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Andrew Blake
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1 June 2018

Dear Andrew,

As I expect you already know, Michael Gove announced on Sunday that he has asked me to lead the Review of Designated Landscapes - a commitment of the Government's 25-Year Plan for the Environment.

I'm honoured to accept. The review is a chance to renew the mission of our National Parks and AONBs almost 70 years after the first - the Peak Park where I live - was set up. I care about the beauty of our landscapes, their history and their biodiversity. I admire the work done by early campaigners such as John Dower and Sir Arthur Hobhouse. If we can capture even a fraction of their energy and idealism in this new review, I'll be proud.

Our Terms of Reference stress that there is no intention to diminish protections: but I think there are things that we can do to make a successful system even better. I'll be supported by an advisory panel with strong experience in landscape, biodiversity, heritage, farming and rural issues who will provide advice, challenge and energy and we will set out more about that very soon. I am looking forward to getting out and meeting people - and learning from them. I want this Review to be a collaborative process, drawing on the expertise that exists in those with a passion for these special places.

I'm currently finalising arrangements and will be able to share more details of how I hope the review will work soon. My colleagues will be in touch to lay out further arrangements for visits and engagements. I can't wait to get started and with your help I know we can make the Review a success. I enclose with this letter a copy of the Terms of Reference.

Yours sincerely,

Julian Glover

