

# Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Tel 020 7219 4972 Email [hclgcom@parliament.uk](mailto:hclgcom@parliament.uk) Website [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk)

Rishi Sunak MP  
Minister for Local Government  
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

19 November 2018

Dear Rishi,

## Public Parks

It is now over a year since the Government responded to the then Committee's Seventh Report of Session 2016-17 on Public Parks. In my correspondence with your predecessor at the time, I welcomed the establishment of the cross-departmental working group we has proposed, as well as the additional sectoral Parks Action Group.

You will recall that one of the Committee's recommendations was that the cross-departmental working group should publish annual written statements to the House, providing an update on the group's activity, progress made against our recommendations, and the progress made by local authorities and Health and Wellbeing Boards in the preparation and publication of joint parks and green space strategies. In response the Government agreed to publish such an update as a written statement. Given it has now been a year since your response, I would be grateful if you could now provide that update before the House rises for the Christmas recess. As well as addressing the areas outlined above for inclusion in the update, I would also welcome if you could indicate:

- On what dates the cross-departmental working group has met and who the attendees were at each of those meeting.
- On what dates the Parks Action Group has met and who the attendees were at each of those meeting.
- How much of the £500,000 in funding related to the Parks Action Group has been spend and for what purposes.

I'm sure you share the Committee's desire for the momentum behind our report, and the related government commitments that followed, not to be lost, and I look forward to your response.



**Clive Betts MP**  
Chair, Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee