

From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

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J. Graham.

I would like to send my congratulations to the Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership (LowCVP) on their fifth anniversary and also to offer my best wishes for the reception on the 24 January. Unfortunately, an existing diary commitment means I won't be available to attend this event, however I was very pleased to hear that Stephen Timms will be able to speak.

In the five years since the LowCVP was established the debate about climate change has moved forward significantly. There is now wide recognition that in climate change the global community faces a huge challenge and that the cost of not acting far outweighs the cost of taking action. There is also recognition that the road transport sector has an integral role to play, and it is important that it is part of the solution.

The Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership is therefore at the heart of the debate and it has already made significant contributions in a number of areas. In particular, the successful launch and roll out of the new car labelling scheme was an important achievement and showed what can be done when Government, industry and other stakeholders work in partnership to achieve shared goals. More recently the LowCVP has played an important role in helping the Government develop safeguards to incentivise the use of the most sustainable biofuels.

Moving to a low carbon transport system that can support a strong UK economy is clearly a big challenge, but it is a challenge that unites Government with the Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership and its members. I would therefore like to thank you and the Board for providing overall strategic direction to the partnership, the LowCVP Secretariat for facilitating and helping to drive the work forward and of course the members for their time and commitment to the work of the LowCVP.

I am also copying this letter to Stephen Timms, Greg Archer and Malcolm Fendick.

I hope the reception is a success.

JIM FITZPATRICK

Best Woles, Yeurs Sincerly