



The Rt Hon Steve Reed MP
Secretary of State
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

By email to: Ministerial.Correspondence@levellingup.gov.uk

19th February 2026

Dear Secretary of State

Re: Visitor Accommodation Levy – Protected Landscapes

We are writing to stress the vital role that National Parks and National Landscapes play in supporting regional tourism, local economies, and communities across England. Every year, millions of visitors are drawn to these nationally important places, generating significant revenue and sustaining a wide range of rural businesses. At the same time, high visitor numbers can place pressure on fragile landscapes, wildlife, and local infrastructure, highlighting the need for careful management and sustained investment.

We strongly urge the Government to ensure that protected landscapes are not overlooked in any proposals for an overnight visitor accommodation levy. It is essential that revenues raised in and around National Parks and National Landscapes are fairly allocated to these landscapes, recognising their role as key visitor attractors and the significant costs associated with maintaining these areas and providing high-quality visitor services and infrastructure. Funds must be directly reinvested locally, with a clear emphasis on nature recovery and the protection and enhancement of the natural environment. To ensure this happens, National Park Authorities and National Landscapes Partnerships should be given responsibility for allocating a significant proportion of the revenue raised in and around their areas.

Without these changes, there is a significant risk that revenue raised from visitors to National Parks and National Landscapes could be diverted elsewhere, undermining the very landscapes and natural assets that attract visitors in the first place. Ensuring that funds are reinvested in the same area where they are raised will support both environmental recovery and the long-term sustainability of the visitor economy that rural communities rely upon.

National Parks and National Landscapes are national assets that deliver substantial economic, environmental, and social benefits. Ensuring that the visitor accommodation levy properly supports these landscapes will help safeguard their future and maintain their accessibility and value for generations to come. We stand ready to work with the Government to help ensure that any levy brought forward delivers these outcomes.

Yours sincerely,

Campaign for National Parks
National Parks England
National Landscapes Association
RSPB
The National Trust
The Wildlife Trusts
The Campaign to Protect Rural England
Wildlife & Countryside Link
Rewilding Britain
The Broads Society
Dartmoor Preservation Association
The Exmoor Society
Friends of the Lake District
The New Forest Association
North York Moors Association
Friends of the South Downs
Friends of the Yorkshire Dales