



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

**Rachel Maclean MP**

*Minister of State for Housing and Planning*

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Jason Torrance  
Interim Chief Executive  
UK100

6 April 2023

Dear Mr Torrance,

Thank you for your letter of 8 March to the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP about climate concerns, net zero, and the recent National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation. I am replying as this matter falls within my ministerial responsibilities.

Your letter was written on behalf of UK100, which you outlined is a network of local leaders who have pledged to lead a rapid transition to Net Zero and Clean Air in their communities.

As part of our proposed changes to the planning system, and as committed to in the Net Zero Strategy, we intend to review national planning policy to make sure it contributes to climate change mitigation and adaptation as fully as possible. As a first step, the Department recently consulted on reforms to planning policy, which sought views on applying a form of carbon impact assessment in the planning system. It also sought views on the scope and principles for National Development Management Policies.

This consultation closed on 2 March 2023, and Ministers and officials are now analysing the responses received before publishing an official response. Unfortunately, it would not be appropriate for me to outline the Department's position on the points you have raised until the consultation analysis has been completed. This analysis will inform the government response to the consultation, which we will publish in the Spring.

As part of this analysis, I can assure you we will consider the important points you have raised in your letter. The outcomes of this consultation will inform a further consultation on national planning policy later this year.

Thank you once more for your letter on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

**RACHEL MACLEAN MP**

Minister of State for Housing and Planning