

The Rt. Hon. Thérèse Coffey MP
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

The Rt. Hon. Michael Gove MP
Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities

The Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

The Rt Hon. Mark Harper MP
Secretary of State for Transport

The Rt Hon. Michelle Donelan MP
Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

The Rt Hon. John Glen MP
Chief Secretary to the Treasury

13th December 2022

Dear Secretaries of State and Chief Secretary,

A LAND USE FRAMEWORK FOR ENGLAND

We write as organisations with a strong interest in ensuring that the finite and precious land in England is used effectively. Following the publication of the House of Lords Land Use in England Committee Inquiry report we want to highlight the attributes the government framework must have if it is to ensure land is used to deliver better public value. These are:

- The Land Use Framework for England must be owned and delivered across government, covering all major land use changes, not just agricultural, to tackle siloed and sub-optimal approaches.
- It must optimise the multifunctional use of land so that economic, environmental and social targets are met in ways that deliver real public value.
- The Framework must facilitate effective use and integration of data to enable better decisions, by making available existing data at national, regional and local level.
- The Framework must be neither top down nor bottom up alone, but must facilitate genuine community, business and civil society involvement in the ways that national targets are met at the local and regional levels.

A Land Use Framework for England could be an essential tool to facilitate innovation, economic growth and deliver environmental improvements - to level up across the UK. Co-ordinated effectively with plans in the devolved administrations, it should take a long term, strategic, integrating approach, engaging and empowering the leaders who will make it work. Our organisations stand ready to help with the development of the Framework, to make it as effective as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Sue Pritchard
Chief Executive



Harry Bowell
Director of Land
and Nature



Jonathan Owen
Chief Executive



Hannah Bartram
Chief Executive Officer



Beccy Speight
Chief Executive



Martin Collett
Chief Executive



Joan Edwards OBE
Director Policy and Public Affairs



Martin Lines
UK Chair



Professor Paul Ekins UCL, Director
Benet Northcote, Chair



Dr Wei Yang FAcSS FRTPI
Chief Executive



Tom Fyans
Interim Chief Executive



Margaret Clark CBE
Chair



Kath Dalmeny
Chief Executive



Joanna Lewis
Policy & Strategy
Director



Mark Walton
Director

CC. Trudy Harrison MP, Minister for Natural Environment and Land Use; Tony Juniper, Chair, Natural England; Alan Lovell, Chair, Environment Agency; Sir William Worsley, Chair Forestry Commission