

Clive Betts MP
Chair
Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

09 April 2024

Dear Clive,

Electoral registration

I am writing following publication of the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee's report on electoral registration.

We welcome the Committee's report, and its calls for reform of the UK's outdated electoral registration system and for modernisation of electoral law. The report makes a number of positive recommendations to improve the electoral registration system, including for the UK Government to move towards automated voter registration. These proposals reflect those we have previously made to the UK's governments and parliaments, and it is encouraging to have the strength of the Committee's voice added to these calls, following your valuable inquiry.

We have noted the request for the Commission to set out a plan for effective implementation of automated registration within four weeks. As you know, it is our view that without such reform, levels of accuracy and completeness of the electoral registers will not improve significantly. It is essential that any such plan fully considers the roles and implications for voters, electoral administrators, governments and data-source organisations, and political parties and campaigners. I trust that you will understand that our immediate focus is almost wholly on supporting the delivery of the May 2024 elections, and we will therefore not be able to meet this timeline. However, I anticipate being able to respond more fully by the end of May, along with consideration of the other recommendations for the Commission, including those relating to the voter ID requirement.

Yours sincerely,



John Pullinger
Chair