



**Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government**

Rt Hon Matthew Pennycook MP
Minister of State for Housing and Planning

Jim McMahon OBE MP
*Minister for Local Government, Devolution and
Regional Growth*

2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Toby Perkins MP
Chair, Environmental Audit Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

10 September 2026

Dear Toby,

Thank you for your letter of 2 September to the Secretary of State asking for an MHCLG minister to give evidence to the Committee as part of its inquiry into air pollution. We are responding on her behalf, and welcome the Committee's work on this vital area.

As a result of existing ministerial and parliamentary commitments, a member of the ministerial team will unfortunately not be able to attend the session on 14 September. We apologise that we are unable to attend the Committee on this occasion.

As stated in our written evidence, published by the Committee on 15 July, MHCLG is not responsible for all services provided by local authorities as responsibility sits with the relevant government department.

We would, of course, be very happy to assist the Committee through correspondence. Should the Committee wish to raise any specific questions relating to MHCLG's specific responsibilities, we would be pleased to provide a written response.

Best wishes,

RT HON MATTHEW PENNYCOOK MP
Minister of State for Housing and Planning

JIM MCMAHON OBE MP
Minister for Local Government, Devolution
and Regional Growth