Dear Mike,

Thank you for the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee’s report on the draft National Development Framework (NDF). I am grateful for the work of the Committee to date in scrutinising the draft NDF, I am happy to accept the report’s single recommendation and the Welsh Government will publish its response to the report alongside the next iteration of the NDF when it comes before the assembly for scrutiny in 2020.

We are currently analysing the Committee’s conclusions along with all of the other NDF consultation responses and I expect that there will be proposed changes to the NDF as a result of this work.

Thank you once again for the Committee’s detailed scrutiny so far

Yours sincerely

Julie James

Julie James AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Housing and Local Government
I welcome the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee’s report on the daft National Development Framework and I am grateful for the scrutiny work which the Committee has undertaken so far. I note that the report contains only one recommendation which is considered below, but there are a further fifty one conclusions which the Government is currently considering. The conclusions are linked to the recommendation and we will prepare a schedule of responses to the Committee’s conclusions in due course.

The response to the report’s recommendation is set out below

**Recommendation 1.**

The Welsh Government should publish its response to this report alongside the next iteration of the NDF when it comes before the Assembly for scrutiny in 2020. Its response should address each of the Committee’s conclusions. Where a conclusion has suggested an amendment to the NDF, the Welsh Government should explain whether and how it has been incorporated or reflected in the final NDF. Where the Welsh Government has determined that a conclusion should not be incorporated in the NDF, it should specify its reason. Where the Welsh Government has determined that a conclusion would be more appropriately dealt with in another planning or policy document, it should refer to the specific document.

**Response**

I accept the single recommendation contained in this report. The Welsh Government will respond to each individual conclusion contained in the report and will indicate how the NDF has been amended as a consequence. Where no changes are proposed, and it is determined that the issue is more appropriately dealt with elsewhere, this will be clearly identified.