

Dear

Call for dedicated Minister for the Coast

I am writing to you today in my capacity as Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Coastal Communities. Our group seeks to raise awareness of the issues and challenges faced by these unique communities and bring about action through the delivery of innovative and meaningful solutions via Parliament to make these communities resilient and thriving. Through the Coastal Inquiry that we have been delivering over the past 18 months, we have heard from many experts who have raised many actions including:

- Improved metrics to show the true picture of challenges faced by these communities and the differing impact of these on each as one-size-fits-all approach is not appropriate.
- Training and education offering needs to become flexible and adaptable to the communities to enable economic growth and resilience.
- Long-term funding to support communities on the frontline of climate change to enable adaptation and community roll-back and emergency resilience plans.
- Changes to the housing and holiday-let offering to enable coastal communities to become thriving communities once more.
- Coastal communities want to become investable but need an initial means-based fund to support this ask.
- Recognition of the true economic value of the visitor economy and support to moving this from a seasonal to year-round offering.

The challenges faced by these communities are complex, and there are many organisations and local authorities well versed in how meaningful change can be implemented, however they are all clear that Government, whichever party that should be, must recognise the environmental and economic threats to coastal communities and that to enable the coherent delivery of solutions they must have a dedicated *Minister for the Coast* who has oversight and understanding of all the challenges and opportunities.

The recent review of the report by the House of Lords Regenerating Seaside Towns and Committees also raised the need for the dedicated Minister for the Coast and to support this ask, the collaborative *Communities on the Edge* report clearly delivers the challenges and many opportunities these communities offer should a holistic approach to them be taken.

Therefore, I, and all those signatories below, call on all political parties to add a pledge of a Minister for the Coast to show your commitment to these economically and culturally valuable communities.

Yours sincerely

S-AUUUA

Sally-Ann Hart MP,

Supported by

E. Sewell-Bick

Emma Lewell-Buck MP Member of Parliament for South Shields



Rt Hon Sir Desmond

Swayne TD MP

Tim Loughton Member of **Parliament for East Worthing & Shoreham**

Rt. Hon. Brandon Lewis CBE MP Member of Parliament for Great Yarmouth

Kate Osborne MP Member of Parliament for the Jarrow constituency



Duncan Baker MP Member of Parliament for North Norfolk

Tim Farron MP Member of Parliament for Westmorland and Lonsdale

No. Livos

Caroline Lucas MP Brighton Pavilion



Rt Hon. Tobias Ellwood MP Chair of the Defence Committee

The Rt. Hon. Sir Conor Burns MP Member of Parliament for Bournemouth West

Martin Vilee

Martin Vickers MP Member of Parliament for the Cleethorpes Constituency

Tom McNally Rt Hon Lord McNally

Ralph Lucas House of Lords

Emest Gitro

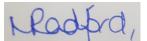
Councillor Ernest Gibson Chair, LGA Coastal SIG





Amy Pryor Executive lead, Coastal Partnerships Network





Nicola Radford

Chair, Coastal Communities Alliance



Samantha Richardson

Samantha Richardson MBE Academy Director, National Coastal Tourism Academy



Councillor David Thomas, Leader, Torbay Council

Councillor Chris Lewis, Deputy Leader, Torbay Council

Anne-Marie Bond, Chief Executive, Torbay Council

TORBAY COUNCIL

Julian Gray, **Director SW Coast Path**

Association



Liz Gibney

Chair Kent and Medway Economic Partnership and Chair SELEP Coastal Communities Group

Brian Horton

Chair of the Margate Town Deal Board.

Cllr Giles Archibald, Cabinet Member and Portfolio Holder for Climate and Nature at Westmorland and Furness Council Westmorland & Furness Council



Councillor Louise McKinlay Deputy Leader of Essex County Council



Councillor Colin Davie Executive Councillor Economic Development, Environment and Planning Lincolnshire County Council



Councillor Keith Stevens Chair, National Association

of Local Councils



Councillor Peter Schwier

Cabinet member - Climate Czar, Environment, Waste Reduction and Recycling, Essex County Council









Lewes District Council





