

Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR

**Telephone** 08459 335577  
**Email** [LNPs@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:LNPs@defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
**Website** [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)



28 September 2012

**From Richard Benyon MP**  
Minister for Natural Environment and Fisheries

Dear Tees Valley Local Nature Partnership,

I am writing to you, on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, to formally confirm Government's recognition of your partnership as a Local Nature Partnership.

I would like to congratulate you on this achievement. As people who have chosen to put their time and energy into forming an LNP, you are at the forefront of a new way of working that I hope will mark a step change in how the natural environment is understood, valued and managed by the whole of society. I see the work of LNPs as crucial to making the vision of the Natural Environment White Paper real at a local level.

I would like to thank you for all the work you have put in already and offer my support to you in your future endeavours. I understand that the LNP team have already arranged a meeting with you in early October and I myself look forward to discussing your challenges and experiences as a new LNP when we meet at a later date.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Benyon." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**RICHARD BENYON MP**