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for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

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Dear Dame Glenys

**Re: Interim OEP advice on the draft Environmental Principles Policy Statement**

I am delighted that the Interim OEP is being formed from 1 July to continue the work to establish a world-class Office for Environmental Protection and to support the government's commitment to protect and enhance our natural environment.

To that end, I ask that the Interim OEP provides advice to my officials on the draft Environmental Principles Policy Statement. That document has been drawn up in anticipation of Bill clauses 16 to 18 becoming law.

As you will know, the department consulted on a draft policy statement between March and June this year. Public consultation has now closed. However, I would welcome the advice of the Interim OEP with reference to each of the seven substantive questions set out in that consultation (questions 5 to 11 inclusive).

I enclose a copy of the consultation document, which includes those questions, together with a copy of the draft policy statement. My officials are working at pace on the consultation analysis and government response, therefore we'd be most grateful if you could provide advice by 8 July 2021.

Yours sincerely,

**REBECCA POW MP**