

Dulwich Prep London, 38-42 Alleyn Park, London, SE21 7AA

5th December 2021

Dear Mr Johnson,

Although the Glasgow Climate Pact, agreed at this year's COP26, makes many breakthroughs. There are still multiple issues that remain with the UK's battle against climate change. Such as the fact that so far in 2021, only 10% of newly registered cars are electric, or the fact that coal will not be phased out of use, but rather 'phased down', which is just an excuse to keep using it. It is also shameful that the United Nations, of which the UK is a member, failed to deliver their promise made at the 2009 Copenhagen summit of £74bn pounds to economically challenged developing countries, which means that third world countries do not have the same opportunities as first world countries, to lower emissions.

In light of the current commitments that the United Kingdom has at present, there are several things that the UK can do to help lower emissions. However, one of the most important things to do is encourage people to switch to making more journeys by public transport. At the moment, in the UK, the social image of public transport is that it is just for people who do not own a car, this is because of high ticket prices; unreliable; infrequent; overcrowded and uncomfortable services. Most of the problems stated above could be solved by rationalising Britain's bus services. 14% of Britain's buses as of 2021 are hybrid or zero-emission; TFL, Britain's largest bus operator, has pledged that all new buses ordered from this year will have to be zero-emission buses. Furthermore, it has been scientifically proven that diesel buses have lower emissions per passenger than diesel cars. This means that buses are more eco-friendly than cars. Moving on to trains, only 1% of UK emissions are caused by trains compared to 18%, driven by cars. All of this information above really makes me beg the question, why public transport isn't encouraged or incentivised in Britain.

Yours sincerely, Leo K Aged 12