy and Clean Growth Working Group to continue the discussion in more detail. We value your engagement and the understanding that you showed of the opportunities and challenges facing local authorities.

We have continued to engage constructively with government on the development of the Warm Homes Fund, highlighting the importance of place-based delivery, local authority capability, workforce and skills development, and longer-term investments in local delivery capacity. We have also recently published a climate communications guide, *An Introduction to Talking Climate*, which helps local authorities engage residents and communities more effectively on climate issues.

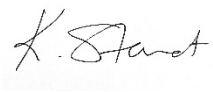
Many of these themes have informed the development of a new Energy Systems Change training programme, which ADEPT plans to launch next month. The programme will equip local authority

leaders and officers with the knowledge and confidence needed to support the transition. As this work progresses, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss potential government support to maximise its reach and impact across England.

We would be delighted if you were able to join us at the ADEPT Spring Conference on 25th May 2027 in London to give the keynote address. The event brings together senior local authority leaders and national stakeholders from across the place sector and provides an excellent opportunity to engage directly with those delivering change in local communities. Your perspective on how national policy and local delivery can work together to achieve the government's ambitions on a clean energy future would be of great interest to delegates. I very much hope you are able to join us.

We look forward to working with you and would welcome the opportunity to meet again to discuss how ADEPT and its members can support the government's ambitions.

Yours sincerely



Katie Stewart

ADEPT President 2026/27