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**defra**

Department for Environment  
Food and Rural Affairs



Elizabeth Truss MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Our ref: MC226951/GM

13 April 2011

From Richard Benyon MP  
Minister for Natural Environment and Fisheries

*Dear Elizabeth,*

Thank you for your letter of 30 March about the value accorded to farmland in allocating national funding to capital projects for flood defence.

As you know, Defra recently consulted on proposed changes to the way Government funding is allocated to flood and coastal defence projects. I am grateful for your comments on how agricultural land would be valued under the proposals. We are now analysing all the responses received to the consultation and announcements will be made in due course.



RICHARD BENYON MP

*agreed by the minister and  
signed in his absence.*