

The Science Museum Group:
Science Museum, London
National Science and Media Museum Bradford
Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester
National Railway Museum York
Locomotion, Shildon

group.sciencemuseum.org.uk

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP

Dr K Fallon
The Healthcare Professionals of HealthforXR
By email only to contact@healthforxr.com

7 September 2023

Dear Katharine,

Thank you for your recent letter to our Trustees. The Science Museum Group achieves public good for a wide and diverse audience of many millions with the sponsorship we receive. External funding has been vital to the transformation of our five museums, creating inspiring, free spaces where millions of visitors can immerse themselves in authentic stories about science, engineering, mathematics and more.

Engaging people with humanity's greatest challenge – the fight against devastating climate change – is a major priority for our museums alongside reducing the impact of our own activity as we work towards achieving net zero by 2033.

Given the scale of the climate challenge, our Trustees believe the right approach is to engage and challenge companies, governments and individuals to do more to make the global economy less carbon intensive. We continue to urge energy companies to show more leadership in speeding up the transition to low-carbon energy sources. Energy companies involved with fossil fuels are a major contributor to climate change, but they also have the skills, money and geographical reach to be a big part of some of the solutions.

We want to work with funders who, like us, are also on a journey to decarbonise and last year the Trustees decided to evolve our approach to assessing the commitment of prospective and current sponsors to curbing climate change, extending our use of the respected Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI) to assess their progress. We now ask all our partners, and prospective partners, to: achieve Level 4 on the TPI Management Quality index (TPI rates companies from 0 – 4*); and achieve alignment with the Paris 1.5 degree pathway on TPI's Carbon Performance index by the end of this financial year.

Our sponsors were informed of these new benchmarks and are aware that should they fall short of either of them, we will begin a process of disengagement, over a period of up to 12 months. This will both give the sponsor the opportunity to respond and rectify and the Science Museum Group the opportunity to seek alternative funding for roles and activities supported through that sponsorship.

The goal of our approach is to maximise our influence and to continue to work with companies from a wide range of sectors as they accelerate their role in the energy transition, something the Science Museum Group also needs to achieve. You can read more about our approach on our [website](#) and in this [blog post](#), though I recognise that our approach is at odds with your view that we should sever all links with companies from carbon-intensive sectors.

Registered office:
Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD
T +44 (0)20 7942 4000
E info@sciencemuseum.org.uk

You also asked about Adani Green Energy, India's largest renewable energy company and one of several independent companies that make up the Adani Group. Adani Green Energy is the title sponsor of our forthcoming *Energy Revolution* gallery which will examine how the world can undergo the fastest energy transition in history to curb climate change. Sponsorship from Adani Green Energy has enabled us to develop this important new gallery, which will explore the latest climate science and the energy revolution needed to cut global dependence on fossil fuels and achieve the Paris targets to limit global warming.

I would also like to take this opportunity to share an example of our varied public engagement on the science of climate change and its impact on our world: a [series of animated films](#) that are available to view online.

While we disagree with you on some questions, we agree entirely on the vital importance public engagement on the many serious impacts of global heating, including the significant health effects that you describe in your letter.

With kind regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Archer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dame Mary Archer DBE
Chair, Science Museum Group

mary.archer@sciencemuseum.ac.uk
020 7942 4002