



Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee

Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

14 December 2021

Dear Michael,

RE: Levelling Up White Paper

We understand from reports in the media that the long-awaited Levelling Up White Paper will now be delayed until January 2022 – having already been delayed as the ‘Devolution and Local Recovery White Paper’ from Autumn 2020 and then as the ‘Levelling Up White Paper’ promised in September 2021.

The Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee recently received the Government’s response to its report on *Post-pandemic economic growth: Levelling up*, and the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee took evidence from you with direct questions on levelling up only last month. In light of this, we would like to know why this delay was not mentioned to either Committee. It would also be useful to understand what is holding up the publication of such an integral part of the Government’s policy agenda.

It would also be helpful if you could provide more detail about when in January the White Paper will be published.

Our Committees look forward to your response, which we would like to have by 6 January and which, in line with common practice, we plan to publish.

Darren Jones MP
Chair, Business, Energy and Industrial
Strategy Committee

Clive Betts MP
Chair, Levelling Up, Housing and
Communities Committee