



Scottish  
Environment  
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**26 April 2024**

**Lorna Slater MSP**  
**Member of the Scottish Parliament for Lothian**  
**Scottish Parliament**

Dear Ms Slater,

As the Bute House Agreement comes to an end, I am writing on behalf of Scottish Environment LINK to thank you for standing up for nature and climate in your role as Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity.

The climate and nature crises are more urgent than ever and we remain hopeful that Scottish Government can continue to pave the way for a sustainable future where both our environment and communities thrive. Since August 2021, Scottish Greens have brought forward ambitious policy and legislation on the natural environment that offer an unprecedented and progressive chance to secure that step-change for Scottish nature.

We are looking forward to welcoming the finalised Scotland's Strategic Framework for Biodiversity which will set out a roadmap for Scotland to be nature positive by 2030 and to have restored and regenerated biodiversity by 2045.

The Natural Environment Bill, which will set legally binding nature restoration targets, has the potential to accelerate the pace and scale of our efforts to halt the loss of biodiversity by measuring progress towards that goal, and better understand both our complete reliance on the natural world and the jeopardy facing our society and economy if we do not act.

Protecting at least 30% of Scotland's land for nature by 2030 will be a vital part of nature recovery efforts. It is critical that these places are effectively managed and protected, and not just lines on a map.

LINK welcomes the plans to designate a new National Park. Scotland's National Parks have the opportunity to lead the way on demonstrating how nature recovery can be delivered at scale and in a way that helps create a just transition locally and nationally.

We'd like to thank you for your efforts in bringing forward the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill. Moving to a more circular economy, wasting less and prolonging the life of materials already in use, is key to reducing our raw material consumption and associated environmental impacts.

LINK and our members are fully committed to continuing to do everything we can to restore Scotland's environment for future generations. We hope to continue working with you on this in your capacity as Co-Leader of the Scottish Greens.

Yours sincerely,

Deborah Long

Chief Officer  
Scottish Environment LINK



**Scottish Environment LINK** the voice for Scotland's environment

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