

Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP  
First Minister of Scotland



Scottish Government  
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Rt. Hon. Boris Johnson MP  
Prime Minister  
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Dear Boris

I believe that COP26 in Glasgow has the potential to be a significant moment in our global efforts to tackle the climate crisis.

As you know my government has welcomed the awarding of COP26 to the UK and Italy and following the announcement that Glasgow would host the summit we have worked closely with Glasgow City Council, Police Scotland and of course the UK Government to support delivery.

Having declared a global climate emergency in 2019, and passed the world's toughest climate change legislation, with a legal requirement to meet net-zero for all emissions by 2045, my government's commitment to tackling climate change is fundamental.

Having personally attended COP in Paris, Bonn and Katowice, and with the Scottish Government having consistently been represented at COP since 2009, we fully understand the scale of the task at hand, not just in terms of the logistics, which are significant, but also the diplomacy that will be required to achieve a successful outcome.

To support the UK's collective effort to both deliver a successful COP and to ensure Scotland and the UK can demonstrate leadership by placing ourselves on track to deliver our respective targets of net zero by 2045 and 2050 I am writing to propose that Scotland's Cabinet Secretary for the Environment and Climate Change, who also chairs the Scottish Government's delivery group in relation to COP26, attends the Cabinet meetings and sub-committee meetings on Climate Change which you have committed to chair.

I believe this would not only help with co-ordination, ensuring any issues can be aired early and properly dealt with, but would also demonstrate our joint commitment to and responsibility for delivering an event that is not only safe and secure, but that lives up to the expectations of the world.

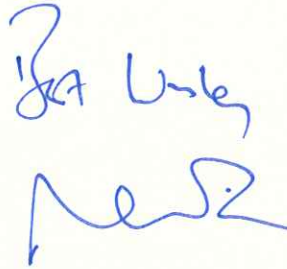
In the coming months the Scottish Government and our partners will of course intensify the logistical work that is required to deliver COP and I welcome the recent increase in engagement on logistics between your officials and Scottish Government officials, as well as with Police Scotland and Transport Scotland.

The acceptance by the Chancellor for the Duchy of Lancaster that the initial cost estimates for policing were significantly less than would be required to run such a major event, given the large number not only of official delegates but of associated events and campaigners, has been a welcome step.

As you will know, based on the available information that COP26 would be restricted to the north side of the Clyde the Scottish Government, in November, entered a partnership with Glasgow Science Centre, on the south side of the river, outside of the COP site, in order to host community events, encourage participation and promote Scotland's efforts to end our contribution to climate change.

I understand that the UK Government has now formally requested the use of that venue and that constructive discussions between our governments on how we can best use the venue are underway in order to support our shared ambitions and most importantly serve the interests of COP26 as a whole.

I look forward to your response and we will of course engage constructively with the new COP26 President when an appointment is made.



**NICOLA STURGEON**