Dear

As my MP, I am writing for your help to make it easier for everyone to enjoy the benefits of access to nature.

Covid-19 highlighted how important it is for people to be able to get outdoors. Many of us have found that accessing nature-filled green spaces has provided a sense of freedom, helping us to stay healthy and appreciate the area around us during such difficult times.

The Environment Bill returns to the House of Commons for its remaining stages and we believe now is the time to be ambitious. We must put people and nature first and create places that make us happier, healthier and more connected. Amending the Environment Bill is a perfect opportunity to do that.

The Environment Bill is an opportunity to address this. The Bill will require government to set targets to protect and restore the natural environment. But currently it misses an opportunity to help reconnect people with nature as it fails to include a requirement for targets and plans on this critical issue.

The British Horse Society, together with the Ramblers, Sustrans, British Mountaineering Council, Cycling UK, Disabled Ramblers, and Open Spaces Society are backing two amendments to the Bill which would resolve this. Amendment 21 would require the Government to set legally-binding, long-term targets to increase public access to, and enjoyment of the natural environment; amendment 28 means the Government will have to include steps to improve people’s enjoyment of nature in its Environmental Improvement Plans.

As my MP, I was hoping you could:

* Add your name to the official papers to highlight your support for amendments 21 and 28 to the Environment Bill.
* Stand up for access to nature during the Bill’s Report Stage debate on Tuesday 26th January, by highlighting its failure to require legally-binding long-term targets and plans to guide future decision-making and spending.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course. Thank you for your time and support.

Kind regards,