

Rt Hon Liz Truss MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing St
London SW1A 2AA



Britain Yearly Meeting
of the Religious
Society of Friends

6 September 2022

Dear Liz Truss

Congratulations on becoming Prime Minister. I'm writing on behalf of Quakers in Britain to ask you to set a new direction for our country in three interlinked areas.

Quakers are a faith group committed to equality, peace, truth and sustainability. We seek to uphold our country's leaders and work with them to bring about positive change.

As you begin your period of office, we urge you to focus on three priorities.

1. **Climate justice and cost-of-living:** Urgent action is needed to tackle the climate crisis and its impact on people and planet. We ask that you establish a clear plan to end the UK's dependency on fossil fuels rapidly through a just transition for workers and communities. As part of this, create incentives to retrofit buildings for energy efficiency, and provide local and regional government with the resources needed for local retrofitting programmes, which will save households money, cut carbon and create jobs. Address the issue of excessive profits in the oil and gas sector through higher taxes on extraction and/or profit, and use the revenue to help ease high costs for UK households, invest in renewable energy, and support communities and countries experiencing severe climate impacts. At a global level, offer UK backing for an international loss and damage finance facility to support communities affected by climate breakdown around the world.
2. **Peace:** Quakers have long been involved in building peace between opposing individuals and groups. We believe true peace and security can only be provided by creating a greener and fairer society, characterised by climate justice, a thriving democracy, fulfilment of human rights, racial justice, and good public services. We are united in distress at the terrible toll that the continuing war in Ukraine is taking on human life. While the current situation seems to leave few options open, we ask you to think of the longer-term. Consider what actions are most likely to create pathways to peace and grounds for reconciliation, and prevent a legacy of further decades of enmity and tension between nuclear powers. This situation demonstrates the need for nuclear disarmament by all nations, and the UK must play its part by taking part in negotiations in good faith to move towards a world without nuclear weapons.

- 3. Truth and integrity:** We believe the trust that flows from governing with truth and integrity is essential to peace and democracy. We ask you to affirm the fundamental importance of truth and integrity in public life and take steps to foster these values, thereby promoting trust in the people and institutions that lead our country.

We hope to work with you on these issues in the coming months and will hold you in the Light as you embark on this challenging journey.

In Friendship



Oliver Robertson
Head of Witness and Worship
Quakers in Britain