



**Department
for Environment,
Food & Rural Affairs**

Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

T: +44 (0) 3459 335577
E: correspondence.section@defra.gov.uk
W: gov.uk/defra

Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

14th July 2025

Dear Alistair,

PUBLICATION OF GOVERNMENT'S 2024/25 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

I am writing to inform you that today we have published our 2024/25 progress report for the Environmental Improvement Plan.

This seventh annual progress report – our fourth statutory report under the Environment Act 2021 and the second and final full report for the Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 - describes where progress has been made towards achieving the long-term vision of the plan. It also highlights the serious challenges that remain in improving the environment within a generation and which we are committed to urgently addressing.

The reporting year spans both the previous government up to July 2024, and the current government. A significant achievement has been the hard work to complete a rapid review of the EIP and the subsequent revision of the plan, due to be published later this year, which has been informed by the OEP's advice.

Alongside the progress report, we published our latest update to the 25 Year Environment Plan Outcome Indicator Framework in May. The framework is presented as an online, interactive dashboard which includes data on environmental trends for 65 of the 66 outcome indicators spanning across 10 themes of the environment. It also includes assessment categories which state whether change is in a favourable direction for meeting environmental goals. This year's update includes new datapoints for 47 indicators. Additionally, this year we have enacted a methodological adjustment to our assessment process tested during our regular internal continuous development of bespoke EIP evidence.

I am most grateful for the work of the Committee in scrutinising our environmental programme.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs