

Richard Burden MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rory Stewart MP
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
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07 January 2016

Dear Rory

In recent months I have received correspondence from a number of my constituents about local nature reserves and the EU Nature Directives. As many rightly point out, the Directives protect some of our most precious wildlife and natural places.

Like you, I care deeply about nature, the environment and wildlife, alongside the joy and benefits that they bring us as individuals and society. That, alongside our environmental obligations, is why these must be protected by the Government.

I was pleased to hear that in October 2015 an alliance of European governments wrote to the European Commission on this issue. Though the UK was not one of these, I appreciate you speaking out since then and defending these laws with prominence and authority in December.

My constituents and I would be grateful if you could provide an update on the discussions and their implications. I would also be interested to hear what action the Government has been - and will be - taking to ensure these Directives are better implemented across Europe.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Burden'.

Richard Burden MP
Birmingham Northfield

Labour Member of Parliament for Birmingham Northfield

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