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**Rt Hon. Steve Reed MP**  
Ministry of Housing  
Community and Local Government  
2 Marsham Street  
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**12 December 2025**

Dear Steve,

I am writing to register my serious concerns about the government's direction of travel in protecting our nature, especially following rumours about plans to weaken the requirement for biodiversity net gain, dilute the habitats regulation and cut support for Environmental Land Management schemes.

The natural environment in my constituency of Winchester is exceptionally special and irreplaceable.

Alongside vast chalk grasslands and the South Downs National Park, we have three globally recognised chalk streams in the River Itchen, the River Meon and a tributary of the River Test which promote priority species including otters, water voles and newly re-introduced beavers, alongside the endangered chalk stream Atlantic salmon and rare invertebrates such as the southern damselfly.

Conservation groups and concerned residents across my constituency have contacted me worried that the impact of these government changes turn back decades of progress and irreversibly damage the habitats that we should be protecting.

I would welcome your response setting out how you will ensure the government keeps to their manifesto commitment to promote and enhance nature recovery for constituencies such as mine.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Danny Chambers MP**

Member of Parliament for Winchester

