

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

Rt Hon Matthew Pennycook
Minister for Housing and Planning
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

18th July 2025

Dear Mr Pennycook



Re: Adjournment debate on Protection for the Colne Valley Regional Park

Thank you for your positive statements at the adjournment debate in the Commons on 11/07/25. We are encouraged that the government *"recognises the vital role that the Colne Valley Regional Park plays in providing access to the countryside for millions of people who live in close proximity... (and)... its importance for biodiversity"*.

We would also like to thank you for stating your desire to ensure the regional park is protected for current and future generations, and for offering to meet Joy Morrissey and other local MPs to discuss how best to achieve this. We look forward to learning about the outcome from this meeting.

The Colne Valley Regional Park is uniquely valuable as a case study of how win-wins for the economy and the natural environment can be created, and how unintended consequences of changes to national policy can be avoided:

- The Colne Valley is nationally important for biodiversity including 13 SSSIs. and provides access to green space for people of London, Herts, Bucks, Berks, Surrey and beyond – with all the health and wellbeing benefits this brings.
- However, it is sandwiched between two of the biggest civil engineering projects in Europe (HS2 and proposed Heathrow expansion) with many other current huge development proposals for data centres, motorway services, film studios, warehouses and housing.
- If the millions of people living in and around the regional park are being asked to host so much, then why can't we create policies and status for the Park so that some of the proceeds from development are used to create one of the best green corridors round any city in Europe? Something that the UK can be proud of, on the edge of our capital city, creating a positive first impression of "England's green and pleasant land" for international visitors arriving via our international gateway, Heathrow Airport.

We invite you to visit the Colne Valley in the near future to view the situation for yourself, and we look forward to discussing a suitable date with your team.

Yours,

Stewart Pomeroy, Colne Valley Managing Agent

Colne Valley Park Trust
Charity Registration Number: 1181303
Colne Valley Park Community Interest Company
A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England. Company No. 08131867

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

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Cc: MPs whose constituencies include part of the Colne Valley Regional Park

- Sarah Green MP, Chesham & Amersham
- Gagan Mohindra MP, South West Hertfordshire
- David Simmonds MP, Ruislip, Northwood & Pinner
- Joy Morrissey MP, Beaconsfield
- Danny Beales MP, Uxbridge & South Ruislip
- Tan Dhesi MP, Slough
- John McDonnell MP, Hayes & Harlington
- Jack Rankin MP, Windsor
- Lincoln Jopp MP, Spelthorne

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