



**Cllr Paul Dimoldenberg**  
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## **Defra Consultation on Environment Targets 2022**

27 June 2022

On behalf of Westminster City Council I welcome the opportunity to provide feedback for this suite of proposed targets under the Environment Act 2021 to improve the natural environment.

The targets set out in the consultation are a clear missed opportunity by national Government to show ambition and leadership across the environmental agenda.

In several areas of this consultation, we believe that our approach in Westminster, as well as that of other London boroughs, and that of the Mayor of London, is much more ambitious than the proposed national targets.

In particular, the lack of regard in the proposed air quality targets to the recently updated World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines is a badly missed opportunity. Across London, boroughs including ourselves are committing to meeting the stringent WHO targets.

Westminster, and central London, has the worst air quality in the UK. Yet it is London boroughs and the Mayor of London who are leading the way in advocating for ambitious action and ambitious targets to improve air quality in order to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents. It is more than disappointing that the Government does not feel the same way.

We would be more than happy to meet with you, either at a political or officer level, to discuss these issues, and to encourage Government to learn from leadership being shown at local government level. We hope this will help ensure that future Government targets related to the environment show the necessary level of ambition.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Dimoldenberg

Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality

Westminster City Council