



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP  
Secretary of State for Environment,  
Food and Rural Affairs

c/o Clerk to the Committee  
Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
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***By email only***

(RNID Typetalk calls welcome)

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14 June 2017

Dear Mr Gove,

**Invitation to appear at the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee of the Scottish Parliament**

Can I firstly congratulate you on your appointment as Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. I and my Committee colleagues wish you all the very best in your new role.

As I said to your predecessor Ms Leadsom in a letter dated 22 September 2016, you are taking on this portfolio at an important time, given the expected decoupling of the UK's climate change and other environmental commitments with Europe following the result of the EU referendum and the subsequent triggering of Article 50. The Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee is itself seeking to consider what leaving the EU might mean for Scotland's commitments under its devolved powers. Earlier this year the Committee [heard from a range of environmental legal academics](#) on the challenges over the next two years and beyond and we are looking ahead to the expected introduction of the Great Repeal Bill.

The Committee has agreed that it would be helpful to hear from you on DEFRA's plans for the environment, how they might be relevant to Scotland and your thinking around the transposition of EU law into domestic legislation.

I would therefore like to invite you to meet with the Committee here at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh. We recognise the many demands on your time and we can be flexible in terms of date, time and format of the meeting. We can also meet with you remotely using video conferencing technology if you do not have any current plans to visit Scotland.

We were disappointed that previous invitations to your predecessor were not taken up but the Committee hopes to develop a constructive and positive

relationship with you. I would therefore be grateful if you could confirm receipt of this invitation, and your availability to meet, at your earliest convenience.

I am copying this letter to the Rt Hon David Mundell MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, for information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Graeme Dey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Graeme Dey MSP  
Convener  
Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee