



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

Rt Hon Philip Dunne MP
Chair, Environmental Audit Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 1AA

Paul Scully MP
*Minister of State for Local Government and
Building Safety*

**Department for Levelling Up, Housing and
Communities**
4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

18 October 2022

Dear Philip,

RE: Sustainability of the built environment

Thank you for your letter of 29th September. I respond on behalf of the Secretaries of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

I thank the Committee, its advisers, witnesses and all staff involved in the Sustainability of the Built Environment inquiry for the work. Government remains committed to our 2050 net zero target and ensuring carbon reduction and sustainability in the built environment is key to reaching that target.

Government has closely considered the Committee's recommendations and, while I note your comments about permitted development rights and the Future Homes Standard, I am pleased you found Government's response constructive.

Government is, of course, happy to continue engagement with the Committee, particularly on the intended 2023 embodied carbon consultation and on the National Planning Policy Framework. You have noted the need for consideration of retrofit incentives; Government committed in the British Energy Security Strategy to review the practical planning barriers that households can face when installing energy efficiency measures.

I am copying this letter to the Chairs of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee and the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee.

Yours sincerely,

PAUL SCULLY MP