

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

11th June 2018

Dear Constance,

RE: REPEAL BILL AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

Thank you for contacting me recently about the transfer of EU environmental law into UK law; I read your comments with great interest.

The Government has made repeatedly clear that all EU legislation, including environmental protections, will be converted into UK law at the point of the UK's departure from the EU. This will provide continuity and certainty for individuals in the UK and in the EU.

I also believe that environmental principles must continue to underpin policy as they do now. That is why I am glad that a consultation has been launched on the principles and how they should be incorporated into our law in the future. This consultation includes proposals for a new Environmental Principles and Governance Bill to ensure that environmental principles, such as the 'polluter pays' and the 'precautionary principle', are embedded into UK law. The consultation is open until the 2nd August 2018 and you may wish to respond to it at the following address: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/eu/environmental-principles-and-governance/>.

The Government has also proposed in the consultation that the establishment of an environmental watchdog should meet the following objectives:

- Act as a strong, objective, impartial and well-evidenced voice for environmental protection and enhancement.
- Be independent of government and capable of holding it to account.
- Be established on a durable, statutory basis.
- Have a clear remit, avoiding overlap with other bodies.
- Have the powers, functions and resources required to deliver that remit.
- Operate in a clear, proportionate and transparent way in the public interest, recognising that it is necessary to balance environmental protection against other priorities.

I recognise just how important the health of our environment is and have campaigned in Corby & East Northamptonshire and in Parliament on measures to help protect the environment, for example in relation to reducing the use of, and improving the recycling of plastics.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.



with best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom'.

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**