

House of Commons,
Westminster,
London, SW1A 0AA

23 October 2022

Dear Candidates,

The 2019 Conservative Manifesto promised “the most ambitious environmental programme on Earth”. Instead, in recent weeks, we have experienced an attack on nature.

If you become Prime Minister, you may find two sets of papers on your desk.

On one, you will find our proposals to implement your environmental promises. These include more ambitious, world-leading Environment Act targets; a plan for a sustainable farming future, based on public money for public goods; a new and improved strategy to achieve net zero; and the “30 by 30” promise to protect 30% of our land and sea for nature. These proposals are in keeping with your manifesto commitments, they would show great leadership ahead of COP15 global nature negotiations, and they would provide the foundation for a sustainable and prosperous economy.

On the other, you will find proposals for the Retained EU Law bill, which could destroy swathes of environmental law; deregulatory planning proposals, such as investment zones, which could obliterate our chances of restoring habitats; and a farming review, which could undermine the benefits of the farming transition. These proposals are a serious threat to the future of nature and climate. Rather than create growth and certainty, they would entail years of doubt, delay and lost opportunity.

So, as members of the UK’s environmental movement, on behalf of our eight million members and more, we ask you to make the right choice.

Please honour the 2019 pledge for environmental ambition, green jobs and a sustainable economy. Set aside misguided plans for deregulation for deregulation’s sake and an old-fashioned fossil fuel, extractive economy. Instead, please focus on implementing bold and popular plans for thriving wildlife, unpolluted air and water, resource efficiency, and regenerative agriculture.

Let’s make the future of our wonderful country a green and prosperous one.

Yours sincerely

Members of Wildlife & Countryside Link
and Green Alliance