



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

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Mr Toby Perkins MP
Chair, Environmental Audit Committee
Houses of Parliament
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1 December 2025

Dear Toby,

I am writing as a follow-up to the Government response to the Environmental Audit Committee's report into *The UK and the Antarctic Environment* earlier this year. The Government remains grateful to the Committee for its work on the report and for its valuable recommendations.

As committed to in the Government response, we are today publishing the [UK Antarctic Strategy](#), setting out the Government's aims and ambitions for Antarctica for the next decade. We have consulted with departments and stakeholders on the content and thank the Committee for its helpful advice on areas of focus. I hope you agree the strategy reflects the UK's longstanding commitment to Antarctica and our interests in the region.

We have chosen 1 December as the publication date to coincide with 'Antarctica Day', commemorating the signing of the Antarctic Treaty in 1959. 66 years after this vital agreement was signed, the UK is committing to furthering our Antarctic goals. Tackling climate change, protecting biodiversity and upholding the Antarctic Treaty is central to the Government's approach to Antarctica and we will continue to work closely with international partners to achieve our shared objectives for the continent.

Thank you again for the interest of your Committee in this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Doughty MP
Minister of State for Europe, North America and UK Overseas Territories