



HOUSE OF LORDS

Lord Cameron of Dillington

Chair of the Select Committee on Land Use in England

House of Lords

SW1A 0PW

Rt Hon Jeremy Quin MP

Minister for the Cabinet Office

Cabinet Office

13 December 2022

Dear Jeremy

I am delighted to share with you the final report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Land Use in England, of which I was Chair. I am writing to highlight in particular the relevance of our recommendations to the Cabinet Office.

The report, titled *Making the most out of England's land*, calls for the creation of a Land Use Commission to support the development of a land use framework for England. As you may know, DEFRA has already committed to introduce a land use framework in 2023, but we call for the framework to have a much wider scope than DEFRA seems to envisage.

We argue that, instead of being seen solely as an initiative of DEFRA and focused on agricultural land, the environment and forestry, the framework must also consider wider matters including housing, planning and development, energy, access and recreation, and transport, with a particular focus on their land use needs.

We propose that a Land Use Commission should be established as an independent, statutory arms-length body under the Cabinet Office, with an independent Chair and independent Commissioners as well as Commissioners representing and appointed by a range of departments, to ensure that all Departmental remits of relevance to land use are properly taken account of in the work of the Commission. We do not propose that the Commission should have powers of enforcement or direction, but rather that it acts as an advisory and guiding body to help the right land use decisions to be made in the right places. We believe, however, that it can only fulfil this objective if its remit has sufficient scope and breadth.

I am happy to discuss the report and its proposals further; if you or others in your department would like to meet to do so, please contact the Clerk, Simon Keal keals@parliament.uk, to arrange a convenient time.



HOUSE OF LORDS

I hope you find the report useful and engaging and that it helps assist the important work of the Cabinet Office.

Yours sincerely,

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

Lord Cameron of Dillington
Chair, Select Committee on Land Use in England