

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

15th February 2019

Dear Constituent,

RE: ENVIRONMENT (PRINCIPLES AND GOVERNANCE) BILL.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of the *Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill*; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

The manifesto on which I, and all Conservative MPs were elected on in 2017, promised that we should be the “first generation to leave the environment in a better state than we inherited it in.” Clearly, there is a need to ensure that our environment is protected after we leave the EU. Our natural environment is precious and fragile and I believe that we must do everything we can to ensure that it is properly managed.

As set out in the *25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment*, the decision to leave the European Union has created a historic opportunity to deliver a “Green Brexit”, where environmental standards are not only maintained but enhanced. We can tailor environmental policies to the needs of our precious habitats and wildlife, instead of following a ‘one size fits all’ approach for 28 different countries.

Draft clauses to be included in the *Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill* have now been published. These draft clauses will be central to the new *Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill* and will place environmental ambition and accountability at the heart of Government. I am encouraged that these clauses are only part of a broader Bill, which will include legislative measures to take direct action to address the biggest environmental priorities of our age: air quality, nature recovery, waste and resource efficiency, and water resource management. More detail on all policy areas will be published in due course.

The draft clauses set out how a new system of green governance will be created, establishing an Office for Environmental Protection, to ensure we succeed in leaving the environment in a better condition than we found it. The draft clauses also place our *25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment* on a statutory footing and introduce a set of environmental principles that will be used to guide future policy making.

Outside the EU, Britain can develop global gold standard environmental policies, taking a more targeted approach. Having left the Common Agricultural Policy we can use public money for public goods, rewarding environmentally responsible land use. Meanwhile, by leaving the Common Fisheries Policy we will be able to grant access and allocate quotas based on sustainability, allowing us to pursue the highest standards in marine conservation.

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