

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

12<sup>th</sup> July 2018

*New Constituent*

**RE: 'WALKING BRITAIN' (RAMBLERS CAMPAIGN).**

Thank you for contacting me recently about walking and the future of UK agricultural policy; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

I am always keen to support efforts aimed at promoting exercise, and walking Britain's magnificent countryside is one of the best ways I know to get and stay fit. Being outside in nature benefits people physically and mentally, so it is important to protect access to the countryside.

Our network of public rights of way play an important role in this effort, so the process of recording them is being simplified to ensure no historic rights of way are lost. Work is also ongoing with Natural England to establish the England Coast Path. We must also ensure that our countryside remains inviting to visit.

As you have identified, the vote to leave the EU, and, as such, the Common Agricultural Policy, gives us an unprecedented opportunity to design policies tailored to our needs. The Secretary of State has committed to giving all interested parties the chance to share their views and ambitions for the future. This will provide an ideal opportunity for the Ramblers' call for a Walking Britain to be heard.

Ensuring that our green spaces are protected for activities, such as walking, is a matter I have previously raised in the House of Commons, and I will continue to support the promotion, and protection, of this fantastic leisure and fitness activity.

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*

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