



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, **24 VI 2015**  
C(2015) 4266 final

*Sir William CASH, MP  
Chairman of the European  
Scrutiny Committee  
House of Commons  
Palace of Westminster  
UK-LONDON SW1A 0AA*

*Dear Chairman,*


*The Commission would like to thank the House of Commons for its Report on Local Nature Partnerships in England.*


*Establishing effective means of local engagement on these issues is extremely valuable but often challenging and it is always useful to hear of experience in this regard.*

*The fitness check that is underway on the EU Directives on Wild Birds and on Habitats and Species is at the stage of gathering evidence about the performance of the Directives since they came into force. Your report has therefore been forwarded to the team that are leading this work. On 30 April 2015 the Commission launched the public consultation process for the fitness check<sup>1</sup>. The Commission hopes that the Local Nature Partnerships will also take that opportunity to provide their input.*

*The Commission looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

  
*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

  
*Karmenu Vella  
Member of the Commission*

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/nature\\_fitness\\_check\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/nature_fitness_check_en.htm)