

**President: Rt.Hon. the Lord Randall of Uxbridge Kt.PC.**

The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP  
Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local  
Government  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA



21<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear Mr Jenrick

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chairman of the Colne Valley Regional Park (CVRP), after the recent consultation on the Planning White Paper. Our response to this consultation is attached, I draw your attention to the headline response on pages 3-5 and the map of development pressures on page 6.

The CVRP - established in 1965 comprises a large area of the London Green Belt on the western side of the capital, stretching from Rickmansworth in the north to Staines in the south. Eight local authorities are responsible for it's planning. Our purpose is to promote the enhancement of the area as a natural resource for the community, wildlife and the environment, taking forward what the Green Belt is about. The successful management and improvement of this area requires a strategic approach and careful planning.

I would like to invite you (or the Minister you think most appropriate) to visit the Park, understand the challenges we face, and use our area as a test-bed for ideas on how cross-border planning could work in practice before a new regime is taken forward. Because of its proximity to London, its Green Belt status, and being subject to intense pressures from development and major infrastructure (including Hs2 and Heathrow expansion) the area would, I believe, provide your Department with an excellent case study.

Like a lot of organisations, our response to the White Paper identified that a system of cross-border strategic planning will be critical if the future planning system is to work efficiently and effectively. I hope you agree and would mention that this would be assisted by our very good relationships with the various local authorities across the area.

I hope you will look positively at this opportunity and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours etc

John Whitby  
Chairman

**Colne Valley Park Community Interest Company**

Registered Office: c/o Colne Valley Park Visitor Centre, Denham Court Drive, Denham,  
Buckinghamshire, UB9 5PG  
[www.colnevalleypark.org.uk](http://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk)

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CC: Constituency MP's who cover the Colne Valley Regional Park:

- Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
- David Simmonds MP
- Rt. Hon John McDonnell MP
- Adam Afriyie MP
- Tan Dhesi MP
- Joy Morrissey MP
- Rt. Hon Dame Cheryl Gillan MP
- Gagan Mohindra MP
- Rt. Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP

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