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Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP
Chair, Environment, Food and
Rural Affairs Committee
House of Commons, London
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19 August 2025

Dear Alistair,

Possible unauthorised disclosure of confidential correspondence to the EFRA committee

Thank you for your letter of 12 August 2026 concerning the possible unauthorised disclosure of confidential correspondence addressed to the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee.

I fully recognise the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of information shared with Parliament and agree that any unauthorised disclosure of sensitive correspondence is unacceptable.

I have authorised an investigation into the matters raised in your letter. The investigation will examine the Department's receipt, handling and distribution of the correspondence and seek to establish whether any unauthorised disclosure of the document, or information contained within it, occurred.

Yours sincerely

PAUL KISSACK
Permanent Secretary